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## GRASS VALLEY

### City Council Regular Meeting, Capital Improvements Authority and Redevelopment "Successor Agency"

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Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 6:00 PM  
Council Chambers, Grass Valley City Hall | 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, California  
Telephone: (530) 274-4310 - Fax: (530) 274-4399  
E-Mail: [info@cityofgrassvalley.com](mailto:info@cityofgrassvalley.com) Web Site: [www.cityofgrassvalley.com](http://www.cityofgrassvalley.com)

## MINUTES

Mayor Hilary Hodge, Vice Mayor Haven Caravelli, Councilmember Jan Arbuckle,  
Councilmember Joe Bonomolo, Councilmember Tom Ivy

### CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:00PM.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of allegiance led by Mayor Hodge.

### ROLL CALL

#### PRESENT

Councilmember Jan Arbuckle  
Councilmember Joe Bonomolo  
Vice Mayor Haven Caravelli  
Mayor Hilary Hodge

#### ABSENT

Councilmember Tom Ivy

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion made to approve the agenda as submitted by Councilmember Arbuckle, Seconded by  
Vice Mayor Caravelli.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Vice Mayor Caravelli,  
Mayor Hodge

### INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Measure B Update

Mark Buttron, Fire Chief, gave update to Council.

2. Joint presentation between the City and Nevada Irrigation District about Water  
Supply Resiliency and Sustainability.

Trever van Noort, City Utilities Director, and Chip Close with Nevada Irrigation  
District gave presentation to Council.

Councilmember Bonomolo asked about how the water plants are replenished.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comments 1-9

Virtual Public Comment: Matthew Coulter

## CONSENT ITEMS

Motion made to approve the consent by Councilmember Arbuckle, Seconded by Vice Mayor Caravelli.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Vice Mayor Caravelli, Mayor Hodge

3. Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2025.

**Recommendation:** Council approve minutes as submitted.

## ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION OR SEPARATE ACTION AND / OR ANY ADDED AGENDA ITEMS

### REORGANIZATION RELATED ITEMS

### PUBLIC HEARING

### ADMINISTRATIVE

4. City of Grass Valley Strategic Plan Update

**CEQA:** Not a Project

**Recommendation:** Staff is seeking direction from the City Council on the next steps for updating or developing a new City of Grass Valley Strategic Plan. Based on input from the January 14, 2025, Council Meeting, the options are: 1. Conduct a comprehensive update of the City's current strategic plan while retaining the existing Mission, Vision, and Core Values, and reaffirming the City's key goals, objectives, and projects. 2. Defer the comprehensive update to next year, allowing the City Council to evaluate the current short-, medium-, and long-term projects as part of the planning process.

Council's input will help determine the preferred approach and timeline for this important initiative.

Tim Kiser, City Manager, presented the options to Council for consideration.

Public Comment Lily Marie Mora, Shirley Osgood, & Matthew Coulter.

Councilmembers commented on the uncertainty of the next 6-12 months, working with the community and gauging the budget.

Council directed staff to follow option 2 and defer the comprehensive update to next year, allowing the City Council to evaluate the current short-, medium-, and long-term projects as part of the planning process.

5. Transition to internally managed Information Technology operations and reduce outside managed service provider reliance

**CEQA:** Not a project

**Recommendation:** That the Council approve the transition of Information Technology in-house, by: (1) Approving the creation of the IT Manager job description, associated salary range, and employment contract, subject to legal

review; (2) authorizing the reclassification, associated salary range, and job description of the Information Systems Analyst to a flexibly staffed I/II position, subject to legal review; (3) approving the agreement with the City's Managed Services Provider (MSP), subject to legal review; and (4) directing the Finance Director to make the necessary budget adjustments and amendments to support these staffing and MSP Agreement changes.

Alex Gammelgard, Grass Valley Police Chief, presented to Council with help from Bradford Kalstein, current City Information Technology Analyst.

Council asked if the new position would be remote or in house.

Motion made to approve the transition of Information Technology in-house, by: (1) Approving the creation of the IT Manager job description, associated salary range, and employment contract, subject to legal review; (2) authorizing the reclassification, associated salary range, and job description of the Information Systems Analyst to a flexibly staffed I/II position, subject to legal review; (3) approving the agreement with the City's Managed Services Provider (MSP), subject to legal review; and (4) directing the Finance Director to make the necessary budget adjustments and amendments to support these staffing and MSP Agreement changes. by Councilmember Arbuckle, Seconded by Councilmember Bonomolo. Voting Yea: Councilmember Arbuckle, Councilmember Bonomolo, Vice Mayor Caravelli, Mayor Hodge

**BRIEF REPORTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Vice Mayor Caravelli attended the ERC Executive Committee meeting, Arts meetings, met with CalRecycle, and was a panelist for the CALED Economic Development Exchange meeting. Councilmember Bonomolo met with GVDA and The Chamber, spoke with business owners in the City, and spoke about the Grass Valley Police Officers Association purchasing binoculars for a local young boy that lost his. Councilmember Arbuckle spoke to the changes with Waste Management and current State mandates, attended the GVDA joint Chamber meeting, a public safety policy meeting and Countywide Oversight Committee. She also attended a Law and Fire meeting about the Red Light Ball. Mayor Hodge attended the Community Garden meeting at Mautino Park, the Board of Supervisors annual workshop, and the local Youth & Government Session.

**ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 7:28PM.



Hilary Hodge, Mayor



Taylor Whittingslow, City Clerk

Adopted on: February 11 2025

**Miranda Bacon**

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**From:** WIRELESS CALLER - Voicemail box 8880 <noreply@voicemail.goto.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 7:11 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Voicemail from [REDACTED] on Jan 28 2025 7:10 PM  
**Attachments:** 1738120209-00001349.mp3



## You received a new voicemail message



New voicemail message

**Time:** Tuesday, January 28 2025 7:10 PM

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Duration:** 19 seconds

**Voicemail box:** 8880

**Transcript:** Yes, I'd like to know if the technology expert for the police department is hacking into people's private information, if that's allowed by the GVPD to do to people's information. Thank you.

[Rate this transcript's accuracy](#)



**Mailbox Capacity:** 97/99 available

**Miranda Bacon**

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**From:** WIRELESS CALLER - Voicemail box 8880 <noreply@voicemail.goto.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 6:57 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Voicemail from [REDACTED] on Jan 28 2025 6:56 PM  
**Attachments:** 1738119369-00001344.mp3



## You received a new voicemail message



New voicemail message

**Time:** Tuesday, January 28 2025 6:56 PM

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Duration:** 43 seconds

**Voicemail box:** 8880

**Transcript:**

Hi this is Matthew Coulter commenting on the strategic plan update and I'm a little surprised you guys are going through this. I guess it's just to exercise because you don't follow your own rules. You have handbooks that are clearly lay out things that are broken on a daily basis by the city. It'd be great for you guys to follow the things that are already in writing and go from there instead of reinventing the wheel and putting in hundreds of hours of staff time to doing things that even make it easier for you to not do your jobs. Thank you.

[Rate this transcript's accuracy](#)



Creek that is keeping the animals from traversing the creek as well as the fish. Thank you.

[Rate this transcript's accuracy](#)



Mailbox Capacity: 97/99 available

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## Miranda Bacon

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**From:** WIRELESS CALLER - Voicemail box 8880 <noreply@voicemail.goto.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 6:37 PM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Voicemail from [REDACTED] on Jan 28 2025 6:33 PM  
**Attachments:** 1738118036-0000133f.mp3



## You received a new voicemail message



New voicemail message

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**Time:** Tuesday, January 28 2025 6:33 PM

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Duration:** 1 minute 32 seconds

**Voicemail box:** 8880

**Transcript:**

Hi, this is Matthew Coulter for Public Comment, City Council meeting, and I'd like to start with the new speed bump at the corner of Mill and Main, very dangerous for motorcycles, low vehicles. Once people go over that, they seem to not be interested in stopping at the second crosswalk because they've already come to a halting, jolting stop with that speed bump. I feel bad for an ID that has large trucks that go over it multiple times a day. Also the clock, it would be nice to fix the clock. It's not that hard to do. I could help you with that. More importantly, GVPD has some rogue officers, and this is a big problem, and it's a big problem for the city. It's a big problem for the city manager and city lawyer. So I suggest you reel those folks in. The environmental crimes that are happening along Wolf Creek, along Railroad Avenue, and Idaho-Maryland Road with the destruction, cutting down the 150-year-old trees is ongoing, which is very sad, as well as the pipe that's in South Fork of Wolf

## Miranda Bacon

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**From:** Virginia Whitehead [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2025 11:25 AM  
**To:** Public Comments  
**Subject:** Torch Sensors

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Torch Sensors

<https://www.torchsensors.com/>

Starting in our canyon areas near housing, perhaps the City of Grass Valley might look into these wildfire smoke detectors. Other municipalities are apparently installing these as another layer of early detection. The company "Torch" is California based and currently very busy with installations down in the Los Angeles area. The sales rep I spoke with, Jo Morris, was busy, but still responsive. One detector is about \$500 and can detect a 10 sq mile area. One more layer of detection might be recognized by our insurance companies.

With Much Appreciation,  
Virginia Whitehead  
Washington Hill Neighborhood Fire Coalition



# City of Grass Valley

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
Engineering / Facilities  
Streets Maintenance  
Parks and Recreation  
Water / Wastewater Operations

February 12, 2016

COOPER PATRICIA H

~~POB 2624~~ 11680 Alta Vista Ave

GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945

**Subject: Tree Removal and Brush Clearing at the Water Treatment Plant**

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Grass Valley is about to begin a tree removal and brush clearing project at the water treatment plant (WTP). You are receiving this letter because your property is adjacent to the area of work. This project will involve the removal of a small number of trees and brush in an effort to protect City infrastructure and the water supply, increase security, and reduce fire hazards. To preserve privacy and maintain as much screening as possible, brush and/or ivy that is attached to the existing fencing will not be removed. The City understands the residents' desire to maintain as much privacy/screening as possible and we have written the scope of work to try and accommodate this as best as possible, while still accomplishing the project objectives.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (530) 274-4355.

Sincerely,

**CITY OF GRASS VALLEY**

Engineering Division

Timothy M. Kiser, P.E.

Public Works Director/City Engineer

By: 

Zachary Lake, P.E.

Associate Civil Engineer

Attachments: Project Map

January 28, 2025

To: Mayor Hillary Hodge and Council Members  
Grass Valley City Council  
Grass Valley, CA 94945

From: Lily Marie and Bob Mora

[REDACTED]  
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Cell ph# [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

RE: Clearing of brush around cell tower and water treatment plant

Dear Mayor Hodge and Council Members,

The extreme fires in Southern CA have heightened our attention to concerns in our own neighborhoods as to our vulnerability to wild fires. The Alta Vista Ave. neighbors have asked in the past for the area around the cell tower and the southeast end of the water treatment plant to be made fire safe.

Specifically, the removal of ivy from the healthy trees and minimal brushing to maintain the area. No support for the random cutting of trees.

We realize that our neighborhood is not in the city limits, but we believe the aforementioned area is and it is a critical component to the water, fire-prevention and communication systems for Grass Valley. We request that some of the new tax monies that have come available be used for this purpose. We as a neighborhood would be glad to get a team of 5 to 10 volunteers to assist in the process.

Thanks for all your time and efforts to make this a great community.

Sincerely,

Lily Marie and Bob Mora



# CITY OF GRASS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

11/28/25

## GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN IN SHEET

11/28/2025

WELCOME to the City of Grass Valley City Council meeting! Public Comments provide an opportunity for the public to address the City Council on any subject which is not on the agenda but in the jurisdiction of the council. If you wish to speak, please indicate in the appropriate box when you sign in and take the number corresponding to your name. Each individual can have up to 3 minutes of public comment. At the beginning of the meeting, there will be an allotted 30 minutes of general public comments and the remainder of comments will be heard at the end of the agenda. Speakers will be called in order of the numbers given.

When you are recognized by the mayor:

1. Please stand before the podium and give your name and address. (optional)
2. Please limit your comments to three minutes per speaker.
3. If previous speakers have made the same point, you may simply indicate your support or disagreement, unless you have new information.

Thank you for your participation.

#'s	Print Name or N/A	Address (optional)	Self/Business (optional)
1	Don Frare		
2	SUSAN FELICIA		
3	Shirley	GV	
4	LIZ	GV	
5	Jeffrey Gottesman	NC	
6	Laura McCarty	GV	Self
7	Judy Marie Moya	GV	
8	Nancy W. Wenzel	NC	
9	TARA MANTO	GV	Self
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			