

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CANYON LAKE CITY COUNCIL
Canyon Lake City Hall
31516 Railroad Canyon Road
Canyon Lake, CA 92587
Wednesday, January 14, 2026**

Closed Session – 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Steeber, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty and Mayor Smith.

Absent: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Richard Beck v. City of Canyon Lake, 4th DCA Case No. D083322
2. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957: Title: City Manager

The City Council entered Closed Session at 5:30 p.m.

Open Session – 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Council Member Smith.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Pro Tem Castillo led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Steeber, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty and Mayor Smith.

Absent: None.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Graham reported that there was no reportable action.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Mayor Smith presented an In Memoriam certificate to the family of Warren Kelsey.

CITY COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS / COMMENTS

Council Member Steeber and Mayor Pro Tem Castillo reported on the Community Engagement Committee meeting held with staff. Council Member Steeber also reported on his appointment by the League of California Cities to the Transportation, Communication, and Public Works Policy Committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Castillo wished everyone a happy New Year and expressed enthusiasm for upcoming community initiatives in 2026.

Council Member Welty provided an update on Inland Empire regional matters, summarizing information from the T-Now and SCAG meetings.

Council Member Terry wished everyone a happy New Year, reported attendance at the WRCOG Strategic Planning meeting with Council Member Welty, and encouraged residents to attend Coffee at the Country Club held on the first Wednesday of each month.

Mayor Smith wished everyone a happy New Year and noted RTA is hiring bus drivers.

PRESENTATIONS

Director Darcy Burke provided an update on behalf of the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District.

Board Vice President Jeff Bill provided an update provided an update on behalf of the Canyon Lake Property Owner's Association.

Vice President and Director of Events Rick Tobin provided an update on behalf of the Canyon Lake Chamber of Commerce

Chief LaTendresse provided an update on fire statistics.

Council Member Terry introduced the non-profit spotlight on behalf of His Little Feet Foundation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Langworthy provided an overview of the election and the role of the Riverside County Integrity Team in overseeing elections.

Renee Griffiths commented on the proposed pay schedule for the new Police Department.

Matt Piercy commented on reckless driving on Schooner Drive and nearby side streets.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Steeber pulled Item No. 5 for further consideration.

Mayor Smith pulled Item No. 6 for further consideration.

Motion and second by Council Member Terry/Council Member Welty to approve Consent Calendar Items 1-4.

Motion carried 5-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Steeber, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty, and Mayor Smith voting aye.

1. Approve Claims and Demands of the City

Action taken: The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-01 Approving Claims and Demands of the City.

2. Approve a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Police Dispatch Services Agreement with the City of Hemet

Action taken: The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-02 authorizing the City Manager to execute a Police Dispatch Services Agreement with the City of Hemet.

3. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes

Action taken: The City Council approved the minutes of the December 10, 2025, City Council meeting.

4. Adopt a Resolution Establish a Premium Pay Benefit for Part-time Employees In Lieu of the Public Agency Retirement System (PARS) Benefit

Action taken: The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-03 authorizing the establishment of a Premium Pay benefit for all part-time employees of 7.5% of base pay.

PULLED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

5. Adopt a Resolution Approving the City's FY 2026/2027 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding Allocation

Council Member Steeber pulled this item for further discussion.

There were no public comments.

Motion and second by Council Member Welty/Council Member Steeber to adopt Resolution No. 2026-08 authorizing the allocation of Fiscal Year 26/27 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

Motion carried 5-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Steeber, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty, and Mayor Smith voting aye.

6. Approval of a First Amendment to the Amended and Restated City Manager Employment Agreement with Arron Brown

Mayor Smith pulled this item for further discussion.

City Attorney Grahm provided an oral report explaining that the amendment restructures compensation into a guaranteed annual lump-sum contribution paid in January, reduces administrative costs, and has no fiscal impact.

There were no public comments.

Motion and second by Council Member Terry/Mayor Pro Tem Castillo to: (1) approve the first amendment to the amended and restated City Manager Employment Agreement with Arron Brown; and (2) authorize the Mayor to execute the Amendment on behalf of the City.

Motion carried 4-1 with Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty and Mayor Smith voting aye and Council Member Steeber voting no.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

7. Report on Employee Vacancies and Recruitment Efforts in Compliance with Assembly Bill 2561 and Approve Organizational Changes

Mayor Smith opened the public hearing at 7:54 p.m.

Administrative Services Senior Analyst Hernandez provided a presentation.

There was no public testimony.

Mayor Smith closed the public hearing at 7:58 p.m.

Motion and second by Council Member Terry/Mayor Smith to: (1) receive and file the AB 2561 annual report; and (2) adopt Resolution No. 2026-04 approving job descriptions, Resolution No. 2026-05 adopting Salary and Wage Schedules for Non-Safety Employees and Resolution No. 2026-06 adopting Salary and Wage Schedules for Safety Employees.

Motion carried 5-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Steeber, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty, and Mayor Smith voting aye.

BUSINESS ITEMS

8. Approve the Establishment of a Facilities Maintenance/Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Contingency Account Within the City Manager's FY 2025/26 Budget

City Manager Brown provided a presentation.

Motion and second by Council Member Steeber/Council Member Welty to adopt Resolution No. 2026-07 establishing a Facilities Maintenance/CIP Contingency account in the City Manager's budget and appropriate \$135,000 in one-time revenue for expenditures.

Motion carried 5-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Steeber, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty, and Mayor Smith voting aye.

9. Designation of Voting Delegates for the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) 2026 Regional Conference and General Assembly

City Clerk Garcia provided a presentation.

Motion and second by Council Member Steeber/Council Member Terry to designate Council Member Welty as the delegate and Council Member Steeber as the alternate for the SCAG 2026 Regional Conference.

Motion carried 5-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Steeber, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty, and Mayor Smith voting aye.

10. Consideration of Fees for the Emergency Medical Services Subscription Program for Fiscal Year 2026/2027 and Scheduling of Public Hearing

City Manager Brown provided a presentation.

Motion and second by Council Member Steeber/Council Member Terry to maintain the existing EMS Program fees for FY 2026/27 and set a public hearing for June 10, 2026.

Motion carried 5-0 with Mayor Pro Tem Castillo, Council Member Steeber, Council Member Terry, Council Member Welty, and Mayor Smith voting aye.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Brown thanked Administrative Services Senior Analyst Hernandez for her earlier presentation and expressed confidence in the City's lean and highly capable workforce.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Smith announced that the regular City Council Meeting scheduled for February 11, 2026 was rescheduled to February 17, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:11 p.m., Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting in honor of Warren Kelsey.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl L. Garcia, MMC, CPM
City Clerk