



**MEETING MINUTES
OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE**

SPECIAL MEETING

**November 6, 2006 – 5:00 p.m.
CITY HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
300 FOREST AVENUE, PACIFIC GROVE, CA**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Daniel Cort called the special closed session meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Members present included Cort, Council Member Daniel Davis, Council Member Scott Miller, Council Member Nilmeier and Council Member Ron Schenk. Mayor Pro Tempore Lisa Bennett and Council Member Goldbeck were absent.

2. Public Comment

- David Dilworth suggested Council Consider item 4 before item 3.

3. Mayor Cort introduced City Manager Jim Colangelo who recommended that Council approve Agenda Item 3, the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract with West Coast Arborists, Inc., for tree trimming maintenance; while possibly deferring any action on Agenda Item 4, regarding tree trimming in Washington Park, until the regular Council meeting of November 15th, 2006.

Public Works Director Steve Leiker explained the basic elements of the contract and responded to questions of the City Council.

John Fischer and David Dilworth spoke to the issue.

On motion of Schenk, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously **approved the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with West Coast Arborists, Inc., for tree maintenance in an amount not to exceed \$65,000.**

4. Mayor Cort introduced Public Works Director/City Engineer Steve Leiker who discussed the recommendation to find the immediate trimming and removal of trees in Washington Park necessary. Public Works Supervisor Celia Perez-Martinez provided Council with information regarding the George Washington Park Master Plan and the City of Pacific Grove's Hazard Tree Risk Management policy. In addition, she identified the locations, by zone, of approximately 200 trees that have been deemed hazardous by former City Arborist Ron Blecha.

David Dilworth, Tom Akeman, and John Fischer spoke to the issue.

At 5:25 p.m. Council Member Nilmeier left the meeting.

Council unanimously approved a motion by Davis, seconded by Cort to: **(a) remove the two trees identified by staff near Short Street as soon as possible as an emergency**

project exemption under CEQA Guidelines section 15269B; (b) to mark the remaining trees proposed for removal, for review by staff and the Beautification and Natural Resources Committee, with a report to Council for the November 15th meeting; and (c) to direct staff to close off any hazardous areas within Washington Park pending tree removal.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Kirchhofer
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED BY MAYOR: _____

ATTEST BY ASSISTANT CITY CLERK: _____