



**City of Portola  
Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
July 13, 2022 06:00 PM  
35 Third Ave Portola 96122  
<https://www.cityofportola.com/>**

Mayor Pat Morton • Mayor Pro Tem Tom Cooley • Councilmember Phil Oels • Councilmember Stan Peiler • Councilmember Bill Powers

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Pat Morton.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance**

Lead by Mayor Pat Morton

**B. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Pat Morton, Mayor Pro Tem Tom Cooley, Councilmember Phil Oels, Councilmember Stan Peiler, Councilmember Bill Powers

Staff Present:

Interim City Manager - Jon Kennedy

Finance Officer - Susan Scarlett

City Attorney - Steve Gross

Deputy City Clerk - Mercadez Flewell

Public Works Manager - Todd Roberts

**2. Public Comments**

This section is intended to provide members of the public with an opportunity to comment on any subject that does not appear on this agenda. Please note that California law prohibits the City Council from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda, unless it is determined to be an urgency item by the City Council. Any member of the public wishing to address the City Council during "**PUBLIC COMMENT**" shall first secure permission of the presiding officer, stand; may give his/her name and address to the Clerk for the record. Each person addressing the City Council shall be limited to three minutes ordinarily, unless the presiding officer indicates a different amount will be allotted.

Joshua Hart commented on cell towers.

Ashlee Sims commented on her interpretation of the duties of the City Clerk position and duties of the City Clerk.

"Mr. Piat" addressed wanting to know the finance amounts that were put into the gravel grinder event

**3. CITY COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. City Council Reports**

Councilmember Oels reported that he attended the Firewise meeting and the music in the park event where he discussed activities to about 20 attendees

Councilmember Powers reported he attended the music in the park event and hopes to see more people come out as the event continues until August 26th

Councilmember Peiler discussed problems with furniture being left on the road side labeled "free". He also thanked Tom Cooley, Linda Cooley and Phil Oels for all the hard work he has seen them doing around town

Mayor Pro Tem Cooley reported he attended the Firewise meeting and the music in the park

Mayor Morton reported that she attended the music in the park

B. Staff Communications / Fire Report / Sheriff's Report / Air Quality Report

Sheriff's Report - Officer Klundby reported that there have been 270 calls on the east side of the county, 134 for City of Portola, 8 bookings, 3 arrests, 2 domestic violence, 23 crimes have been reported and half have been solved

Fire Report - Gay Miller Vice Chair of Beckwourth Fire District reported that there was 35 calls for the month of June, 5 in Beckwourth and 30 in Portola, she also said a friendly reminder that it is peak fire season and asks all residents to be vigilant and cautious

C. City Manager Report

Interim City Manger Jon Kennedy reported that the City is looking for a full time City Clerk and that the position has been posted on the City of Portola website

4. **Resolution No 2520 Concerning COVID Remote Meetings** Councilmember Bill Powers motioned to approve. A second was made by Councilmember Phil Oels. The roll call vote:

Aye **Mayor Pat Morton** Aye **Mayor Pro Tem Tom Cooley** Aye **Councilmember Phil Oels**  
Aye **Councilmember Stan Peiler** Aye **Councilmember Bill Powers**

Joshua Hart expressed concerns about public comment

5. **Consent Agenda**

- A. **Claims-** Adopt Resolution No. 2521 authorizing payment of claims for the period of June 23 through July 13, 2022

Accounts Payable: \$ 164,662.87

Payroll: \$ 54,423.37

Total: \$ 219,086.24

B. Approval of June 22, 2022 Minutes

Councilmember Phil Oels motioned to approve. A second was made by Councilmember Stan Peiler. The roll call vote:

Aye **Mayor Pat Morton** Aye **Mayor Pro Tem Tom Cooley** Aye **Councilmember Phil Oels**  
Aye **Councilmember Stan Peiler** Aye **Councilmember Bill Powers**

"Mr. Piat" commented on backup material

6. **Master Charging Station Licensing Agreement / EV Range Inc** Councilmember Phil Oels motioned to approve. A second was made by Councilmember Bill Powers. The roll call vote:

Aye **Mayor Pat Morton** Aye **Mayor Pro Tem Tom Cooley** Aye **Councilmember Phil Oels**  
Aye **Councilmember Stan Peiler** Aye **Councilmember Bill Powers**

Joshua Hart commented about the City not making money off of the charging station and he believed this charging station will not help the city with the electricity crisis and it could subject the citizens to unwanted electricity waves

Ashlee Sims commented on the city not making a profit off the charging station and had concerns about how difficult it is to put out an electric car fire.

"Mr. Piat" commented about the bidding process. She asked about the handicap spots being moved to accommodate the charging station

Antoinette Queensberry commented on the town of Graeagle's efforts on researching charging stations. She supported the city square being a good location for the stations

Councilmember Oels asked how many spots at the city square parking lot would this station take up, Todd Roberts stated it would take up two spots.

Councilmember Powers asked where the electric car charging station would be located at the city square parking lot, Todd Roberts reported that it would be located near the old Christmas tree location.

Todd Roberts addressed concerns regarding the handicap spots, they may be moved to the other side of the entrance at the city square parking lot and they will still be complaint with the ADA laws - Staff has spent the last 3 years researching this issue and clarified that the cost to put in and run our own charging station is not cost effective. The company that is putting in the charging station handles everything including maintenance. Staff's intent is to have the charging station as an economic driver.

## **7. Public Records Requests**

Interim City Manager Jon Kennedy provided an explanation to the council regarding the public records request activity that the city has been dealing with. He explained that all requests are now being managed and available to the public online. He expressed the time being spent by staff and informed council that Finance Officer Susan Scarlett has been assisting with the requests.

Councilmember Cooley asked if there are other municipalities using an online system to address public records requests, Susan Scarlett informed him there was, and a private company had about 9000 customers

Councilmember Powers addressed that the city has been dealing with a high volume of public records request for quite some time and he feels that the staff has been handling it well

Joshua Hart commented that he appreciated all the hard work Susan Scarlett has been putting into the public records requests he has submitted but was still concerned about how long some of the requests would take for responses. Susan Scarlett addressed all requests that Joshua has submitted and read them to the council

Ashlee Sims provided an opinion on the city clerk's position managing public records requests. She opposed having names of requestors online

"Mr. Piat" commented on the brownactmeeting site that's being used to manage requests

Steve Gross addressed the concern about requester's names being provided, and confirmed there is no law in California that requires the city to hide that information

## **8. Adjournment**

Mayor Morton adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.