

**WALNUT CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Freedman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** M/Freedman led the flag salute.

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: M/Freedman, MPT/Ching, C/Cajulis, C/Tragarz, C/Wu  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: None

Also present: City Manager Weiner; City Attorney Leibold; Community Development Director Vasquez, Finance Director Ogawa, Public Works Director Barcelo, Administrative Services Director Carlson; Community Services Director Bumia; Finance Manager Meza, Finance Analyst Rashad; Community Relations Officer Maio; Administrative Services/Human Resources Officer Ramos; Management Analyst Munoz; Code Enforcement Specialist Morales and City Clerk De Dios.

**INVOCATION – NON-DENOMINATIONAL:** Rechelle Beams of St. Stephen Baptist Church led the invocation.

**PRESENTATIONS:** None scheduled.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE CITY COUNCIL:**

Rechelle Beams, spoke on behalf of St. Stephens Baptist Church, expressed her appreciation to the City Council for allowing them to have a concert in the park and invited the community.

William Harrison said he attended the concerts in the park and expressed they were outstanding and commended staff for putting it together. He commented on the upcoming City Election and said he was sad that MPT/Ching is leaving the City Council and appreciates what he has done for the city. He also commended the Walnut Valley Unified School District board members that do a great job.

Muoy Li, Walnut Library manager, provided an update on the programs and events at the Walnut Library.

There being no further person wishing to speak, the City Council closed oral communications.

**MINUTES:**

1. **Approval of the July 10, 2024 City Council Meeting**
2. **Approval of the July 24, 2024 Special Meeting**
3. **Approval of the July 24, 2024 City Council/WPFA/WHA Meeting**

**MOTION ON ITEMS 1-3**

*MPT/Ching made a motion to approve Items 1-3; seconded by C/Tragarz. Motion carried by the following voice vote:*

*AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Ching, Cajulis, Freedman, Tragarz, Wu*  
*NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None*  
*ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: None*  
*ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: None*

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/ ORDINANCE:**

4. **Resolution No. 24-43 – Public Nuisance Abatement; Declaration of Public Nuisance for a Substandard Property Located at 20228 Collegewood Drive (APN: 8712-015-022)**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council:

1. Open the Public Hearing;
2. Hear the Staff Report;
3. Solicit public input on this item;
4. City Council Discussion;
5. Close the Public Hearing;
6. Adopt Resolution No. 24-43 and declare the following Property as a Public Nuisance: 20228 Collegewood Drive (APN: 8712-015-022);
7. Appropriate \$1,320 from the General Fund into account 01-5002-6227 to cover the cost(s) of the abatement; and
8. Authorize Staff to begin the “Public Nuisance Abatement” process, as prescribed in Walnut Municipal Code (WMC) Chapter 3.36 (Nuisance).

M/Freedman opened the public hearing at 7:11 p.m.

CE/Morales presented a staff report.

MPT/Ching inquired if the property owner had experienced hardships which prevented them from taking care of the property.

**AUGUST 14, 2024 – CC**

CES/Morales responded the owner had not been responsive until the day the notice was posted on the property.

C/Tragarz inquired if this was owner-occupied property to which staff responded it was.

C/Wu inquired how long the property had been in this condition; CE/Morales responded since June 2023.

M/Freedman said she drove by the property today and noticed there had been some effort to clean the sidewalk.

CDD/Vasquez explained there was an attempt made to comply by the owner this afternoon, but the dry brush and weeds were not picked up from the sidewalk and the brush on the side of the house was not removed. He explained there is a 20–30-day timeline for the City to obtain a warrant against the property owner and during this time the owner may still correct the problem and comply.

CM/Weiner explained staff will take feedback or direction by City Council. He added staff had received complaints from neighbors about this property and staff will have to explain why there was an extension.

M/Freedman responded it looked like there had been attempt by the owner to comply including a monetary investment to attempt to correct the problem.

C/Tragarz shared that residents complained to her about this property. She asked if it was to be extended, would staff have to re-notice.

CA/Leibold explained there is still time for the property owner to correct the problem within the time that staff is waiting for the warrant.

Mr. Harrison disagreed with giving the owner additional time since it has already taken over a year to address the problem.

After discussion, M/Freedman closed the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

**MOTION ON ITEM 4**

***MPT/Ching made a motion to staff's recommendation; seconded by C/Cajulis. Motion carried by the following voice vote:***

<b><i>AYES:</i></b>	<b><i>COUNCILMEMBERS: Ching, Cajulis, Freedman, Tragarz, Wu</i></b>
<b><i>NOES:</i></b>	<b><i>COUNCILMEMBERS: None</i></b>
<b><i>ABSTAIN:</i></b>	<b><i>COUNCILMEMBERS: None</i></b>
<b><i>ABSENT:</i></b>	<b><i>COUNCILMEMBERS: None</i></b>

**COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR:**

5. **Resolution No. 24-44 - A Resolution of the City of Walnut Allowing Certain Claims and Demands in the Amount of \$1,249,677.50 Demand No. 168749 through No. 168757, 168769 Through No. 168797 Both Inclusive Fiscal Year 2023-24**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 24-44.

6. **Resolution No. 24-45 - A Resolution of the City of Walnut Allowing Certain Claims and Demands in the Amount of \$864,721.52 Demand No. 168758 through No. 168768, 168798 Through 168871 Both Inclusive Fiscal Year 2024-25**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 24-45.

7. **Resolution No. 24-46 – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Walnut, California, Authorizing Destruction of Certain Records Pursuant to Resolution No. 01-18**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 24-46.

9. **Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District – Measure A Annual Allocation Agreement**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council authorize the City Manager, on behalf of the City of Walnut, to execute the Annual Allocation Agreement with the Los Angeles County Regional Park Open Space District (RPOSD) to allow for reimbursement from Measure A funds for approved park projects.

10. **SB 1383 - San Gabriel Valley Regional Food Recovery Program – Memorandum of Agreement**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council authorize the City Manager to sign a Letter of Agreement and execute the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) and the City of Walnut for participation in the San Gabriel Valley Regional Food Recovery Program (“Program”).

11. **Fiscal Year 2023-24 Area 3 Slurry Seal Project – Final Acceptance**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council:

1. Accept the work performed by Doug Martin Contracting Company for the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Area 3 Slurry Seal Street Project;
2. Authorize staff to increase the change order amount by \$5,957.07 to Doug Martin Contracting Company, Inc. to not exceed \$126,232.02;
3. Decrease the Purchase Order to RKA Consulting Group by \$5,957.07 to not exceed \$69,042.93; and
4. Authorize the City Clerk to file the proper “Notice of Completion.”

**12. Diversity Plaza Project – Final Acceptance**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council:

1. Accept the work performed by Act 1 Construction for the Diversity Plaza Project;
2. Appropriate \$36,510.00 from available Park In-Lieu Fund Reserves (06);
3. Authorize staff to increase the Purchase Order to Act 1 Construction in the amount of \$9,884.56 to a not exceed total of \$1,879,674.46;
4. Authorize staff to increase the Purchase Order to RKA Consulting Group in the amount of \$55,000.00 to a not exceed total of \$199,179.00; and
5. Authorize the City Clerk to file the property “Notice of Completion.”

**13. Waiver of Parking Restrictions on La Puente Road**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council approve the request for a waiver of parking restrictions along La Puente Road between Pierre Road and Gartel Drive for the 2024-25 school year for Walnut High School and Suzanne Middle School events.

**MOTION ON ITEMS 5-7, 9-13**

***MPT/Ching made a motion to approve Items 5-7, 9-13; seconded by C/Tragarz. Motion carried by the following voice vote:***

***AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Ching, Cajulis, Freedman, Tragarz, Wu***  
***NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None***  
***ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: None***  
***ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: None***

**ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION:**

8. **Fourth Amendment to the Agreement for Professional Services between the City of Walnut and VCS Environmental**

**Recommendation:** That the City Council:

1. Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute and administer the Fourth Amendment to the Agreement for Professional Services between the City of Walnut and VCS Environmental, in substantially the form attached hereto, and in such final form as approved by the City Attorney; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute and administer implementing documents and amendments up an additional contingency amount of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) necessary to complete the professional services contemplated by the Agreement, as amended, provided developer funds are available in the project deposit account and the implementing documents and amendments are in such final form as approved by the City Attorney.

CDD/Vasquez presented a staff report.

**MOTION ON ITEM 8**

***C/Wu made a motion to approve Item 8; seconded by C/Tragarz. Motion carried by the following voice vote:***

***AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: Cajulis, Ching, Freedman, Tragarz, Wu***

***NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: None***

***ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS: None***

***ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: None***

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION/TRANSACTION ITEMS:** None scheduled.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS (COUNCIL MEMBERS AND STAFF):**

**A. Councilmembers' report on meetings attended at the expense of the local agency**

M/Freedman attended the League of Cities meeting and met the new Board President.

**B. Individual Members' comments and updates**

MPT/Ching spoke on Item 12, Diversity Plaza, and acknowledged former councilmember Pacheco and resident William Harrison for being a part of this project.

The City Council thanked everyone for their hard work and effort at the National Night Out event.

M/Freedman asked staff if the residents at Creekside are aware of the event taking place on Saturday hosted by the St. Stephens Baptist Church, to which staff responded yes.

**AUGUST 14, 2024 – CC**

M/Freedman mentioned she has been involved with a few events: Meet the Mayor at City Hall, Town Hall Discussion at Senior Center with Seniors and commented on the senior lunch program. She attended the Mayors/City Managers meeting with Senator Sanchez and commended staff for submitting a request for funding of city projects prior to the deadline. She invited residents to attend Coffee with a Cop at Aroma Café to discuss public safety issues. She thanked all community members for their support and attendance at city events and providing positive reviews.

**COUNCIL LATE BUSINESS:** None scheduled.

**CLOSED SESSION:** CA/Leibold made the closed session announcement; Council went into closed session at 7:39 p.m.

- A. Conference With Legal Counsel--Anticipated Litigation**  
**Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Gov't Code Section 54956.9: 1 potential case**

**RECONVENE COUNCIL MEETING AND ANNOUNCE CLOSED SESSION ACTION:**

The meeting was reconvened at 8:45 p.m. with no reportable action.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the City Council adjourned the regular meeting at 8:45 p.m.

**PASSED AND APPROVED this 11th day of September 2024.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Freedman, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa De Dios, City Clerk