Mayor Carbone opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Police Chief Brian Ferrante.

Present:  Mayor Carbone
Vice Mayor Blackwelder
Council Member Hubler
Council Member Kruper

Staff:  Todd Bodem, City Administrator
Jim Heisinger, City Attorney
Brian Ferrante, Police Chief
Linda Scholink, Director of Administrative Services /City Clerk

AGENDA ITEM 4, COMMUNICATIONS

Members of the public may address the City Council/Successor Agency on matters not appearing on the City Council/Successor Agency Agenda at this time for up to three minutes. In order that the City Clerk may later identify the speaker in the minutes of the meeting, it is helpful if speakers state their names. Public comments regarding items on the scheduled agenda will be heard at the time the item is being considered by the City Council/Successor Agency.

The City Council Chambers podium is equipped with a portable microphone for anyone unable to come to the podium. If you need assistance, please advise the City Clerk as to which item you would like to comment on and the microphone will be brought to you.

A. There was no written communication distributed to the City Council.

B. Oral

5:31 P.M. Floor opened for Public Comment.

Public Member Steve Vagnini commented that eight years ago Council Member Kruper and Dierdre Bascou started the Guitars not Guns Chapter founded through the West End Celebration, and is sorry to hear that Council Member Kruper is leaving. He reported that Guitars-not-Gun has given away over 700 hundred guitars since its inception, and an email was received from Senator Bill Monning naming Guitars-not-Guns as the “Non-Profit of the Year” for the 17th Congressional District. A small town like
Sand City brought this to life and he expressed his thanks to the Council for their support.

5:34 P.M.  Floor closed to Public Comment.

AGENDA ITEM 5, NEW BUSINESS

A. Councilmember Vacancy – Interview of applicants who have submitted letters of interest to fill vacant Council seat. Discussion regarding filling vacant Council position. Direction to staff

Mayor Carbone reported that the City Administrator supplied the Council Members with the interview process through a Staff report.

City Administrator Todd Bodem commented that a letter was sent to each applicant for their interview time with one question that each applicant should come prepared to answer. Interviews of each applicant will be in successive fifteen minute increments and each Council Member will ask a series of additional questions to the candidates.

Mayor Carbone reiterated that each interview will last approximately 15 minutes and at the conclusion of the interviews responses will be rated by the City Council. When the Council has completed the process and the scores are tallied, the electors will be announced at the next Council meeting. She thanked the electors for expressing their interest. There will be two vacancies to fill, one seat left by Council Member Carbone and one for the upcoming retirement of Council Member Kruper.

Each applicant was requested to come prepared with an answer to the question: “Where do you see Sand City in five to ten years?”

5:40 P.M.  Megan Dole
Megan Dole responded that the new buildings are indicative of Sand City’s growth, and would like to see the City as a unique small City, not a replica of Carmel or Monterey. It is a place where things are made, not just art, but also where machinist and builders work. She is hopeful that residents can also have jobs within the City and not have to commute. Ms. Dole expressed that she would like to see the City appeal to more families. In response to the question of what changes she would like to see in Sand City, Ms. Dole responded that she would like to see more sidewalks, and to have businesses outwardly promoted. Her availability to attend meetings during the day would be possible if she was given adequate notice. As a City Council Member Ms. Dole would like the City to stay unique and not a replica of other cities.

5:50 P.M.  Kristen Blaise-Olsen McDaniel
Kristen McDaniel commented that she hopes to see Sand City morph and grow due to its vast potential to become a vibrant place for the community,
She would like to see the West End and the South of Tioga area become a mix of artist, residential, and commercial buildings with more businesses that cater to residents and for tourists to be able to rest, relax, and spend more money. In five years, she would like to be able to eat at a restaurant in the community, shop at a monthly Farmer’s Market, and hopefully within 10 years a weekly Farmer’s Market. With the pending hotel and the City’s bike path, the City can capitalize to possibly create a welcome center, bike rental facility, and possibly be a first stop for tourists visiting the Peninsula. She would like to see more revitalization in some areas especially improvement in landscaping. In response to the question regarding opposing points of views and policies that need to be upheld as a Council Member, Ms. McDaniel responded that what the ordinances and by-laws state is what needs to be followed. If appointed as a Council Member Ms. McDaniel commented that she would like to see the City promote more foot traffic for the businesses and artist within the City.

6:00 P.M. Deirdre Duncan Bascou
Dierdre Bascou read a statement responding to the question that she would like to grow Sand City into a City that is creative, responsible, sustainable, and compassionate, and also to be part of a transparent City Council as a Member that makes decisions for the betterment of the entire Peninsula and provides solutions to local issues. It is a challenging political time for our nation and requires politicians to value truth and kindness. Ms. Bascou expressed that to enhance Sand City, the City needs more sidewalks and services with a way to nurture the life of the City. Landlords should take responsibility and be held accountable for properties they own, and to see continued growth. As a City Council Member that needs to process a large amount of complex information and translate into an informed decision, Ms. Bascou responded that she is a voracious reader and would have no trouble in receiving the information and being able to apply it wisely.

6:17 P.M. Jose Espinoza
Jose Espinoza commented that in five years, he would like to see Sand City as the safest, cleanest, greenest, and technologically advanced City. He would also like the Sand City to become a destination City and not just a “drive by” City; where tourists have a reason to stay here and consider it an amazing place to visit. He would like to see a Council engaged with residents. The change that he would like to envision happening in Sand City would be to improve the City’s esthetic appeal through small and minor improvements to the existing buildings. His interest in being a Council Member originates from his social contacts with both residents and business owners. As a City Council Member, Mr. Espinoza’s goal would be to take his social and organizational skills to complete a project, and to promote the welfare of Sand City.

6:29 P.M. Greg Hawthorne
Greg Hawthorne elaborated on the accomplishments of the Sand City Council over the past 18 years including the construction of the
desalination plant. His children have studio’s within the City, and would like to continue to see a thriving artist community. Due to positive growth with the next five years the City needs to look at childcare as well as establishing a community center. He suggested that all commercial development should be assessed a 1% charge that goes directly to the arts via a fund (visual/performing arts). He would also like to have a permanent collection of art that is loaned to the City for display, that the City remains focused on the arts as well as the live/work spaces, and to create affordable housing within the City. When a decision needs to be made regarding City policy, opinions and personal points of view should not affect the decision to be made. As a City Council Member, Mr. Hawthorne would like to see all the on-going projects completed and to be able to add to those projects. He does not want to replicate any cities in the area, because Sand City is unique. His ability in translating and processing complex information stems from his experience in managing and running two corporations.

6:42 P.M. Logan Norton
Logan Norton would like to see Sand City with the completion of the Ecoresort and housing construction within the next five years. He would like to see more improvements to streets, an increase in pedestrian traffic, and to have the City as a tourist destination rather than going to Monterey. The ten year period would encompass an extension of the accomplishments already attained within the previous five year period. He would like to increase the availability of restaurants and mixed-use space, and would like the City to provide an array of services to draw people into the City on any given night. His primary motivation to be involved with the City Council is the importance of local politics and its effect on people’s lives, with an opportunity to be involved in making a difference as well as adding a fresh perspective. As a City Council Member, Mr. Norton commented that he would like to accomplish the continuation of some good policy and direction, as well as to continue to steer the City in the solid work that is being done.

6:51 P.M. Elizabeth Sofer
Elizabeth Sofer commented that she is extremely impressed with the caliber of people that have expressed interest in the City Council. In the next five years, Ms. Sofer sees Sand City in the participation of the local governments from members of the community, its careful city plans and designs, and in the integration of larger government such as participation in the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments (AMBAG) and various other agencies. She would like to assist in the continuation and development in the evolution of the Old Town and West End into a modern mixed-use community, as well as the achievement of the Ecoresort project, that should be performed by a fully staffed planning department. In support of the City’s ten year goals, she anticipates more investment in improving the City streets, new City Hall, a community center, expanded policy and code enforcement, with more services to businesses and residents as needed, including live/work housing for
artists. As part of a functioning team, Ms. Sofer responded that the policy of the City is primary and her personal point of view would need to be set aside. She would like to see change in Sand City through policy making, and would like to see some very good quality restaurants. As a Council Member Ms. Sofer would like to facilitate the great work that has been started and to continue to participate in the community that Sand City has upheld and supported. Her experience in translating and processing complex information was working as a scheduler for the outer space maneuvering systems between 1979-1994. She scheduled all the work it took to build those rockets, sitting on board and commission meetings, and processing a vast amount of information.

Mayor Carbone thanked all the candidates. She requested that the Council conclude their ratings.

Council Member Hubler commented that whoever may end up with the position on the City Council to come to the meetings with an open mind. He appreciated everyone’s responses and mentioned that as a City Council Member, he came with no agenda and the one thing that he did want to do was serve the people, which he finds as a great attribute. Mr. Hubler thanked the audience for their support.

Mayor Carbone concluded that the rating sheets will be tallied and the results will be announced at the June 6, 2017 City Council meeting. Council Member Kruper will be missed, and the issue of affordable housing has been considered at the County level with a 21 member committee. The Mayor also announced that she would like to create and establish new committees, and would also like to see more community events take place in Sand City.

**AGENDA ITEM 6, ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the City Council meeting was made by Council Member Hubler, seconded by Council Member Kruper, to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. There was consensus of the Council to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Linda K. Scholink, City Clerk