

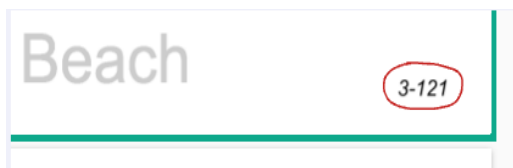
June 9, 2026, City Council Agenda Comments

The following comments on items on the Newport Beach City Council [agenda](#) are submitted by:

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Note: Recent innovations have made it increasingly difficult to comment on Council agenda items. These include:

1. The ending of the City's longstanding practice of providing interested citizens with paper copies of the agenda documents to review, forcing them to either pay to fully participate in Council meetings or either rely entirely on electronic documents.
2. The disappearance from those documents of the systematic page numbering that formerly appeared in the lower right corner of each printed or electronic agenda item page and that permanently allowed that page to be easily and uniquely identified, as here for [page 121](#) of Item 3 from June 24, 2025:¹



3. The disappearance from the live [electronic document source](#) of any clear indication of whether a document, including the agenda or the agenda packet, has been revised from a previous posting, leaving those commenting on a downloaded copy uncertain if they are commenting on the "correct" version, or not.
4. Although the City seems to be increasingly embracing this entirely electronic world, it continues to rely on a [document archiving system](#) which, when the present comments are archived will, most likely, disable all the hyperlinks it contains, making what they were intended to link to unknown.²
5. Unlike other City bodies, the [Council agenda](#) provides no directions as to where comments are to be submitted, or by when.

The frustrations of dealing with all this lead to much less comprehensive and accurate commenting.

¹ In the electronic "[agenda packet](#)" temporarily posted to the City's Legistar/Granicus [meeting calendar](#) prior to the meeting, a packet page number appears in the position formerly used for these unique numbers. However, the packet page numbers appear only in the electronic packet, which is apparently erased after the meeting. As a result, what a comment about something on an "agenda packet page number" might have referred to is lost after the meeting, and even during the meeting what is being referenced will not be evident to someone who has downloaded only the item being discussed, and not downloaded the whole agenda packet.

² The Laserfiche system appears to have two archiving modes. The first, which is what the public was told it would do, creates page images that can be separately accessed and downloaded without having to download the entire (often very bulky) document. The other preserves documents in their original format (usually PDF and preserving any links or other features it contains), but requires downloading the entire document to view any part of it. Whether it is a necessary feature or not, the City's use of the imaging mode disables links and it is the one used for archiving Council meeting materials, including these comments.

Item II. STUDY SESSION - Fourth of July Enforcement

Assuming staff's discussion will be accompanied by slides, it would be helpful to post them for review in advance of the meeting.

Item 1. Approval of Minutes

Note: Annual [Council Minute Books](#) have recently become appearing in the City's Laserfiche document archive, apparently in fulfillment of the City Clerk's [Charter Section 603\(a\)](#) duty to maintain "a full and true record of all of the proceedings of the City Council in books that shall bear appropriate titles and be devoted to such purpose," and replacing the books of printed minutes,³ which are no longer being created. Recent additions to this electronic compilation lack both page numbers and any signatures or seal attesting to their validity. This may be consistent with our City Charter, [Section 412](#) of which requires the Mayor to sign and the City Clerk to attest to every ordinance and resolution, but does not appear to impose any similar requirement on the minutes. But it does seem like it will leave the public wondering if what they see electronically is a true and correct copy.

The passages shown in *italics* below are from the [draft minutes](#) of the May 26, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting, with suggested corrections shown in ***strikeout underline*** format. The draft minutes have been posted as an 11-page (including a cover page) PDF. The pages are not numbered.

Page 3 of PDF, full paragraph 1, last sentence: "*Councilmember Weigand also raised pedestrian safety concerns along the Via Lido corridor, noting a recent bike-pedestrian collision, and requesting a holistic review from the ~~Findlay truck area~~ Finley Tract to Lido Marina Village.*"

[See [video](#). "Finley Tract" is the colloquial name for the triangular, mostly residential, canal-bordered area on the right after one crosses the Newport Boulevard bridge going south. It gets its name from the City Engineer, surveyor, County Supervisor, etc., [S. H. Finley](#), who modestly named one of the streets within it, and on "Newport Island," after himself, when he mapped the larger "[Canal Section](#)" subdivision in 1907.]

Page 4 of PDF, PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS, paragraph 1, sentence 1: "*Adam Leverenz announced a town hall meeting the following evening titled "Navigating Newport Harbor's Future" at the ~~Oasis~~ OASIS Senior Center, 81 Narcissus Avenue, ...*"

Page 4 of PDF, last sentence of same: "*~~He also expressed support for~~ In connection with Councilmember Weigand's forthcoming agenda item regarding video audio*"

³ I would guess those who chose to use these words in 1954 pictured a "book" as something that could be held, in a binding with a title and containing pages that could be touched and turned. Whether they would regard "electronic books" as books, I do not know.

***livestream and** recording of all Brown Act meetings, **and he** noted that Harbor Commission meetings, while audiorecorded, are not videotaped.”*

[See [video](#) . Mr. Leverenz did not “express support” (or opposition) for the A-1 item, which was about **audio, not video**, livestreaming and recording. He simply referenced it before reminding the Council, once again, of his support for the City **video**-recording the Harbor Commission meetings, instead of harbor users having to do so at their own expense.]

Page 5 of PDF, PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT CALENDAR: “*Public comments included Jim ~~Mosier~~ **Mosher**, who suggested improvements to ...*” [comment: This person likely failed to submit a speaker card, but I know him and can vouch for the correct spelling of his surname.]

Page 8 of PDF, last paragraph: “*Mayor Pro Tem Blom moved, seconded by Councilmember Weigand to **a**) Find the approval of the 2026-2027 Annual Action Plan exempt from the National ...*”

[comment: It is not clear what the point of the “a”) is. According to the [May 26 agenda](#) for this item, after holding a public hearing (which was recommendation “a”)”, there were three recommended actions (“b)”, “c)”) and “d)”). None of those are separately notated in the draft minutes, which make it appear everything was part of “a)”. It is also not clear why this very long paragraph begins in italics but drops to a non-italic font in mid-sentence midway through its continuation onto page 9 of the PDF.]

Page 10 of PDF, paragraph 1, last sentence: “*City Attorney’s ~~Office staff~~ **Aaron C. Harp** confirmed the modification was appropriate and consistent with staff’s intent to provide enforcement discretion.” [see [video](#)]*

The passages shown in *italics* below are from the [draft minutes](#) of the May 26, 2026, Special Joint City Council and Finance Committee Meeting, with suggested corrections shown in **strikeout underline** format. The draft minutes have been posted as a 3-page PDF with no cover page. The last two pages are numbered, but both as “page 2”.

Page 1 of PDF, CALL MEETING TO ORDER: “*Mayor Lauren Kleiman called **the** Joint Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.”*

Page 1 of PDF, ROLL CALL, first line: “*Present: All ~~Councilmember~~ **Councilmembers** present, and the following Finance Committee members:*”

Page 3 of PDF (second “page 2” of minutes), paragraph 1, incomplete sentence: “*Laura Curran expressed appreciation for the improved transparency of program enhancement line items, encouraged residents to track how individual budget items come forward during the year, and raised questions about the impact of staffing changes on bargaining unit assignments, pension plans, future early retirement policies, and a policy on searches for key **positions**.*”

[See [video](#). It is not clear why the draft minutes go blank without completing this sentence. Ms. Curran made some additional comments after the point the sentence stops. Regarding the “searches for key positions,” I assume she was referring to the need for a policy regarding the City’s procedures for executive recruitments, such as searches for a new City Manager, Clerk or Police Chief, rather than a policy on searching the budget.]

Page 3 of PDF (second “page 2” of minutes), PUBLIC COMMENTS, paragraph 2:
“Laura Curran encouraged residents to explore the ~~Oasis-OASIS~~ Senior Center, highlighted an upcoming “History Speaks” event on June 24 about major projects in Newport Beach’s past, and noted an upcoming wine tasting at OASIS Senior Center.”

Item 2. Ordinance No. 2026-05: Amending Title 21 of the Newport Beach Municipal Code to Implement the Housing Element and Establish the Housing Opportunity (HO) Overlay Coastal Zoning Districts (PA2022-0245 & PA2024-0205)

As the Abstract to the staff report acknowledges, adoption of this ordinance would complete the Council’s efforts to allow entitlement of the 8,175 new residential units that were added to the City’s General Plan without a Greenlight ([City Charter Section 423](#)) vote, including controversial residential development, with increased heights, and over the objections of the County’s Airport Land Use Commission and many others, of the portion of the Newport Beach Golf Course south of Mesa Drive.

The purported reason that 8,175 units could be added without a Greenlight vote was that the state required the City to add them, independent of possible voter preferences for a different plan.

I think that reasoning should be re-examined, along with the need for the present measure.

Item 21 on the present agenda contains an interesting Table 3.3, starting on page 875 of the electronic agenda packet, which seems to be part of the proposed Urban Water Management Plan (it is not easy to tell what a page is part of in a 1,128-page electronic document).

It is labeled “Planned Developments within the City of Newport Beach” and details 5,564 new residential units expected to be developed in Newport Beach between 2025 and 2030 **without** adoption of the present measure.

Most of these, I am pretty sure, will be market rate units, of which the state is only requiring Newport Beach to allow entitlement of 1,409 more than we had at the start of the 6th RHNA cycle.

Without adoption of this ordinance, we will be way over any current state requirement for new market rate housing.

How can adoption of this ordinance allowing entitlement of additional sites, with no requirement any of them, or any others, be used to meet the City’s unmet affordable housing quotas, be said to be “required” by the state?

City staff and the Council seem to think that the state's interest is solely in seeing more housing built, and that the RHNA quotas assigned by income category are mere guidance that exists on paper but is not enforced. But by that reasoning, too, the City will have more than met its 4,845 total units quota, and this ordinance allowing still more sites to be entitled is unnecessary.

Item 3. Ordinance No. 2026-06: Amending Title 5 (Business Licenses and Regulations) and Title 20 (Planning and Zoning) Related to Tobacco Retailer Businesses (PA2025-0171)

I think regulating and limiting the proliferation of "smoke shops" is a worthy goal.

I continue to think this is a poorly written attempt to reach that goal, which will lead to selective and arbitrary enforcement.

I continue to think it contains an overly-broad and vague definition of the businesses it is trying to regulate, as well as ambiguous and poorly-defined rules regarding distancing, especially from future residential uses.

I believe a better-written ordinance would start by defining what previous staff reports and the very end of the present agenda announcement (but not the present staff report or ordinance) say we want to regulate: "smoke shops." But instead of starting by defining what a "smoke shop" is, this ordinance starts with an all-encompassing definition of "Tobacco Retailer Businesses" and then attempts to carve out from its broad sweep the many exceptions for businesses we don't want to regulate, presumably leaving, after that elimination, only the few businesses we would think of as "smoke shops."

That is an approach that seems both backwards and unwise, and one likely to lead to confusion and potential litigation.

Item 7. Resolution Nos. 2026-35, 2026-36 and 2026 -37: Calling the November 3, 2026, General Municipal Election

Although not clearly explained in the staff report for this item setting up the November 3 City Council elections, under California [Elections Code Subsection 13307\(a\)\(1\)](#), the Council is being asked to make a decision as to whether candidates should be allowed a half-page (400 word) or limited to a quarter-page (200 word) statement in the sample ballot.

I suspect the Clerk may be overestimating the cost of a quarter-page statement at \$1,000, but in any event, does not say what the cost of the half-page alternative would be.

It is also not explained whether if the Council chose to allow a 400 word statement, it would preclude individual candidates from submitting a less-expensive 200 word statement.⁴

⁴ In the most recent sample ballot for the June 2, 2026, state primary, County Supervisor candidates Katrina Foley and Diane Dixon published half-page statements, while Lucy Vellema published a quarter-page one. It might also be noted that the lower half of pages with two quarter-page statements (as often happens in Newport Beach Council district races) are often blank (or the whole rest of the page is blank when there is a single candidate in a race), suggesting there would have been no additional cost to the County to publish half-page statements on those pages.

Since incumbent Council members already have a great advantage in obtaining re-election, there can be perceived a certain unfairness in limiting what their potential opponents can do in communicating with voters.

Rather than letting the City Clerk make this decision and having it rubber-stamped by a Council that might benefit from it, I think this matter deserves serious discussion of what options are available and what choice will yield the best information for our voters,

Item 14. Final Tract Map No. 19396 for a Residential Condominium Development Located at 1650 Ford Road

The zoning changes (the addition of a housing overlay and height limit increases) which made possible the housing development for which this is the “Final Tract Map” were publicly noticed as modifications to the “Newport Center Focus Area” and because of the large size of the focus area were not mailed to neighboring properties, as would normally happen with zoning changes.

Many residents of the neighboring “Port Streets” (which this is at the northwest corner of) felt blindsided by this obfuscation, because even the few who saw the ad in the *Daily Pilot* would not have connected their area with an announcement of changes to “Newport Center,” from which they are considerably distant.

Considering that history of controversy, the staff report might have explained what discretion the Council retains over the developer’s plans.

The fact that this matter is coming to the Council and apparently cannot be ministerially approved by the City’s engineers suggests that the Council does have some choices it could make.

What are they?

Item 16. Newport Beach Lecture Hall Naming Rights Agreements

It is interesting how the staff report and legal documents skirt around the question of what the building, parts of which the Council is being asked to allow naming, is called.

Although the list of attachments at the end of the staff report refers to, for example, “Attachment A - **Witte Hall** Naming Rights Donation Agreement – Tucker,” the actual name settled on seems to be, as in the agenda item title, “Newport Beach Lecture Hall.”

This is interesting because it was originally pitched and referred to as a “[Library Lecture Hall](#)” and on page 186 of the proposed [Budget Detail](#) to be considered for approval as Item 19 on the present agenda, the Library Services Department lists its opening as one of the department’s accomplishments for the current fiscal year.

Yet, somewhere along the line it seems to have been disassociated from the library, and its operation transferred to the [Recreation & Senior Services Department](#), with the public Library, if it wants to use it, having to apply to the other department to do so, and having no special priority for its use even though the private Newport Beach Public Library Foundation (which I understand has recently taken “public” out of its name and is doing business as the “Library Foundation of Newport Beach”) does for whatever uses it might wish.

It is an odd reversal.

Item 17. Harbor Commission 2026 Objectives

In the past, the Harbor Commission has referred to its objectives as having been “approved” by the Council. I am not sure the act of “receiving” and “filing” is the same as approval.

I also believe that contrary to the agenda title above, what is being received and filed are just objectives for 2006, but for the upcoming 2006-2007 fiscal year, or possibly longer.⁵

As is evident from the attachment, the objectives are pursued through a series of ad hoc subcommittees of the Commission, which California’s Brown Act may allow to meet privately, provided they consist of less than a majority of the Commissioners and their sole product is advice to the full commission on a limited topic.

In that connection, it is good to see each proposed ad hoc committee has clearly defined deliverables and will presumably cease to exist once those have been delivered.

However, some of them, such as the review of NBMC Title 17 have been on the objectives list for many years and seem to have taken on the character of a standing committee, which the Brown Act requires to deliberate only at noticed public meetings.

Item 18. Planning Commission Agenda for the June 4, 2026, Meeting

As of this writing at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, June 8, the [online version](#) of this item includes a [PC Action Report](#) and [Tentative Agenda](#) that were not part of the original posting. I do not know if they are part of the electronic agenda packet, or have changed its page numbering, since I do not feel inclined to re-download the 223 MB packet.

The Action Report (which does not identify the Council item it is associated with) might suggest that the Commission approved an application for a 132-unit townhome project in the Airport Area.

As I have noted at prior Council meetings, these Planning Commission reports were originally discussion items allowing the Council, after an oral report from the Planning Director, to seek clarification and potentially call a Commission action up for further review.

In the present case the Commission did not actually approve the application, but voted to recommend the Council approve it, on the assumption the Council will both add this property to its list of 6th RHNA cycle housing opportunity sites as well as overriding the Airport Land Use Commission’s objections and approve a reduction in the percentage of affordable units required (the applicant is proposes a bare minimum of 5%, or “6” depending on how the numbers are rounded, which does not comply with the current City-imposed requirement of 15%).

⁵ As the staff report alludes to, what the Commission refers to as its current objectives were established in 2024, received and filed as Council [Item 12](#) on January 9, 2024.

Item 19. Resolution No. 2026-40: Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget Adoption; City Budget Hearing; and Recommendations from the Finance Committee

The staff report opens by saying “*Following multiple opportunities for public comment before the City Council and the Finance Committee beginning in February of this year, ...*”

Considering that the 363-page [Budget Detail](#) and 140-page [Capital Improvement Program](#) were first posted in mid-May, with, to the best of my recollection, no [News Splash](#) announcing their posting or inviting comment, and that in the intervening three weeks they have been reviewed at exactly one meeting of the Finance Committee on May 14 and one joint meeting with the Council on May 26 (with a follow-up meeting by the Finance Committee cancelled), and they are now to be reviewed as part of a 1,128-page Council agenda packet (not counting the two budget documents), the choices of “*multiple*” (= 2?) and “*beginning in February*” (= mid-May?) seem a bit generous.

Assuming the public had previously studied and commented on these items, the present focus would be on the list of revisions that have been suggested to the documents that were the subject of the two prior reviews.

However, of the three revisions listed on page 2 of the staff report, I do not recall ever previously having heard of a request for “\$150,000 for a Performance-Based Incentive Compensation Program,” and find no explanation of what that even means.

A search of the City’s Laserfiche [Document Center](#) finds only one existing reference to an “incentive compensation” plan, which is in contract [C-1273](#), a Price Waterhouse & Co. “Position Classification Study” ordered in 1970. It suggested “executive incentive compensation” as an idea to be considered, but only with caution, and at most on a trial basis with clearly defined objective goals that would be rewarded if, and only if, met. The suggestion does not appear to have been taken up at the time.

Looking very closely at the proposed budget adoption Resolution No. 2026-40, I find this (I have given up trying to describe page numbers in current agenda materials posting format):

“Section 10: Subject to the availability of funds budgeted or approved by the City Council for such purpose, the City Manager is authorized to award performance-based incentive compensation to City employees in recognition of outstanding performance, exemplary service, or extraordinary contributions to the City. No such incentive compensation shall exceed five percent (5%) of the employee’s base salary during the applicable fiscal year.”

I have not seen anything like this in any prior budget adoption resolution (see, for example, [page 19-14](#) of last year’s Item 19 from June 10, 2025). Apparently, if the budget is adopted as recommended, the City Manager will have \$150,000 of gifts to dispense. I do not see any of the guardrails or cautions recommended in the 1970 report. Who will be eligible? Will there be objective standards that have to be met or exceeded? What will ensure the program is administered equitably with all employees having an equal chance for a performance reward? Is this even a good idea when applied to a government agency as opposed to a private business?

I don’t recall any discussion.

I was also surprised to see the preceding paragraph the Council is being asked to approve:

“Section 9: *Subject to the availability of funds budgeted or approved by the City Council for such purpose, the City Manager and Risk Manager are authorized to compromise, settle, and resolve workers’ compensation matters, liability claims, disputes, and litigation matters on behalf of the City in amounts not exceeding forty percent (40%) and thirty percent (30%), respectively, of the City’s self-insured retention, as established from time to time under the City’s insurance or risk financing programs, or the amount of their respective City Council approved contracting authority, whichever is greater.”*

This, too, is a provision that, to the best of my knowledge, has never been in any prior budget adoption resolution.

Where did this come from? Why has its inclusion not been discussed or disclosed? Why has it not been in prior resolutions? How is it even intended to be read (“*forty percent (40%) and thirty percent (30%), respectively,*” – “respectively” of what? when 30% as opposed to 40%?)?

As to the first requested revision, which was asked for Mayor Kleiman and the May 26 meeting, the references in the staff report to a request for a budget revision to fund “Police Department S.W.A.T. equipment” make one wonder it was actually asked for by the Police Department. Like most other police forces, our Police Department refers to having a “SWAT Team” (no dots) within its [Crisis Response Unit](#). “S.W.A.T.” (with the dots) seems to be reserved for [film and television shows](#).

It is also disturbing that revisions that were requested are not mentioned.

In particular, the May 26 minutes say “*City Manager Jurjis noted a correction to the prior slide, stating that the proposed transfer of the emergency coordinator from Police to Fire is no longer being proposed.*” Is that not a revision to what was published as the proposed budget?

Adding to the confusion, the published proposed Budget Detail shows one Emergency Services Coordinator position in the Police Department section, but with the budget allocation for it being zeroed out in the proposed budget, while the Fire Department Section showing neither such a position title or an allocation to fund it.

What is the proposal? Is the position being eliminated? Or is it being retained as it was? And if the latter, what is the proposed new allocation for it?

Finally, although it is disclosed in the staff report, including as a provision in the budget adoption resolution the amendment of a council policy (even if it is one intimately related to the budget adoption process: Policy F-3) seems highly unusual.

The City Clerk’s record of [prior versions of Policy F-3](#) indicates a long history of revisions to it and its predecessors, but never before on a date that would suggest a revision was made part of the annual budget adoption resolution.

As to the proposed revision itself, part is to have dollar limits go up with CPI, but not down. Why is this not scheduled for discussion? If we wish to be fiscally prudent, I can think of no reason for limits to go up but not down.

Finally, one of the limits this would affect is the \$10,000 authority of the City Manager to increase budget line items above the Council approved amounts. As I asked at the May 26 meeting, shouldn't there be a limit on how many line items can be increased? And as I see it now in the resolution, even if one wants the City Manager to have this authority, shouldn't the Council give it in one of the operative sections and not as a "Whereas"?

Item 20. Ordinance No. 2026-07: Updating Titles 20 (Planning and Zoning) and 13 (Streets, Sidewalks and Public Property) Related to Personal Wireless Service Facilities and Resolution No. 2026-41: Authorizing the Submission of a Local Coastal Program Amendment

This is a matter very personal to me, as I was the victim of "Personal Wireless Service Facility" proposal on City property approved without public process in 2009.

It remains very important to me, but given the many other items on the agenda, I have not yet had time to give it the attention it deserves.

I would note that in discussing the Planning Commission Process, the staff report is being a bit disingenuous when it says: "*Notably, the Planning Commission did not include any direction to change or modify the draft code language.*"

I think it would be more accurate to say at least some of the Commissioners thought the proposal was flawed, particularly in exempting many City decisions from public review, but felt uncomfortable attempting to revise it from the dais.

Item 21. Resolution No. 2026-42 & 2026-43: Adoption of the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and 2025 Water Shortage Contingency Plan

These are also documents of considerable interest to me which I have not had time to adequately review.

I have a particular interest in water loss, and a spot check suggests the consultant tends to quote numbers without providing insight as to their significance. For example, on page 4-12 of the Management Plan it says: "*Table 4.10 presents the City's progress towards compliance with the 2028 Water Loss Standard, as of the time of writing this UWMP,*" but it doesn't really explain what the table shows. It looks to me like it shows we could be losing something like 23 gallons per day to each "unit" served. That seems quite substantial to me compared to typical per person use.

Item 22. Annual Appointments to Boards and Commissions

The agenda title for this item is a bit misleading in that the recommended action includes not only making appointments to boards and commissions, as announced in the title, but also to the new [Finance Committee](#) which is neither a board nor a commission, and, indeed, not a body [City Charter Article VII](#) empowers the Council to create, since it includes Council people as members ([Section 702](#) prohibits the inclusion on a board or commission of any person holding paid office within the City Government).

More importantly I hope the four Council members not on the appointment committee will be disturbed by the extent to which they are being cut out of the appointment process, being asked to simply ratify the committee's single selection for each position.

This was made possible by a clandestine revision to Council Policy A-2 that was approved by the Council, along with revisions to 15 other Council policies, as part of the 278-page [Item 12](#) on the February 24 agenda, to which I attempted to draw attention at the time. The February staff report assured readers that "*The revisions are intended to improve organization, eliminate outdated references, clarify roles and responsibilities, and ensure internal consistency across the Policy Manual. In many cases, changes are administrative in nature and do not alter substantive policy direction but instead refine language for clarity and efficiency.*" While eliminating any vestiges of a transparent selection process may improve "efficiency," it hardly seems a mere clarification of past practice.

The prior practice had been for the full Council to have at least two applications to consider for each appointment, and even that was in stark contrast to other cities, such as Laguna Beach where as recently as February 10 (see [video](#)) the full Council publicly interviewed all the applicants for all their vacancies.

I see this as a new low in transparency. It is as if in lieu of holding elections in California we simply submitted the list of candidates to the Secretary of State and asked him or her to pick the winners.

As to the appointment committee's selections (regarding which the public has no knowledge of the reasons for), it is amusing to see the application for their selection for the Civil Service Board list Mayor Lauren Kleiman and Mayor Pro Tem Kleiman as personal references as residents "not officially connected with the City."

It is also not obvious from the application forms that either of the selections for appointment to the Building and Fire Board of Appeal has any experience with building or fire codes. Do they know what the board (which rarely meets) exists for? Does the appointments committee?