



## CITY OF CARSON

### MINUTES CARSON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING JUNE 30, 2020 5:00 P.M.

#### CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 P.M. by Mayor Albert Robles via Zoom Teleconference.

#### ROLL CALL:

City Clerk Donesia Gause-Aldana noted the roll:

#### Council Members Present via Zoom Teleconference:

Mayor Albert Robles, Council Member Lula Davis-Holmes, Council Member Jawane Hilton, and Council Member Cedric Hicks

#### Council Members Absent:

Mayor Pro Tem Jim Dear (Entered at 5:11 P.M.)

#### Also Present via Zoom Teleconference Telephone:

Monica Cooper, City Treasurer; Sharon Landers, City Manager; Sunny Soltani, City Attorney; David Roberts, Assistant City Manager; John Raymond, Assistant City Manager; Saied Naaseh, Director of Community Development; Faye Moseley, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management; and Tarik Rahmani, Director of Finance

#### CLOSED SESSION: (Item 1)

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

##### Website Public Comment - Received June 23, 2020 – Item No. 2

Inquired about the following: 1) PPE and additional measures being in place for counter staff; 2) IF the water dispensers with hot and cold water will be available for employees; and 3) In effort to reducing exposure, inquired if full time employees may work at City Hall for two days then work from home the other two days.

##### Elizabeth Foisia – Email Received June 29, 2020 – Item No. 2

Thanked the Mayor and Council Members for the report on making employees whole and the statistics on essential and non-essential employees, full and part timers. She noted the report was vague on the status of the employees who fell through the cracks. She also spoke about disparaging remarks being made repeatedly during Council meetings about part timers making

so much money now versus when they were working. Lastly, she referred to the City's Rules of Decorum policy citing Council members use of profanity. She believes the comments were unbecoming and unprofessional, especially knowing the comments were directed toward a person in litigation with the City.

Luz Padua and Community Residents – Phone Call Received June 30, 2020 – Item No. 2

Expressed concern about Carson's public health, related to the Aquatics Program being reopened. She asked the City Council to reconsider discontinuing the Aquatics Program.

Ana Meni, President, AFSCME Local 809 – Email Received June 30, 2020 – Item No. 2

Inquired about the reason there is no mention of one city employee testing positive for COVID-19 in the staff report and included the timelines of when the city was notified. She spoke about the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health protocols set by the County of Los Angeles regarding positive cases in the workforce and inquired why the City did not follow them.

City Attorney Soltani requested the City Council add a subsequent need item to Closed Session regarding a potential litigation, citing that her office received a letter from Tom Casparian regarding a moratorium on rent increases which requires a response before posting of the next agenda.

Motion and Vote to Add a Subsequent Need Item to Closed Session

It was moved to add a subsequent need item to Closed Session as Item No. 1A, as described by City Attorney Soltani, on motion of Robles, seconded by Dear and unanimously carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Robles, Mayor Pro Tem Dear, Council Member Davis-Holmes, Council Member Hilton and Council Member Hicks  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

Captain Skeen gave a report on the following:

- Updated information on website
- Firework Citations

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

After Item No. 2, City Attorney Soltani announced the Closed Session items.

**RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting was recessed at 6:14 P.M. by Mayor Robles to Closed Session.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 P.M. by Mayor Robles.

**REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

City Attorney Soltani provided the Closed Session report as follows:

**Item No. 1. 2020-470****CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (CITY COUNCIL)**

Recommendation:

A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation to which the City is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows:

Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, et al. v. City of Carson, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV32291

ACTION: No reportable action was taken.

**Item No. 1A.****SUBSEQUENT NEED ITEM – POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

ACTION: Authorized staff to work with the Disaster Council to send letters to lift order of the moratorium of rent increases and to commence processing the back dated rent increase applications, which was a unanimous vote of the City Council.

**DISCUSSION: (Item 2)****Item No. 2. 2020-475****COVID-19 UPDATE (CITY COUNCIL)**

City Clerk Gause-Aldana gave a Powerpoint presentation on Disaster Council Summary of Actions.

City Manager Landers gave a Powerpoint presentation on COVID-19 Update.

During the presentation, Mayor Pro Tem Dear noted that communication is important between staff and their directors. He directed management to be more communicative to avoid misinformation.

Discussion ensued regarding the conduct of City employees representing the City in accordance with the Personnel Rules and Regulations.

Recommendation: DISCUSS and PROVIDE direction.

ACTION: Mayor Robles directed the City Manager to provide the City Council with email timelines with no objection heard.

Discussion ensued regarding the legality of city emails related to employee medical conditions.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (COUNCIL MEMBERS)**

This item was heard after the Closed Session Report.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear noted that the Kayumanggi Lions Club donated \$2,000 to the COVID-19 Task Force meal program.

Council Member Hilton wished everyone a Happy 4th of July. He reminded everyone that illegal fireworks are prohibited.

Council Member Hicks wished everyone a safe and sane 4th of July. He inquired about the number of block parties that has been approved. He reminded everyone to wash their hands, wear a mask and stay safe.

Staff noted two block party applications and one pending.

Mayor Robles thanked Mayor Pro Tem Dear for bringing the check. He thanked all those helping the less fortunate. He directed staff to put a list together.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 P.M. by Mayor Robles.

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Mayor Albert Robles

ATTEST:

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City Clerk Donesia Gause-Aldana

APPROVED BY CARSON  
CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/  
HOUSING AUTHORITY

10-06-2020

Approved as Submitted. AR/JD 5/0