



## CITY OF CARSON

### MINUTES CARSON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MAY 12, 2020 5:00 P.M.

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 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, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Dear, Council Member Lula Davis-Holmes, Council Member Jawane Hilton, and Council Member Cedric Hicks

#### **Also Present via Zoom Teleconference:**

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

#### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS LISTED ON THE AGENDA (MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC)**

City Clerk Gause-Aldana read public comments from the following:

##### Email

Expressed concerns related to the delay in receiving COVID-19 test results and the lack of response from US Health Fairs.

##### Rochelle & Matthew Smith – Email

Expressed concerns related to the delay in receiving COVID-19 test results and the lack of response from US Health Fairs. Mrs. Smith requested the City Council to get involved and provide clear guidance for their constituents.

##### Antonio - Email

Inquired about the following:

- Requested a link be placed on the City's website to view US Health Fairs drive-thru COVID-19 Testing demographic information. Noting that the US Health Fairs

representative stated this information would be made available to the public;

- Questioning claims made in an article he read in the *Carson Observer*, May edition (local newsletter) related to the independent audit of all City sponsored special events; In addition, he requested city council adopt recommendations provided in the independent audit report;
- The City's \$5 million budget deficit prior to the coronavirus pandemic.;
- Encouraged the City Council to consider reducing salaries and pension benefits for elected and management before the rank and file employees. ;
- Requesting City Council exhaust all other alternatives to revenue sources before considering any type of bond, tax (sales/property/commercial).

Joline Barela - Email

Inquired about when city employees are returning to work.

**DISCUSSION: (Item 1)**

Mayor Robles thanked Carson residents for their patience with COVID-19 testing.

**Item No. 1. 2020-292 COVID-19 UPDATE (CITY COUNCIL)**

Recommendation: RECEIVE and FILE

ACTION: Discussion was held and directions given to staff as noted below.

Discussion ensued between the City Council regarding rapid test results, residents who are concerned about not receiving their test results and the county's extended shelter in place order.

City Manager Landers gave a PowerPoint presentation on COVID-19 Impact Trends.

City Clerk Gause-Aldana gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Summary of Actions taken by the Disaster Council.

City Manager Landers spoke briefly about the city's plans to re-open.

Council Member Davis-Holmes requested staff research when businesses such as car washes are allowed to re-open.

Council Member Hilton inquired about the City's ability to re-open amid the public health directives.

Mayor Robles directed the City Attorney's Office prepare an analysis of how the city may re-open certain businesses in contrary to the Los Angeles County's Public Health Directive.

Mike Whittaker, Human Services Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation on activities related to the COVID-19 Task Force.

Council Member Davis-Holmes inquired if individuals donating blood will be tested for COVID-19 as well. Staff addressed her inquiry..

Captain Skeen commended the COVID-19 Task Force and Mike Whittaker for their work providing resources to the community. In addition, he offered additional points about the emergency blood drive.

Mayor Pro Tem/Agency Vice Chairman/Authority Vice Chairman Dear commended the Task Force staff that saved the life of a resident who fell when she was home alone and able to get help.

Mayor Robles thanked Captain Skeen and his deputies for their work in the community.

City Attorney Soltani addressed Council Member Hilton's inquiry regarding the city's authority to supplant the Los Angeles County Public Health Directives, noting that generally cities can be more restrictive, however, she will conduct further research.

Assistant City Manager Raymond gave a status report of the city's small business loan program.

Discussion ensued between Council Member Davis-Holmes and staff regarding an error printed in the Recreation Guide related to the small business loan program.

Staff noted the corrections will be made prior to being mailed to all residents.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (COUNCIL MEMBERS) – None.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 P.M. by Mayor Robles.

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Mayor Albert Robles

ATTEST:

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City Clerk Donesia Gause-Aldana