



CITY OF CARSON

MINUTES CARSON CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MAY 5, 2021 10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 A.M. by Mayor Lula Davis-Holmes via Zoom Teleconference.

ROLL CALL:

Deputy City Clerk Joy Simarago noted the roll:

Council Members Present via Zoom Teleconference:

Mayor Lula Davis-Holmes, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Dear, Council Member Jawane Hilton, and Council Member Cedric Hicks

Also Present via Zoom Teleconference:

Sharon Landers, City Manager; and John Raymond, Assistant City Manager

FLAG SALUTE:

The Flag Salute was heard after the Invocation.

Council Member Hicks led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION:

Jerome Horton gave the invocation.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS LISTED ON THE AGENDA (MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC) – None.

DISCUSSION: (Item 2)

Item No. 2. 2021-344	CONSIDERATION OF A CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF CITY GOVERNANCE POLICIES RELATED TO DISTRICT-ELECTION CITIES
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City Manager Landers gave a report and introduced Consultant Jerome Horton.

Jerome Horton suggested the following order of the remaining policies to be discussed:

- Appointment Governance Policies
- District Events
- Constituent Services
- Core Values

He noted the purpose of the workshop was to educate and inform. He stated there were no decisions to be made. He also noted Council Members have the option to give directions individually or collectively and that it would be beneficial for the City Attorney and City Manager to hear their thoughts.

Mayor Davis-Holmes requested to come to a consensus amongst the City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear agreed with Jerome Horton's workshop but would like to receive feedback from his constituents prior to him voting.

Mayor Davis-Holmes reiterated wanting to come to a consensus amongst the City Council and for City Manager Landers to return to the City Council in the form of a policy.

Council Member Hicks noted his concerns. He stated he hopes the body will take into consideration the work that has already been done in relation to the policies that were presented today.

Council Member Hilton agreed for the City Manager to bring back a policy.

Jerome Horton thanked Council Member Hilton and Council Member Hicks for providing the basic Guiding Principles.

Jerome Horton gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Recommendation: PROVIDE guidance and direction regarding the various governance policies related to district-election cities.

ACTION: Questions were asked by the City Council and answered by Jerome Horton.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear stated he does not support placing strict district rules.

Jerome Horton responded by sharing some general principals. He stated democracy has no side and the people who are impacted would like fair and equitable understanding.

Discussion ensued regarding districts.

Council Member Hilton spoke about Mayor Pro Tem Dear being currently at large. He would like for the City Council to give City Manager Landers direction to bring this item back to be palatable for consensus.

Discussion ensued amongst the City Council.

Mayor Davis-Holmes recommended City Manager Landers bring this item back in a form to be voted on and codified.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear opposed a policy that would restrict Council Members from entering another Council Member's district.

Mayor Davis-Holmes directed City Manager Landers to bring back a policy that is palatable for Mayor Pro Tem Dear's concerns as an at-large member.

Jerome Horton reiterated to City Council that the policies discussed in his presentation are related to districts only.

At 11:11 A.M., Jerome Horton moved to the next topic of discussion. He spoke about the Citywide and District Events Governance Model.

Mayor Davis-Holmes requested to revisit the Standard Management Procedure (SMP) regarding the 199 mailing rule.

City Manager Landers stated the city can be more restrictive than the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). She also stated she will bring this matter up with City Attorney Soltani and bring back to the City Council.

Questions were asked by the City Council and answered by Jerome Horton.

City Manager Landers mentioned a trial run format with Council Member Hicks that the city was comfortable with.

Council Member Hilton recommended to codify the events.

Mayor Davis-Holmes spoke about identifying citywide events to come up with during the budget process.

Mayor Pro Tem Dear requested clarification between citywide events versus district events.

Jerome Horton responded to Mayor Pro Tem Dear's inquiry.

Mayor Davis-Holmes requested to have City Attorney Soltani investigate the Equal Representation Policy regarding District 2 and District 4 being unrepresented. She requested recommendations be presented at a future meeting or make a consensus. She stated if a consensus is unable to be met then will bring back the matter to the Mayor because the district cannot remain unrepresented.

Jerome Horton clarified that the Mayor cannot appoint and that an elected official must represent each district.

Mayor Davis-Holmes directed City Manager Landers to seek clarification and legal opinion from City Attorney Soltani regarding the unrepresented districts.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dear stated that District 2 and District 4 are not totally unrepresented because he and Mayor Davis-Holmes are both at large Council Members.

Jerome Horton referred the City Council to City Attorney Soltani for her legal opinion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dear politely disagreed with Jerome Horton and Jerome Horton politely responded to Mayor Pro-Tem Dear stating that his disagreement is his opinion.

Mayor Davis-Holmes reiterated that since District 2 and District 4 do not have an elected official representation, she directed City Manager Landers to seek the legal opinion of City Attorney Soltani.

It was moved to bring back this matter to the City Council and requested staff to make it palatable for consensus on motion of Hilton and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dear. There was a consensus by Mayor Davis-Holmes and Council Member Hicks.

At 12:31 P.M., Jerome Horton moved to the next topic of discussion. He made a presentation regarding Constituent Services.

Jerome Horton stated that Constituent Services are to go through City Manager Landers and for all constituent issues to be addressed through her as well.

Mayor Davis-Holmes directed City Manager Landers to bring back a list of issues regarding city parks, city streets, mobile home parks and oil problems.

City Manager Landers responded with an understanding of Mayor Davis-Holmes' request.

At 12:44 P.M., Jerome Horton moved to the next topic of discussion. He spoke about Core Values.

Jerome Horton stated the Core Values refer to how the City Council administers what was discussed during the Council Governance Workshop.

Council Member Hilton stated that the Core Values are self-explanatory and he requested for staff to return to the City Council with a palatable recommendation for the City Council's consensus at a future meeting.

Mayor Davis-Holmes stated the workshop is a good starting point. She thanked Chairman Horton, two of her colleagues and City Manager Landers for their assistance with the workshop.

Council Member Hicks thanked Mayor Davis-Holmes for allowing him to be a part of the process and he also thanked Chairman Horton.

Council Member Hilton stated the presentation was great, their time was far spent, and he appreciated the dialogue.

Mayor Pro-Tem Dear dittoed his colleague's statements and he thanked Chairman Horton for his presentation.

City Manager Landers informed the City Council that Pastor Michael Ealey was on the line.

Mayor Davis-Holmes requested Pastor Ealey to provide the closing prayer.

Pastor Ealey stated everyone did a good job with the workshop and gave the closing prayer.

Mayor Davis-Holmes thanked everyone for their participation in a successful workshop.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 12:53 P.M. by Mayor Davis-Holmes.

Lula Davis-Holmes
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joy Simarago
Deputy City Clerk