



**MINUTES  
CARSON CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MAY 29, 2018**

**3:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 3:38 P.M., by Mayor Albert Robles in the Helen Kawagoe Council Chambers, Carson City Hall, located at 701 E. Carson Street, Carson, California 90745.

**ROLL CALL:** Deputy City Clerk Simarago noted the following:

**Council Members Present:**

Mayor Albert Robles, Mayor Pro Tem Jawane Hilton, Council Member Elito Santarina, Council Member Lula Davis-Holmes (Entered at 3:45 P.M.), and Council Member Cedric Hicks

**Other Elected Officials Present:**

Monica Cooper, City Treasurer

**Other Elected Officials Absent:**

Donesia Gause-Aldana, City Clerk (Excused)

**Also Present:**

Kenneth C. Farfsing, City Manager; John Raymond; Assistant City Manager; Sunny Soltani, City Attorney; Kathryn Downs, Director of Finance; Maria Williams-Slaughter; Director of Public Works; Kate Moseley, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management; Saied Naaseh, Director of Community Development; Idris Al-Oboudi, Director of Community Services; Joy Simarago, Deputy City Clerk; Robert Eggleston, IT Manager; and Ernie Santos, Administrative Intern I

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

Paul Randall, Chair, Measure C Budget Oversight Committee

Inquired if City Council reviewed their recommendations; stated committee recommended no general funds to be used on city events and consideration of 25% of City's budget be used for public safety and employees. He commended Director Downs for doing good work.

Mayor Robles noted that the committee recommendations were previously conveyed to the Mayor and Council Members by Director Downs.

**DISCUSSION: (Item 1)**

**Item No. 1. FISCAL YEAR 2018-19 BUDGET WORKSHOP #4 (CITY COUNCIL)**

Mayor Robles commended Director Downs and staff for their hard work on the budget.

City Manager Farfsing provided introductory comments and referred to City Events.

(Council Member Davis-Holmes entered the meeting at 3:45 P.M.)

(Council Member Davis-Holmes exited the meeting at 3:46 P.M. and reentered the meeting at 3:47 P.M.)

Recommendation:

1. DETERMINE the draft General Fund contributions for City Events to be held in FY18-19.
2. REVIEW personnel requests and PROVIDE direction for the draft FY18-19 personnel budget.
3. PROVIDE additional direction to staff regarding the draft FY18-19 budget.

ACTION: The budget workshop was held as follows:

Director Downs provided a Powerpoint presentation to facilitate Council discussion on personnel requests and city events.

She referred to Exhibit A pages 10-17 of the staff report noting the personnel requests will need to be vetted through Human Resources. In addition, she referred to the hiring freeze list and the new positions that are being recommended. It was stated new positions may be in lieu of some frozen positions.

The following items were addressed:

- Measure C Budget Oversight Committee recommended 25% funding for Public Safety - currently at 23% of General Fund close to 24%. Also, the committee recommended not to use general fund monies for special events.
- City Manager recommends funding eleven (11) high priority positions with a fiscal impact of \$655,000.

- Council Member Davis-Holmes inquired about the low level positions such as the custodians and tree trimmers. Director Williams-Slaughter referred to the Public Works maintenance positions on pages 13 and 14 of the staff report.
- Director Downs referred to Request No. 35 and Request No. 39 noting staff is requesting a release of the hiring freeze of two high priority positions.
- Council Member Davis-Holmes referred to Request Nos. 21, 22, 23 and Director Downs noted the items were high priority reclassifications.
- Council Member Davis-Holmes requested to fill positions that have a direct visible impact on residents.
- Director Williams-Slaughter noted she is working with Human Resources staff on employees currently on leave and hope to backfill soon.
- Council Member Davis-Holmes requested staff make it a priority to fill positions that were frozen for two years and hire all maintenance positions citing the parks and streets are falling apart and to take care of what is visible.
- City Manager Farfsing expressed concern of nine (9) employees on leave and have not wanted to backfill since the positions are already budgeted.
- Some of the employees on leave may return to work with positions essentially budgeted but not working.
- Director Downs referred to twenty three (23) positions staff want to reclassify from part time to full time that is related to maintenance issues with one part-time staff person administering iWORKS program.
- Director Williams-Slaughter noted the hiring of part time and full time positions in the last two months in Public Works Department.
- Council Member Davis-Holmes inquired how many Groundworker positions were vacant. Director Williams-Slaughter stated the vacant Groundworker positions - three on leave; two part-time in interview process in the next two weeks - four or five vacant positions.
- Council Member Santarina inquired about Request No. 33 and asked why is employee working out of class for six years yet the priority is low.
- Request Nos. 29 and 30 – Director Williams-Slaughter noted new positions associated with new waste hauling contract Waste Resources, Inc. (WRI) that are funded by WRI is a high priority for compliance in the city.

- Request No. 33 - City Manager Farfsing noted Request No. 33 the position does not work out of class and needs to be evaluated.
- Request No. 27 – City Manager Farfsing noted reclassification is warranted due to requirements changing and new programs such as energy efficiency.
- Mayor Pro Tem Hilton inquired if staff met and conferred with unions and to ensure rank and file are in agreement. In addition, take care of positions for streets, landscapes and parks. Director Downs noted funding discussion only and directors will work with Human Resources if meet and confer is necessary.
- City Manager recommends approval of all high priority positions in Public Works.
- Council Member Hicks referred to Request No. 22 and Director of Public Works Williams-Slaughter noted she supports the reclassification.
- Director Downs noted fiscal impact of \$364,000 for the recommended high priority request.

(Council Member Hilton exited the meeting at 4:14 P.M.)

- Council Member Hicks referred to Request No. 41 – the Public Works/Street Maintenance. Director Williams-Slaughter noted employees on leave – one for 3 years, one for two years, and one for 18 months.
- City Manager Farfsing noted nine (9) individual cases of employees on leave due to worker's comp related injuries, confidential issues, and ongoing process with City Attorney and union representative. Council Member Hicks inquired if employees are compensated through general fund money or workers comp process. City Manager Farfsing stated he would report back with more information.
- Request Nos. 21 and 22 – Council Member Hicks supports Request Nos. 21 and 22 citing they are more advantageous with Public Works Department to work new tracking program that was implemented and for staff to review positions that need to be funded with direct street services.

(Mayor Pro Tem Hilton reentered the meeting at 4:18 P.M.)

### Motion

It was moved to direct staff to prepare into the draft budget the funding for hiring of high priority positions recommended by the City Manager on motion of Robles and seconded by Santarina.

During discussion of the motion, Council Member Davis-Holmes referred to Request No. 35 release hiring freeze for two full-time custodians which were needed. She noted low priority positions do not cost much versus filling high priority positions. She believes it was agreed two years ago to hire custodians.

City Manager Farfsing noted radical step in hiring and questioned whether it is nice or necessary. He can hire more maintenance staff with some positions at administrative level. For example, Director Downs needs a Buyer which may change with new Tyler Munis system; noted hire of Interim Purchasing Manager.

Council Member Davis-Holmes inquired about the request to fill Community Center position and why recommendation about not to fill their position.

City Manager Farfsing noted 2.3 million worth of personnel requests; made call after discussion with Directors what bottom line. He expressed concern on nine positions in Public Works still in the process through worker's comp and if positions backfilled may come back then have double positions. He discussed further on hiring part time to fill void and bringing in part time which is an opportunity to test person and if good employee encourage to apply for positions in the City.

Council Member Hicks referred to Request Nos. 29 and 30 - new full-time Sanitation Inspectors and inquired what is the actual charge and if it's a pass through. He referred to Request No. 41 and recommended to change to high priority and if have funds from pass through is available.

Director Downs noted new full-time Sanitation Inspectors which is part of WRI contract at no cost to city; part of \$364,000 but funded with new fee which is the full expenditure side. She noted revenue placed from the new waste hauler into revenue estimate and was not made aware of the fees which are to fund three full-time positions; revenue estimates already included the fees. The expenditure side did not include three positions.

Council Member Santarina referred to Request No. 39 high priority position and inquired about the number of Senior Groundswokers.

Director Williams-Slaughter noted there are 40 Groundswoker positions; 11 vacant out of 40; three on leave list; and 13 vacant.

Mayor Pro Tem Hilton requested staff to bring back organizational chart to show where the positions fit, then can make adjustments accordingly.

Council Member Davis-Holmes recommended discussion of personnel items with City Council Personnel Subcommittee prior to discussion with City Council. She noted that she and Council Member Hicks are members of the City Council Personnel Subcommittee. She stated she supports low-level maintenance staff.

The motion to direct staff to prepare into the draft budget the funding for hiring of high priority positions recommended by the City Manager was carried by the following vote:

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

Council Member Davis-Holmes noted for the record she supports the new Sanitation Inspector positions and Groundswoker positions and does not support administrative positions.

### Motion

It was moved to approve \$7,500 for the Millennium Momentum Foundation Program for 10-15 interns and to draft budget for 2019 program on motion of Robles, seconded by Santarina and unanimously carried by the following vote:

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

- Director Downs noted she and City Manager met with County Library District and discussed options if City could provide a contribution to the district such as landscape maintenance, custodial services, or cash contribution. County could consider placing a special tax measure on the November 2022 ballot which would require a 2/3 approval from the voters of Carson if the City decided to opt in, or reduce service levels at the two library branches in Carson. Mayor Robles noted he liked staff's idea of offering in-kind landscape maintenance services provided that is okay with Public Works staff. City Attorney to determine if it requires to have a meet and confer to ensure compliance with MOU's.

### Motion

It was moved to offer in-kind landscape maintenance services not to exceed \$15,000 to the County Library District, County to reach out to businesses for landscape maintenance services (possibly have business to adopt library landscaping maintenance at two libraries) and send letters on motion of Robles, seconded by Santarina and unanimously carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: None

- Building permit process and revenue – Director Naaseh noted that staff is in the process of contacting various cities of what service they provide and turnaround time for their services and will have an informed decision on what areas to improve on.

Director Downs provided overview of City events.

Mayor Robles clarified misperception of the City Events list and staff report and for staff to begin process of the following: 1) Avoid notion that events are from particular Council Member and city events would continue whether supported by Council or not; 2) Be mindful of budgetary constraints and find ways to reduce cost and honor request for Carson Foundation funding city events, and 3) Avoid general fund money to fund city events and consider not fund events that are funded by the Carson Community Foundation and the City.

- Council Member Davis-Holmes provided rationale why special events were assigned by Council Members and Carson Community Foundation was established to help fund events.
- Council Member Santarina noted request from new leadership to change name of Samoan Flag Day to Samoan Heritage Day.

Mayor Robles ordered the name change of Samoan Flag Day to Samoan Heritage Day with no objections heard.

- Council Member Santarina noted Community Friendship Day to be held every July 4.

The allocations to City events were provided as follows:

<u>City Event</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Senior Casino Brunch/Las Vegas Day	\$5,000
Community Friendship Day	\$5,000
White Linen	\$5,000
Samoan Heritage Day	\$5,000
Backpack Giveaways	\$0
Unity Day	\$5,000
Block Captains BBQ	\$0
Hispanic Heritage Month/Mariachi Fest	\$5,000
Country Western Fair	\$0
Filipino American History/Larry Itliong	\$5,000
Halloween Carnival/Dia de la Muertos	\$5,000
Jazz Festival	\$0
Ms. Carson Scholarship Pageant	\$0

Red Ribbon Week	\$5,000
Women's Health Conference	\$0
Veterans Day Celebration	(Come back at next meeting)
Why I Like Carson Essay Contest	\$0
50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Winterfest	\$0
Christmas Activities (Tree, Sleigh, Brunch)	\$5,000
Dr. Jose P. Rizal Day	\$5,000
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute	\$5,000
Black History	\$5,000
Why Am I a Rising Star Contest	\$0
Tribute to Cesar Chavez	\$5,000
Volunteer Recognition Awards	\$10,000
Youth Conference	\$10,000
Carson Sheriff Foundation Annual Lunch	\$0
Cinco de Mayo	\$0
Memorial Day Tribute	\$5,000
Juneteenth Celebration	\$0
Filipino Independence	\$0

Mayor Robles directed City Manager Farfsing to write a letter to Andeavor requesting they be a permanent sponsor for the Block Captains Barbecue.

- City Manager Farfsing noted that some events will be funded by private fundraising or by Carson Community Foundation.
- Director Al-Oboudi discussed different effects of the special events and ways to make more meaningful.

Mayor Robles directed Director Al-Oboudi to come back with a brief report on his assessment of the special events that were funded.

- Council Member Davis-Holmes suggested staff focus on direct and indirect costs for labor and the money allocated; submit report and send bill to those putting on events.

(Council Member Santarina exited the meeting at 5:14 P.M.)

### Motion

It was moved to approve Council recommendations, as discussed, and seconded by Hilton.

(Council Member Santarina reentered the meeting at 5:15 P.M.)

The motion was unanimously carried by the following vote:

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

### **CLOSED SESSION (Items 2-3)**

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – CLOSED SESSION ITEMS ONLY**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

City Attorney Soltani presented the Closed Session items as listed on the agenda after the previous motion.

#### **RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting was recessed at 5:16 P.M. by Mayor Robles to Closed Session.

#### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

The meeting was reconvened at 6:04 P.M. by Mayor Robles with all members present.

#### **REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

City Attorney Soltani provided the Closed Session report as follows:

#### **Item No. 2. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (SUCCESSOR AGENCY)**

Recommendation:

A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8, to enable Successor Agency to consider negotiations with Macerich, with whom the Successor Agency is negotiating, and to give direction to its negotiators Kenneth C. Farfsing, Executive Director and John Raymond, Assistant City Manager, regarding that certain real property known as Assessor Parcel Nos. 7336-010-903 and 7336-010-904. The Successor Agency's real property negotiator will seek direction from the Agency member regarding the price, payment terms for purchase, sale or lease.

ACTION: Item No. 2 was heard in Closed Session. No reportable action was taken.

#### **Item No. 3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (CITY COUNCIL)**

Recommendation:

A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2) or (d)(3) & (e)(1), because there is a significant exposure to litigation in one case.

ACTION: Item No. 3 was heard in Closed Session. No reportable action was taken.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 P.M. by Mayor Robles.

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Mayor Robles

ATTEST:

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City Clerk Donesia Gause-Aldana