



# City of Commerce

## Meeting Minutes

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Wednesday, March 25, 2020 - 5:30 PM

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### Special Meeting

In response to Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20, this meeting will be streamed live and allow for telephonic public participation, but physically closed to the public to follow state guidelines, including from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, on gatherings over fifty (50) people.

### CALL TO ORDER

*Mayor Soria called meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. via teleconference.*

### ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 - Mayor Soria  
Mayor Pro Tem Altamirano  
Councilmember Argumedo  
Councilmember Mendoza  
Councilmember Rebollo

### PUBLIC COMMENT

*There were no individuals that requested comments read for the public.*

### SCHEDULED MATTERS

1. Update, and Consider Declaring the Existence of an Economic Emergency Caused by the Novel Coronavirus "COVID-19" Pandemic

*City Manager Cisneros provided an overview of the staff report. According to City Manager Cisneros, there is a provision in Memorandum of Understanding with the union that stipulates in the event of an economic emergency to take specific actions like temporary or permanent adjustments in light of the current state of emergency. City Manager Cisneros added that it does not allow staff to unilaterally make modifications without the Council direction and going through negotiations with the union.*

*Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk Shumway read the comment for the record submitted by the Lora Logan, President of Employee Association.*

*The discussion took place. The City Councilmembers and the Mayor thanked the*

staff and the union for working together and teamwork. The City Councilmembers and the Mayor noted that everyone is looking for creative solutions and ways to minimize impacts.

Assistant City Attorney Copado stated that based on a conversation some language could be included in the resolution:

A. The City Council directs the City Manager and/or his designee to investigate and recommend further actions that may be necessary to mitigate and address the financial and budgetary impacts to the City's budget and General Fund as a result of COVID-19, and all Orders relating to same, including the financial impacts as a result of the current closure of the Commerce Casino, Citadel Outlets, hotels, and all other businesses.

B. The City Council further directs the City Manager and/or his designee to propose the implementation of any available or potential cost-saving measures in efforts to address the current constraints of the City's budget and General Fund, by also evaluating the immediate and long-term needs of each City Department, and identify unfunded immediate and long-term needs.

C. Include both of those phrases.

**Councilmember Mendoza moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Altamirano, to adopt a resolution declaring the existence of an Economic Emergency caused by the Novel Coronavirus "COVID-19" Pandemic, and include the option C of additional of both phrases in the Resolution as recommended by staff. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Soria, Mayor Pro Tem Altamirano, Councilmember Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, and Councilmember Rebollo

**2. Urgency Ordinance Enacting a Moratorium on Evictions for Renters of residential Properties in the City Due to Causes Related to the COVID-19 State of Emergency**

Assistant City Attorney Copado provided an overview of the staff report. According to the Assistant City Attorney Copado, the majority of issues raised by Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles in their letter submitted for the record are addressed in the Ordinance. Renters that demonstrate difficulties paying rent would submit their requests in writing, and financial impacts are defined as well. This Ordinance will be in effect until there is no local emergency, and the Governor's order indicates that it could be as long as May 31, 2020. Assistant City

*attorney Copado recommended continuing with the Governor's recommendation or until local emergency is removed for the term of the Ordinance.*

*The discussion took place. It was recommended to distribute information and landlords know the info and also enforce the Ordinance.*

**Councilmember Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Argumedo, to read the Ordinance by title only, and adopt Urgency Ordinance ratifying the order of Resolution No. 20-23 and enacting a moratorium on evictions for renters of residential and commercial properties in the City. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 5 - Mayor Soria, Mayor Pro Tem Altamirano, Councilmember Argumedo, Councilmember Mendoza, and Councilmember Rebollo

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Councilmember Argumedo left the meeting at 6:47p.m.*

*Councilmembers and the Mayor spoke about coming together as a community and coming through these hard times.*

*Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m*