



City of Commerce

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2020 - 5:00 PM

**CONCURRENT JOINT MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
COMMERCE, JOINT POWERS FINANCING AUTHORITY AND THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE COMMERCE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION**

5:00 P.M. CLOSED SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Altamirano called meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. via zoom teleconference.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no individuals wishing to address the City Council on any Closed Session items.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

City Council recessed to Closed session at 5:07 p.m.

1. Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8, the City Council will confer with its real property negotiator, Edgar Cisneros, with respect to real estate negotiations with and properties located at:
 - A. BNSF concerning proposed price and other terms relating thereto, comprised of: APN (6335-022-800), APN (6335-022-801), APN (6335-023-800), APN (6335-023-801), APN (6335-025-805), APN (6335-025-807), APN (6335-014-805) and APN (6335-014-806)
 - B. Wash-Tel Commerce, LLC concerning proposed price and other terms relating thereto, comprised of 6329 and 6355 Washington Boulevard, Commerce, California, commonly referred to as the Stahl Trust property.
 - C. Craig Realty Corporation concerning proposed price and other terms relating thereto, comprised of the former Commerce Community Development Commission-owned real property located along the Telegraph Road Corridor, south

of Gaspar Avenue and north of the Commerce Casino [Tubeway Avenue], formerly known as 5809, 5819, 5823, 2901/2903, 5933, 5901, 5959, 6000, 6003 and 6233 Telegraph Road and 2240 Gaspar Avenue; 2311, 2322 and 2366 Travers Avenue, Commerce, California.

2. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1). One (1) case: Coalition for Responsible Equitable Economic Development Los Angeles, an unincorporated association; Carlos Mendivil, James Moreno and David Pimenov *v the City of Commerce, the City Council of the City of Commerce, and City of Commerce Public Works and Development Services department et al.* - Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 19STCP03329.
3. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1). One (1) case: East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice *v the City of Commerce, et al.* - Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 19STCP03310.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

City Council/ Successor Agency reconvened to Open Session at 6:05 p.m.

ORAL CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant City Attorney Copado reported on closed session items:

Items #1.A and #1.B -staff provided briefing and update on those item and no reportable action was taken on these items.

Items # 1.C, #2 and #3 were not discussed in the Closed Session.

6:00 P.M. - CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Altamirano called regular City Council meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk Shumway read three letters for the record received from:

Jose Antonio Martinez, North Start Land Care, regarding item #4 asking to rescind bid withdrawal and request bid reconsideration.

Laura Logan , President of CCEA, asking to reconsider approving certain agreements during Covid-19 times, and reconsider approved funding for Covid-19 testing conducted by Altamed.

Denise Campos, SocalGas, asking to make exceptions due to the existing franchise agreement with the City regarding item #9, second reading on an ordinance.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo asked to pull item #4 for discussion

item #4- City Manager Cisneros provided an overview of the staff report.

Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo recommended that the City continues month-to-month and authorize staff to release RFP one more time in order to solicit bids one more time. Discussion took place, and Councilmember Argumedo noted that he agrees with Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo. Further discussion took place regarding the review panel, amount of contract and whether the cost would be reduced by approving annual contract versus month-to-month. In addition, it was stated that West Coast Arborists Inc. is a union company.

Councilmember Soria moved, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza, to adopt resolution approving the award of an agreement to West Coast Arborists for tree maintenance services for a three year term with an option to extend for two (2) year terms in aggregate. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember Mendoza, Soria, and Mayor Altamirano (3)

Nayes: Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo

Abstained: Councilmember Argumedo

Councilmember Argumedo moved, seconded by Councilmember Soria, to approve the consent calendar minus item #4. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

1. Approval of Warrant Register Nos.19A, and 19B
2. List of Street Rehabilitation Projects for FY 20/21 under the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017
3. Purchase Four (4) Dial-A-Ride Vans from A-Z Bus Sales, Inc. and Donation of Two (2) Surplus CNG Vans
4. Agreement with West Coast Arborists, Inc for Tree Maintenance Services
5. Agreement with VELADA for Supplemental Public Affairs, Communications, Public Outreach and Related Services Including Matters Pertaining to COVID-19

SCHEDULED MATTERS

6. Resolutions Accepting Certification of Eleven (11) Referendum Petitions Relating to Ordinances Nos. 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, and 746 and Consideration of Options of Repealing Ordinances or Submitting Measures to the Voters

Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk Shumway provided an overview of the staff report. Discussion took place about the options of either repealing any or all ordinance, or submitting measures to the voters.

Councilmembers reopened item #6 per City Attorney recommendation in order to choose the option for directing staff to bring options for ordinances at a later date.

Councilmember Mendoza moved, seconded by Councilmember Soria, to approve option 2C by providing alternative directive prior to making a decision and bring it back to the Council consideration at a later date. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Argumedo, Mednoza, Soria, Mayor Pro tem Rebollo and Mayor Altamirano (5)

Councilmember Mendoza moved, seconded by Councilmember Argumedo, to adopt eleven (11) Resolutions accepting the City Clerk's certification of eleven (11) Referendum Petitions relating to Ordinances Nos. 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, AND 746. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

7. Organizational Assignments for Councilmembers

There was a consensus among the City Council to keep the same appointments to outside agencies.

8. Committee and Commission Appointments

Councilmember Soria appointed Carlos Maravilla to Public Safety and Community Services Commission, and Mariana Garcia to Youth Advisory Commission.

Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo stated that she would keep the existing commissioner, and asked to advertise for Education commission vacancy as her appointee is going to college.

Councilmember Soria appointed Jessa Argumedo to Pageant Steering Committee, Gilbert Lopez to Traffic Commission, Marla Arteaga to Education Commission. Jennifer Reyes to Youth Advisory Commission, Sandy Cornejo to Parks and Recreation Commission, Patricia Merino to Public Safety & Community services Commission and Lela Leon to Measure AA Advisory Committee.

Councilmember Mendoza asked about an appointment for Railroad Task Force. According to Director Shumway, a notice of vacancies was posted on several occasions, and nobody has applied. Staff will post the notice one more time and report back to the City Council at a later date. At this point, there are no sufficient candidates to comprise the Task Force.

ORDINANCES

9. An Ordinance Amending Title 12 (Streets and Sidewalks) of the Commerce Municipal Code by Adding Chapter 12.05 (Street Cuts on Newly Paved Streets) - Second Reading

Mayor Altamirano recommended that this item is moved to the next City Council meeting, and it was a consensus among the City Council to table this item in order to give staff an opportunity to resolve concerns/issues with the SoCalGas.

CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY REPORTS

Councilmember Argumedo wished that the community had a happy Easter, and asked everyone to be careful and stay safe.

Councilmember Mendoza stated that Caltrans performing work on I-710 during night and AM hours, and the noise affects ABC Community, and Bandini park area residents located East of I-710. Councilmember Mendoza stated that the City needs to talk to CalTrans about stopping work at the morning hours. Councilmember Mendoza stated that he participated via teleconference at the Vector Control meeting.

Councilmember Soria asked that the Task Force meetings are brought back as it is an opportunity for all departments to communicate and respond collectively if anything happens.

Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo commended South LA leaders for coming together and working in supporting each other during these difficult times. Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo thanked Library and Parks & Recreation staff for continuing to keep this community moving.

Mayor Altamirano spoke about the changes in the community and some businesses laying off employees. Mayor Altamirano thanked SawLA for donating face coverings and organics Farms, and they have order forms to deliver fresh produce at reasonable prices. Mayor Altamirano thanked Altamed for doing testing and providing this service for free.

Mayor Altamirano adjourned a meeting at 7:48pm in memory of Bea Arzate and Regina Mecate.

ADJOURNMENT