



City of Commerce

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 - 5:00 PM

**CONCURRENT REGULAR 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: 03 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Councilmember Leon
Councilmember Argumedo
Councilmember Rebollo
Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio
Mayor Altamirano

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

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

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

City Council/Successor Agency recessed to Closed Session at 5:05 p.m.

1. Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(a), the City Council will confer with its legal counsel, and take the appropriate action, with respect to the pending litigation of: *City of Commerce v Hugo Alexander Argumedo et al.*, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BC600767.
2. Pursuant to Government Code 54957, the City Council will consider personnel matters related to the recruitment of a City Administrator.
3. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 the City Council will confer with its labor negotiator, Jorge Rifa, with respect to labor negotiations pertaining to:
 - A. The Memoranda of Understanding between the City and the City of Commerce Employees Association on behalf of the part -time employees.
 - B. The Memoranda of Understanding between the City and the City of Commerce Employees Association on behalf of the mid-management and non-management

full-time employees.

C. Compensation and benefits for the unrepresented full-time executive management employees.

4. Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (b), the City Council will confer with its legal counsel, and take appropriate action with respect to significant exposure to litigation in one potential case.
5. Pursuant to Government Code §54957, the City Council will consider personnel matters related to public employee discipline/ dismissal/release/compensated administrative leave and other available changes in employment status or terms and conditions of employment of a certain public employees (1 case).

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

City Council/Successor Agency reconvened to Open Session at 6:43 p.m.

ORAL CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

City Attorney /Legal Counsel Olivo reported on Closed Session items:

Item #1- Pursuant to advise of the City Attorney, Councilmember Argumedo recused himself on participating on item #1 and left the room. The City Council did not take any reportable action on item #1.

Item #2 - The City Council did not take any reportable action on item #2.

Item #3 - City Council provided direction to staff and the direction was unanimous.

Item #4 - City Council provided direction to staff and the direction was unanimous.

Item #5 - City Council did not take any reportable action on this item.

6:30 P.M. - CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Altamirano called regular City Council meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Councilmember Leon
Councilmember Argumedo
Councilmember Rebollo
Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio
Mayor Altamirano

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Human Resources Director Casalou led the Pledge of Allegiance

INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio offered the invocation.

APPEARANCES AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of Certificate of Recognition to Commerce Casino for hosting the City of Commerce at a Los Angeles Clippers Basketball Game.

Jon Griffo, Director of Business Development of Commerce Casino, accepted Certificate of Recognition to on behalf of Commerce Casino for hosting the City of Commerce at a Los Angeles Clippers basketball game.

2. At the Request of Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio, the City Council will Consider Recognizing Commerce Resident and Former City Employee Manny Menchaca for his Heroic Lifesaving Actions.
3. Certificate of Appreciation to Pico Rivera Councilmember Gustavo Camacho for his Involvement in Making the 2016 East Los Angeles Christmas Parade Possible.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gloria Nezahualcoya spoke for the record.

Catherine Zamara and Moises Ochoa spoke in regards of cable television volunteer program and that Council continue supporting that program. Councilmember Rebollo asked for explanation provided to students of cable program, and City Administrator Rifa stated that staff will bring and update to the Council shortly in regards of this program.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Item #8 was continued to next meeting and item #7 was pulled for discussion.

Councilmember Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Argumedo, to approve the Consent Calendar minus items #7 and #8. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Councilmember Leon, Councilmember Argumedo, Councilmember Rebollo, Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio, and Mayor Altamirano

4. Approval of Warrant Register Nos. 10A and 10B
5. Approval of Minutes
6. Certificates of Recognition - At the Request of Mayor Altamirano, the City

Council will Recognize Pedro Aceituno, Phillip Hawkins and Leticia Vasquez, for Being Elected/Reelected to the Central Basin Municipal Water District Board.

7. Central Basin Municipal Water District Board Restructure -Voting Delegate Appointment
8. Request by American Cancer Society for the Use of Veterans Memorial Park Stadium for the Relay for Life Event

Francine Ayala, Representing American Cancer Society 5K Run/Walk for a Cure, spoke about the success of the program and asked that the City Council continues supporting the program and approves waving fees for the event. Discussion took place whether the date of the event could be changed to spring or potentially summer in order to avoid rainy days. It was decided that Ms. Ayala would get together with Parks and Recreation staff to work out another date.

Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio moved, seconded by Councilmember Rebollo, to allow the American Cancer Society the use of Veterans Memorial Park Stadium for the 6th Annual Relay for Life Commerce and waiving all fees associated with this event. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Argumedo, Leon, Rebollo, Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio and Mayor Altamirano.

9. General Municipal Election - Resolutions Calling and Giving Notice of General Municipal Election for June 6, 2017, Requesting Board of Supervisors to Render Specified Services and Candidate Statement Requirements.
10. Creation of New Classification Specifications and Setting the Salary Level for Administrative Intern
11. Sick and Vacation Leave Conversion Plan - Personnel Policies Revisions
12. Agreement with ICMA Retirement Corporation Establishing a 401(A) Money Purchase Plan

PUBLIC HEARING

13. Ordinance Adopting by Reference Building Code of Los Angeles County -First Reading

Deputy Director of Development Services Marquez provided a brief overview of the staff report.

Mayor Altamirano opened Public Hearing. There were no individuals wishing to speak on this item. Mayor Altamirano closed Public Hearing.
City Attorney Olivo read the title of the Ordinance.

Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio moved, seconded by Councilmember Rebollo to read the Ordinance by title only. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - Councilmember Leon, Councilmember Argumedo, Councilmember Rebollo, Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio, and Mayor Altamirano

SCHEDULED MATTERS

14. Award of Contract to Polychrome Construction, Inc for Citywide Bus Shelter Beautification Project

Mayor Altamirano left Council Chambers at 7:36pm.

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki provided an overview of the staff report.

Discussion took place regarding bus shelters at Bandini area that are painted brown color while the City bus shelters are green and whether they could be painted green. Transportation Director McFerguson stated that those bus benches belong to the City of Bell.

Councilmember Leon moved, seconded by Councilmember Argumedo, to adopt Resolution approving a construction contract for Citywide Bus Shelter Beautification Project to Polychrome Construction, Inc. and authorizing Transtech Engineers, Inc. to proceed with construction management, construction inspection and project management services. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 - Councilmember Leon, Councilmember Argumedo, Councilmember Rebollo, and Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio

Absent: 1 - Mayor Altamirano

15. Award of Professional Services Agreement to Vision Internet for the City of Commerce Redesign, Implementation, Migration, Maintenance and Support of the City Website

Finance Director Domic provided an overview of the staff report.

Councilmember Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Argumedo, to adopt Resolution approving Professional Services Agreement with Vision Internet for the City of Commerce redesign, implementation, migration, maintenance and support of the City website. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 - Councilmember Leon, Councilmember Argumedo, Councilmember Rebollo, and Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio

Absent: 1 - Mayor Altamirano

16. Proposed Ferguson Drive Railroad Sound Wall Project

City Administrator Rifa provided an overview of the staff report, and stated that the Council has the option of allocating funds for study and design of the sound wall to initiate the process. The length is estimated at 2,500 and the cost of the project is approximately is 1.2 million dollars. According to Councilmember Leon, the City should continue negotiations with the Union Pacific, and they should be held responsible for the construction of the wall. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Argumedo recommended not to wait and initiate a process.

City Administrator Rifa clarified that there is no provision in the agreement the Union Pacific would pay for the entire wall. Councilmember Rebollo stated that there was an agreement signed 12 years ago. Further discussion took place. It was decided that since this is a CIP project, it needs to be reviewed and prioritized like all other City project. Director Babaki stated that the funding for design of sound wall will be brought up at tomorrow's meeting of December 7, 2016.

Councilmember Argumedo stated that in the past he was involved in some discussion after the derailment, and the Union Pacific did not want to pay for the wall. The City negotiated as much as they could at that time. No action was taken on this item. It was informational only.

17. Addition of Two (2) Community Services Assistant Posts

Director of Community Services and Public Safety Department Rodriguez provided an overview of the staff report. Councilmember Rebollo thanked for bringing this item forward. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Argumedo, to approve the addition of two Community Services Assistant Posts to be located at Bandini Elementary School and at Rosewood Elementary School. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 - Councilmember Leon, Councilmember Argumedo, Councilmember Rebollo, and Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio

Absent: 1 - Mayor Altamirano

18. Rescind an Agreement with Rio Hondo Community College District Approved on September 6, 2016 and Approve a Corrected Agreement with Rio Hondo Community College District

Director of Community Services and Public Safety Rodriguez provided a brief

overview of the staff report.

Councilmember Argumedo moved, seconded by Councilmember Rebollo, to approve Resolution rescinding an Agreement with Rio Hondo Community College District approved at the Council meeting on September 6, 2016, and approve a corrected agreement with Rio Hondo Community College District to provide training for the City of Commerce Urban Search and Rescue Team. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 - Councilmember Leon, Councilmember Argumedo, Councilmember Rebollo, and Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio

Absent: 1 - Mayor Altamirano

19. Appointment to Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority

This item was heard first under the scheduled matters.

City Administrator Rifa provided an overview of the staff report and stated that out of 10 cities surveyed City Council does not direct the Mayor on how to vote. Discussion ensued. All Councilmembers recommended that the vote is cast for Diane Dubois as the best candidate representing the City and being very knowledgeable. There were no action taken on this item, it was informational only.

CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY REPORTS

Councilmember Argumedo reported that he attended Neighborhood Watch meeting and Children's library holiday program. Councilmember Argumedo stated that security cameras program is received well by the community.

All Councilmembers complimented staff on great Tree Lightening event.

Councilmember Rebollo reported that she attended East LA parade and Water Coalition meeting. Councilmember Rebollo invited all residents to Unplugged performance at the Teen Center.

Councilmember Leon invited youth to apply for youth commission vacancy.

Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio stated that the Library Youth event was a great event, and announced that the Snow Day is scheduled for December 17, 2016 in Veterans' park at 10:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem asked to provide a report on removal of trees in Bandini area and what trees would replace the ones removed.

Councilmember Leon requested a follow-up report by City Administrator on the public comments during the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:28pm. in memory of Melody Monroe, former City employee and Mary Gerrero, longtime Commerce resident.