



City of Commerce

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 30, 2017 - 6:30 PM

Special Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Altamirano called meeting to order at 6:30 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

Richard Robles stated that he is submitting a petition to City Council for Veteran's park area in order to improve condition as it relates to Folk Lift business located at 7447 Slauson Avenue. There are 100 signatures on the petition.

Leonard Mendoza spoke about Veteran's park issues as it relates to Folk Lift business.

Antonia Lupercio congratulated staff on Washington Boulevard completion. Ms. Lupercio asked that the aerobics classes and other classes for seniors are reinstated.

Beatriz Sarmiento, Library Director, announced that Commerce library received a California library award.

SCHEDULED MATTERS

1. Consideration of Approval of Traffic Signal on Washington Boulevard for Access at Arco Gas Station and Commerce Square Area East of Fidelia Avenue

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

Councilmember Rebollo asked why this item did not go through the Traffic Commission review and approval. Director Babaki stated that the process allows bringing project of this caliber directly to Council for consideration.

Councilmember Leon moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Baca Del Rio, to approve traffic signal on Washington Boulevard for access at the ARCO Gas Station and the Commerce Square area, east of Fidelia Avenue. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Successor Agency's Long Range Property Management Plan

Legal Counsel Olivo provided an overview of the staff report. Discussion ensued.

Tom Malkasian, Commerce Casino Representative, spoke in support of the Sheriff's substation and that it would be a great asset to the City.

Steve Craig, Craig Realty, supported the Sheriff's substation proposal for number of reasons including safety, and bringing new businesses to that property.

Councilmember Leon moved, seconded by Councilmember Rebollo, to adopt Resolution approving amendment to the Successor's agency's Long Range Property Management Plan. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

3. State of the City Address Presented by Mayor Altamirano

Mayor Altamirano presented State of the City. Mayor Altamirano spoke about City programs, infrastructure projects completed and upcoming, plans of having Sheriff's substation in Commerce, and beautification efforts in the City of Commerce.

4. Public Safety Presentation Regarding Crime Statistics, the Sheriff's Department Responsibilities and Performance, and the Proposed Commerce Sheriff's Station

Bobby Denham, Assistant Sheriff, spoke about the benefits of having a Sheriff's substation in the City of Commerce. There will be no jail in the proposed Sheriff's substation. There are certain requirements that need to be met in order to house a jail in the substation. It is part of the discussion that CSO, deputies and administrative staff will be housed in the substation. Mr. Denham stated that residents should be concerned about the safety and Sheriff's department also would like to work closely with the residents in order to provide best protection in the City of Commerce.

Representative of the Contract Law Enforcement Services Bureau provided an

overview of Sheriff's contracted services and what are the benefits for the community versus having Sheriff's services maintained by the City.

Jason Stinett spoke in opposition of the Sheriff's substation being located in the City of Commerce. Mr. Stinett suggested using community policing and also was concerned about the costs of building substation in Commerce.

Ernesto Gonzalez spoke in opposition of Sheriff's substation and asked that the community input is solicited.

Chris Hannan, Representative of Los Angeles Orange County Building and Construction Trade Counsel, spoke in support of the Sheriff's substation.

Tom Malkasian, Casino representative, spoke in support of Sheriff's substation.

Robert Smith, Political and Business Director for Painters Trade, spoke in support of the Sheriff's substation.

Steve Craig spoke in support of the Sheriff's substation and talked about the time Sheriff's loose by commuting to Commerce for 45 minutes and accordingly, lost response time.

Erica Boruez spoke in opposition of the Sheriff's substation. Ms. Boruez asked that more community input is solicited on this matter before decision is made.

Captain Perez provided an overview of the crime statistics and spoke in support of the Sheriff's substation located in the City of Commerce.

Interim City Administrator Rodriguez provided an overview of the substation concept. Three years ago the concept was discussed and how the services could be improved as it relates to safety.

5. Veteran's Park Update and Vision of New Parks and Recreation Facility

Parks and Recreation Director Lipton provided an overview of recommended sprung building to be put in place Veteran's park gym. There was a community meeting in Veteran's park, and good recommendations were solicited from residents. There are several options are available for consideration in order to replace the Veteran's park gym. According to Director Lipton, sprung building is much cheaper than building a brand new building. There is an option of using the warehouse and convert it in the sport facility but it will be away from the residential neighborhood and usage is becoming limited cause of the remote location. According to Director Lipton, the Veteran's park area is the priority for staff and a great effort is underway to come up with the best solution and soon enough.

Director Lipton spoke of the pros of the sprung facility.

Edwin Lugo spoke about the need for the gym for Crash Volleyball.

Javier Hernandez stated that the main City's priority should be a replacement Veteran's park gym. Mr. Hernandez also stated that staff needs to look at the parking situation in Veteran's area. Mr. Hernandez asked that the City Council works together.

Councilmember Rebollo stated that she attended Commerce Crash tournament and the team was undefeated. Councilmember Rebollo requested that basketball courts are resurfaced so Crash Volleyball could have a place to practice until more permanent solution is decided upon.

Mayor Altamirano asked that the Special meeting is scheduled to discuss the resurfacing of basketball courts in Veteran's park.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m. to Thursday, June 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.