



City of Commerce

Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 19, 2017 - 9:00 AM

Special & Adjourned City Council meeting - Budget Workshop

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Altamirano called the meeting to order at 9:10 am in the Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no individuals wishing to address the City Council/Successor Agency on the closed session agenda item.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

City Council recessed to closed session at 9:13 a.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: East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice v City of Commerce, et al., Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BS164349.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

City Council reconvened to open session at 9:55 a.m.

ORAL CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

City Attorney reported on the closed session item.

Item #1 - The City Council did not take any reportable action on the item.

9:00 A.M. – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rebollo called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m. in the Council Chambers

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no individuals wishing to address the City Council/Successor Agency on the closed session agenda item.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Authorizing Gibson Transportation Consulting, Inc., to Conduct the Appropriate Transportational Analysis for a Project at 5401 Telegraph Road and 2035 Camfield Avenue

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki reported on the matter.

Councilmember Argumendo moved, seconded by Councilmember Soria, to approve the Consent Calendar item #1. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. Award of Construction Contract and Construction Management Services for the Malt Avenue Street Racing Mitigation Improvement Project

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki reported on the item and how racing continues on Malt Street. She explained how the item was put on hold because of pending litigation. She stated that originally only two bids were received for the project. One of the two bids was non-responsive and the other was not in budget. She recommended approving additional funds.

Mayor Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Argumedo, to approve the Consent Calendar item # 2. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

SCHEDULED MATTERS

3. Presentation and Review of Proposed 2017/2018 Fiscal Year Budget

Finance Director Domic provided an overview of the items that will be presented throughout the day's meeting. He explained the one time approach and that items discussed will not recur in next year's budget. Finance Director Domic recommended that Council defer three positions for midyear budget discussion after a case study is done.

Parks & Recreation Director Lipton reported on the success of the Parks Programs. He explained the need for an increase in funds as a result of the programs expanding. Councilmember Mendoza and Mayor Rebollo asked if there were options that will allow the parents to cover some of the cost for the programs. Assistant Parks & Recreation Director Marquez reported on the popularity of the Parent's Nights event.

Mayor Rebollo asked Parks & Recreation Director Lipton to look into purchasing a fridge for the Senior Center. He stated that they were aware of the need and already purchased one for the facility. Councilmember Mendoza asked that the Eagles have supplies.

Parks & Recreation Director Lipton reported on the current status of special needs swings within the City. Mayor Rebollo directed staff to research grants that build playgrounds for kids. Councilmember Mendoza asked staff to research what nearby schools or cities are doing for special needs play grounds. Mayor Rebollo asked the Finance Director Domic to reach out to businesses for sponsorships and partnerships for City programs.

Mayor Rebollo reported seeing the Folklorico dresses being oversized on the girls in dance team. She asked Council to consider giving more funds for the girl's dance dresses.

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Marquez reported on the low success of the Tiny Tots Music Class pilot program. Mayor Rebollo suggested having the program moved to the summer, Easter, or Christmas season, when there is no preschool program. Mayor Rebollo recommended having the program once a week instead of two until the program gains popularity among the residents. He recommended keeping the supply money and lowering the staff time budget from \$4,160 to \$2,000, bringing the total for Tiny Times Music program to \$3,500.

Council and staff discussed Earth day, the Garden Show, & the Kids Are Cute shows. Mayor Rebollo emphasized the importance of educating the public and keeping the City clean. They discussed various ways to increase attendance by combining several events in one day. Councilmember Mendoza said he prefers the events to be scheduled on the same day in order to save money on staff time. Staff discussed the Abilities Color Run/Resource Fair and the Back to School Fair.

Council talked about the Los Angeles Christmas Parade costing \$10,000. \$4,000 of the \$10,000 will go towards the Commerce Court Float. Council asked if staff can reach out to the 99 cent store for sponsorship. It was a consensus among the Council to participate in the Christmas Parade.

Council agreed with Councilmember Argumedo's request to look in to using billboards advertisements to create revenue.

Parks & Recreation Director Lipton reported on travel team requests. He recommended non-chaperone travel events to save funds. The saved funds will allow for more traveling for the teams. Councilmember Argumedo asked City Attorney Olivo to research if it a liability to have a non-chaperoned program.

Transportation Director McFerguson reported on various needs such as new uniforms for staff and vehicles replacements within the transportation department. He also requested more drivers to keep up with the trip requests. Mayor Rebollo asked if the Dial-A-Ride services can expand to other residents. Councilmember Mendoza asked about the removal of the Slauson bus stop and expressed some concern for children who cross busy streets. Councilmember Soria said the Ferguson residents face safety challenges because the bus stop was removed. It was

a consensus among the Council to reinstating the two bus routes that were removed. Discussion took place regarding the Dial-A-Rail program. Transportation Director McFerguson spoke about some benefits the Measure M Fund will accomplish. Council agreed to direct staff to look into purchasing a lot for parking City vehicles. Mayor Rebollo & Councilmember Altamirano suggested purchasing the property adjacent to the Transportation department.

Council agreed to the Finance Director's recommendation to defer Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki items for mid-year budget.

12:11PM break for lunch.

Meeting went into Recess

Meeting reconvened at 12:50pm

Library Director Sarmiento reported on Library services, the Summer Reading Program and the need for an increase in the supplies budget. Library Director Sarmiento would like to hire a Part Time Senior Library Assistant and Part time Library Assistant to relieve some of the librarian staff's work load. Council asked if the current library assistants can work more hours instead of hiring new individuals. Interim City Administrator said we can wait until the mid-year budget. Mayor Rebollo & Councilmember Argumedo recommended that staff spread the hours between current staff instead of hire. Mayor Rebollo asked if it is possible to spread hours around for Public Works and Development Services position as well.

Laura Tilley reported on the Public Safety items. She mentioned that Animal Control Rabies would like to have a Pet safety fair event. There were no questions from the Council.

Parks & Recreation Director Lipton reported on Veterans parks gym. Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki reported on the need for a better filing system. Mayor Rebollo recommends waiting to hear a report from Matt Marquez.

Finance Director Domic reported on the needs for the IT division and said he would like to keep the consultant. Finance Director Domic recommended that Cable come back to Council with different cable equipment options. He would like to recommend that the Council approve a \$250,000 budget for Cable equipment.

Laura Tilley reported on the items needed for the emergency supplies bins and emphasized the urgency of caring for the emergency supplies. Laura explained the benefits of having a program like Single Wire. It will be used in an emergency like a panic button and can push notifications to phones and computers.

Council was in agreement to Finance Director Domic request to defer the Capital Outlay item to a later date.

Meeting went into recess 2:05pm

Meeting reconvened at 2:08pm

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki reported on both completed and on-going projects. She reported on the Rosewood Connectivity Project, Astor Ave Beautification, pavement maintenance, City Facilities and Metro Prop C Funds for Atlantic Blvd. Mayor Rebollo directed staff to research trees that would help mitigate air pollution in commerce. The Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki will look into getting different trees.

Parks & Recreation Director Lipton reviewed the HVAC Replacement for the Brenda Villa Aquatic Center. Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki spoke about Veteran's park & soundwall on Ferguson Drive. Councilmember Argumedo requested reactivating the Railroad Task Force and meet with Union Pacific Railroad. Council requested recordings or minutes with Union Pacific Railroad regarding the soundwall.

Mayor Rebollo asked if staff can survey the Village community to see if they want a permit parking area in their area. Councilmember Soria stated that parking might be an issue resulting from residents who own many cars. He recommend looking into other options. Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki will come back to Council with an update.

Mayor Rebollo would like to have street light pole banners that honor Veterans and high school students who are going to college. She also recommended making the banners larger than their current size. Councilmember Mendoza would like see banners that honor businesses that sponsor programs in the City.

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki reviewed fund request for infrastructure. Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki reported on the I-710 Corridor project stating that now is one of the most impacted periods. Council agreed to director staff to send a letters asking if we can extend the common period.

Public Works and Development Services Director Babaki reported on various projects. She reviewed the Camfield Traffic Improvements. Councilmember Altamirano expressed a need for traffic improvement. The Council agreed to move forward with the traffic studies. Councilmember Mendoza directed the Public Works and Development Services Director to look into the "no left turn" sign at the Garfield Ave & Telegraph Rd intersection.

Councilmember Altamirano left at 3:42pm

At the request of Mayor Rebollo, the director of Public Works & Development Services gave a brief explanation of how street recycling works and how it compares to other methods.

Councilmember Argumedo said he would like to host a commissioners' recognition as done in the past. Mayor Rebollo and Mendoza asked staff to look into having a Commissioners' orientation lunch or dinner where they would get their jacket and badge.

Staff stated they will come back to Council with the Capital Outlay items in September.

Councilmember Soria moved to approve \$3,000 for Folklorico dance dresses for the girl's dance team. Councilmember Mendoza seconded to approve funds. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1- Mayor Pro Tem Altamirano

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55pm.