



City of Commerce

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 4, 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 5:06 p.m. via teleconferencing.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk read the comment for the records submitted by Laura Logan, president of Employee Association.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

City Council convened to Closed Session at 5:10 p.m.

1. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 the City Council will confer with its labor negotiator, Edgar P. Cisneros, 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.
2. 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. 6364 Zindell Street, Commerce CA (APN: 6357-015-900 and 6357-019-304)
 - B. 5550 Harbor St., Commerce, CA 90040 (6335-025-009), 2300 S. Eastern Ave. (6335-025-010)
 - C. 5625 Jillson St., Commerce, CA 90040 (6335-025-905)
 - D. 5555 Jillson St., Commerce, CA Property (APN 6335-025-906)
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.
4. 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.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

City Council reconvened to Open Session at 6:15 p.m.

ORAL CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant City Attorney reported on Closed Session items:

All Councilmembers were present.

Item #1 - City Manager Cisneros provided a briefing to the City Council. This item is also for a vote in the Open Session of this Council Meeting. No reportable action was taken on this item.

Item #2 - City Manager Cisneros and Director of Economic Development and Planning Jimenez provided an update, and no reportable action was taken on this item.

Item # 3 and #4- City Attorney briefed City Council, and no reportable action was taken on these items. Closed Session concluded at 6:14 p.m.

6:00 P.M. - CITY COUNCIL MEETING**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Altamirano called regular City Council meeting to order at 6:16 p.m. via teleconferencing.

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 the following comments for the record:

Lori Miles asked that the City Council allows all employees vote on the new agreement with the Union regarding the reductions.

Desiree Pedraza and Charlotte Lopez spoke in opposition of the agreement and also not allowing reduction in pay for essential employees like Transportation Department employees and Community Service Officers.

Laura Logan, President of Employee Association, spoke in support of the agreement.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Soria asked to pull item #4. Councilmember Soria recused himself from the discussion or vote on this item due to the potential conflict of interest.

Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Argumedo, to adopt Resolution awarding the Traffic Interconnect Systems Upgrades Project, and award a construction contract to Elecnor Belco Electric, Inc., for the Traffic Interconnect System Upgrades Project, and authorize Transtech Engineers, Inc. to proceed with construction management and inspection services. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember Argumedo, Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo and Mayor

Altamirano (4)

Refused: Councilmember Soria

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. 1A, 1B, and 27A
2. Los Angeles County Flood Control District Transfer Agreement for Safe Clean Water Parcel Tax Restricted Municipal Return for Stormwater Activities
3. Request for Quotations for California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act Environmental Analysis for a New Transportation Facility Project
4. Award a Construction Contract for the Traffic Interconnect System Upgrades Project
5. Donation of Two (2) Surplus Over-the-Road Diesel MCI Buses to Secondary School No. 110 "Nuevo Patzzcuaro," located in Mexicali B.C.
6. Relocation of the Midblock Crosswalk on Ferguson Drive

SCHEDULED MATTERS

7. Commerce in Motion Comprehensive Operational Analysis Project

Transportation Director McFerguson introduced Hazel Scher and Peter Soderberg, Transportation Planners with Nguard and Associates. Mr. Scher provided a presentation and stated that the company conducted a comprehensive analysis and took a report of every angle of bus operation in Commerce, and came out with the recommendations on how to improve the services.

Discussion took place regarding revising some routes and eliminating some loops by making more directional routes to reduce travel time.

Transportation Director McFerguson stated that there was much feedback received from areas that need improvement. Ms. Scher concluded that this was the

evaluation stage, and they would begin the recommendations phase, obtain more input, and provide a comprehensive final report in winter 2021. No action was taken on this item. it was informational only.

8. Letter of Agreement Between the City of Commerce and City of Commerce Employee Association Related to the Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the City's Economic Condition and Loss of Revenue

City Manager Cisneros provided an overview of the staff report and stated that the Letter of Agreement extends the Agreement with the association until 2023, and reductions are uniform for full-time employees as well as part-time employees with seven percent of PERS pick up and raise of seven percent will be eliminated. Discussion took place, and the Councilmembers stated that this was not an easy decision but it was a collaborative decision, thanked employees for the patience.

Councilmember Argumedo moved, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza, to adopt resolution approving the letter of agreement between the City of Commerce and the CCEA related to the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the City's economic condition and severe sudden loss of critical revenue. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

9. Recreational Vehicle (RV) Parking Permit Program Policy

Director of Public Works Hernandez provided an overview of the staff report.

The discussion took place. According to Director Hernandez, no parking signs will be installed this week, and staff will continue the outreach campaign in order to inform the residents. This outreach campaign would include leaving flyers on the RVs as well as spreading information via social media. Enforcement of the RV parking would begin September 1, 2020; however, the implementation for those who reside in RVs and not residents is on-going for no overnight parking on certain City streets.

Councilmember Mendoza recommended using digital signs and place those around the City in order to inform residents about the upcoming enforcement. .

Councilmember Argumedo moved, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza, to approve the Recreational Vehicle (RV) Parking Permit Program Policy.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

10. An Ordinance Amending Commerce Municipal Code, Title 19 (Zoning), Chapter 19.07 (Residential Zones), Section 19.07.090 (Second Units) and Replacing with Section 19.07.090 (Accessory Dwelling Units and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units) -Public Hearing, First Reading

Director of Economic Development and Planning Jimenez provided an overview of the staff report.

The discussion took place about the parking requirements and whether this new legislation would affect current conditions that the City has in place.

There was one recommendation specifically discussed to allow for a wider driveway in order to get cars from the streets, and instead utilize the driveway at the houses. Director Jimenez stated that he would review the Municipal Code and present recommendations at a later date as it relates to parking requirements.

Mayor Altamirano opened Public Hearing. There were no individuals wishing to address the City Council on this item. Mayor Altamirano closed Public Hearing.

Mark Murray, the Special Counsel, provided a couple of clarifications regarding JADU, which would only qualify with the single-family unit.

Councilmember Argumedo moved, seconded by Councilmember Soria, to read by title only and introduce for first reading an Ordinance Amending Commerce Municipal Code, Title 19 (Zoning), Chapter 19.07 (Residential Zones), Section 19.07.090 (Second Units) and Replacing with Section 19.07.090 (Accessory Dwelling Units and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units). Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk read the title of the Ordinance. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

11. An Ordinance Amending Commerce Municipal Code, Title 19 (Zoning), Chapter 19.39.740 Regarding the Intent and Purpose of the Temporary Use and Special Use Permits - Public Hearing, First Reading

Economic Development and Planning Director Jimenez provided an overview of the staff report. Discussion took place. Mayor Altamirano opened Public Hearing.

There were no individuals wishing to address City Council on this item. Mayor Altamirano closed Public Hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo moved, seconded by Councilmember Soria, to read by title only and approve for first reading an Ordinance amending Commerce Municipal Code, Title 19 (Zoning), Chapter 19.39.740 regarding the intent and purpose of the temporary use and special use permits and expand applicability to aide in assisting existing business and generating new business during emergency situation and adopt a Categorical Exemption under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Director of Administrative Services and City Clerk Shumway read the title of the Ordinance. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY REPORTS

Councilmember Argumedo reported that he attended the Modelo project meeting, and thanked Adrian Comstock, Developer of the project, and his team for putting this meeting together. Councilmember Argumedo thanked everyone who helped to locate his missing sister. Councilmember Argumedo wished his son Brandon happy eighteen's birthday.

Councilmember Mendoza thanked employees for putting a great Day Camp for the kids and wished his son Brendon Mendoza a happy 9th birthday. Councilmember Mendoza reported that he attended the Hall of Justice event and the Modelo Project meeting. Councilmember Mendoza talked about promoting local restaurants via social media.

Councilmember Soria stated that he attended the Modelo Project meeting via zoom. Councilmember Soria wished his wife, mother, his son Michael and Steve Viesca happy birthday.

Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo thanked everyone who joined her for Census East LA caravan. Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo reminded everyone about the drive in Movie Night and Story Time via Facebook and Instagram. Mayor Pro Tem Rebollo wished her mother a happy birthday.

Mayor Atamirano stated that the Modelo Project would be an excellent development for the City.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.