



Thursday, February 27, 2020
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council
of the City of Palm Springs

CALL TO ORDER:

A Regular Meeting of the Palm Springs City Council was called to order by Mayor Kors on Thursday, February 27, 2020, at 6:10 p.m., in the Council Chamber, City Hall, located at 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Kors led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Grace Elena Garner, Lisa Middleton, Dennis Woods; Mayor Pro Tem Christy Holstege; and Mayor Geoff Kors

Absent: None.

City Staff

Present: David H. Ready, City Manager; Jeffrey Ballinger, City Attorney; Marcus Fuller, Assistant City Manager; and Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk, were present at Roll Call. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Kors and the City Council presented a Proclamation to Mary Jo Ginther, Director of Tourism with the Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism, in recognition of her 14 years of service with the City of Palm Springs.

Ann Mayer, Executive Director of Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), narrated a PowerPoint presentation regarding their draft Traffic Relief Plan.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, CARRIED 5-0, to remove Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1C, 1F, 1I, 1M, 1N, and 1O for separate discussion and deletion of Item No. 5B from the agenda.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION:

The Regular Closed Session of the City Council of February 27, 2020, was called to order by Mayor Kors at 3:30 p.m., with all members present.

The meeting convened into Closed Session to discuss the following items as listed on the Regular Closed Session Meeting Agenda:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1):

4328 Lockwood Avenue v. City of Palm Springs,

Case No. RIC 1703102, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside

David Edwin Bell v. City of Palm Springs,

Case No RIC 1901178, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside

Mariposa Landscapes, Inc. v. City of Palm Springs,

Case No. PSC1902404, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside

City of Palm Springs v. O&M HR LLC , et al (Prairie Schooner),

Case No. PSC1701804, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside

City of Huntington Beach v. Xavier Bacerra

Case No. G057013, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Riverside

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – MATTERS CREATING SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2):

Seven (7) matters that, under the existing circumstances, the City Attorney believes creates significant exposure to litigation.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – DISCUSSION TO CONSIDER INITIATION OF LITIGATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4):

Under existing facts and circumstances, there are five (5) matters the City Council has decided or may decide to initiate litigation.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1):

City Manager

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

Property Address/Description:	225 El Cielo Road, Palm Springs CA
Agency:	City of Palm Springs
City Negotiator:	David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties:	Tom Kirk, Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Under Negotiation:	Price and Terms of Payment (Lease)
Property Address/Description:	3400 Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs (portions of airport)
Agency:	City of Palm Springs
City Negotiator:	David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties:	Chief Planning and Development Officer, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Under Negotiation:	Price and Terms of Payment (Lease)
Property Address/Description:	APN 502-210-023 (2-acre portion located at the northwest corner of East Baristo Rd. and El Cielo Rd.)
Agency:	City of Palm Springs
City Negotiator:	David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties:	
Under Negotiation:	Price and Terms of Payment (Lease)
Property Address/Description:	505-182-010 and 505-182-004 (Adjacent parcels located at the southwest corner of North Palm Canyon Drive and Stevens Road)
Agency:	City of Palm Springs and Successor Agency of the Former Redevelopment Agency of the City of Palm Springs
City Negotiator:	David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties:	
Under Negotiation:	Price and Terms of Payment (Sale)
Property Address/Description:	3.6 Acres at SE corner of Indian Canyon Drive and San Rafael Road, APN 501-031-028
Agency:	City of Palm Springs
City Negotiator:	David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties:	Community Housing Opportunities Corporation (CHOC)
Under Negotiation:	Price and Terms of Payment (Sale)
Property Address/Description:	233 West Tramview Road (APN 501-401-010)
Agency:	Palm Springs Housing Successor Agency
City Negotiator:	David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties:	
Under Negotiation:	Price and Terms of Payment (Sale)

Property Address/Description: APN 501-401-039 (El Dorado Boulevard)
 Agency: Palm Springs Housing Successor Agency
 City Negotiator: David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee
 Negotiating Parties:
 Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment (Sale)

Property Address/Description: 980 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs CA
 Agency: City of Palm Springs
 City Negotiator: David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee
 Negotiating Parties: Chief Planning and Development Officer,
 Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
 Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment (Sale)

City Attorney Ballinger reported that the City Council received briefings and provided direction to staff regarding the agendaized Closed Session Items but did not take any reportable action; noted that the City Council directed staff to take additional enforcement actions against the Tova Hotel.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY:

The following individuals spoke in support of Item No. 3A and urged the City Council to adopt the proposed ordinance related to animal breed permit regulations:

- Tiffani Lobue
- Cathy Wolff
- Jeanne Bourgeois
- Dr. Silva Nagg, Medical Director, Palm Springs Animal Shelter
- Bill Ruttan, read a letter by Tamara Hedges
- Bonnie Ruttan
- Jana Hayes, Board Member, Palm Springs Animal Shelter
- Claire J. Grant
- Marta Jara-Rheda
- Ginny Foat
- Gabriella Amster, Executive Director, Palm Springs Animal Shelter
- Michelle Avalos

The following individuals spoke in opposition to Item No. 3A and urged the City Council to reject the proposed ordinance related to animal breed permit regulations:

- William Christensen
- Will Comparsi
- Terry Toussaint, representing The Kennel Club of Palm Springs
- Tim Murphy, representing The Cat Fancy
- Kreg Hill
- Darryl Vice
- Garret Demarest
- Carol Silverberg
- Karen Dorn

The following individuals spoke in support of Item No. 5A and urged the City Council to move forward with Community Workforce Agreements and/or Labor Peace Agreements:

- Carina Romero, representing Global Go Consulting
- Brian Caris, representing Granite Construction
- Bill Perez, representing the Building and Construction Trades Council
- Aron Velarde, representing UFCW Local 1167
- Sal Amezquita
- Laura Amezquita
- John Light, representing Laborers Local 784
- Nick Barriet
- Tony De Trinidad, representing Painters and Allied Trades Regional Council 36
- Joe Whitcher, representing Sheetmetal Workers Local 105

David Gray, speaking on Item 4A, voiced support for moving forward with developing conceptual plans for redevelopment of Sunrise Plaza; recommended that the Library Board and Measure J Oversight Commission establish a working group to help guide the project.

Paul Hinrichsen, speaking on Items 1I and 1O, voiced opposition to the proposed cannabis lounge, citing concern that a residential development is within proximity of the proposed lounge; recommended that staff develop temporary City Hall parking permits.

Naomi Soto, speaking on Items 4A and 4B, voiced support for moving forward with the Sunrise Plaza redevelopment and creating a Youth Council.

Tobias Wolff, speaking on Item 4C, voiced support for the CVRA Working Group recommendations.

Darryl Flick, speaking on Item 1N, representing the VillageFest Board, urged the City Council to support the VillageFest Board's request for a waiver related to meeting times, citing potential impacts to traveling artisans and Board Members.

Daniel Gonnella, speaking on Item 1N, representing the VillageFest Board, concurred with Mr. Flick's comments, noting that the new meeting time may require artisans to pay for childcare and travel during rush hour to attend a meeting.

Kathy Weremuik, speaking on Item 4A and 4C, recommended that the Library's customer service staff be included in a working group assisting with the redevelopment of Sunrise Plaza; voiced support for the CVRA Working Group recommendations.

Ryan Mierau, speaking on Item 1I, Applicant, urged the City Council to approve his proposed cannabis lounge.

Stephen Moses, speaking on Item 4C, expressed support for the CVRA Working Group recommendations.

CITY COUNCIL, SUBCOMMITTEE, AND CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

City Manager Ready provided an update regarding the Andaz Project, noting a new financing entity is finalizing legalities and construction is expected to commence within 30-60 days, with an end-of-year completion. The City Council requested that the City Attorney review the deadlines outlined in the existing enforcement action.

Assistant City Manager Fuller presented an update of the Downtown Park Project and the Welwood Murray Library restoration project, noting that certain trees will be removed around the Library to restore it to the original landscape plan.

Councilmember Middleton commended former Councilmember Roberts, Mayor Moon and Nancy Sinatra on a successful Plaza Theater fundraising event; provided an update on her attendance at recent meetings and events; presented an update on SunLine Transit Agency.

Councilmember Garner encouraged the community to attend the Black History Parade and Town Fair in the downtown this upcoming weekend.

Mayor Pro Tem Holstege noted that the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) has requested partnering agencies to include funding for the CV Housing First Program as part of its annual budget process; requested that the City's Census Outreach Committee make a presentation at a future City Council meeting; noted that there is a call for action for Coachella Valley cities to identify at least one unit of bridge or cross-stabilization housing; encouraged residents to apply to serve on the City's Boards and Commissions.

Councilmember Woods reported on his attendance at regional meetings and events; requested that an evaluation of bus stops located within the City be addressed during the General Plan update; spoke on the need to provide amenities at workplaces so that people can commute on bicycles.

Mayor Kors reported that County Supervisor Perez may introduce legislation which would enable the CVAG to place a sales tax measure on a future ballot; advised that City has requested three mobile trailers from the County to serve as transitional housing units for the homeless; requested that the City send its own notice to all residents explaining Desert Community Energy and the different rate options.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR:

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the consent calendar, with the removal of Item Nos. 1C, 1F, 1I, 1M, 1N, and 1O for separate discussion.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes of January 29, 2020.

B. APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANTS, CLAIMS AND DEMANDS

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 24726 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING PAYMENT OF PAYROLL WARRANTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 02-08-2020 BY WARRANTS NUMBERED 420980 THROUGH 420988 TOTALING \$18,862.52 CLAIMS, DEMANDS AND LIABILITY CHECKS NUMBERED 1111520 THROUGH 1111807 TOTALING \$4,823,559.54, FOUR WIRE TRANSFERS FOR \$72,126.19, AND FIVE ELECTRONIC ACH DEBITS OF \$1,655,142.20 IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$6,569,690.45, DRAWN ON BANK OF AMERICA."

C. REVIEW OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS GENERAL PLAN LIMITED UPDATE PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 10 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

D. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER TO DEL'S FLOORING CONTRACTORS, INC., FOR REPLACEMENT WALL TREATMENTS FOR THE DOG ISOLATION KENNELS, SUITES AND HALLWAYS AT THE PALM SPRINGS ANIMAL SHELTER

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Waive the City's bidding procedures and authorize purchase and installation of replacement wall treatments at the Palm Springs Animal Shelter pursuant to Section 7.04.020 "Sole Source Procurement by the City" of the Palm Springs Municipal Code.
2. Authorize a Purchase Order in an amount of \$80,321 to Del's Flooring Contractors, Inc. of Palm Desert, CA for the replacement wall treatments in the dog kennels, suites and isolation wards at the Palm Springs Animal Shelter.
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

E. APPROVE AGREEMENT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION WITH THE RAMSAY GROUP

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Authorize the City Manager to execute a Contract Service Agreement with the Ramsay Group for three years, plus two one-year options, in an amount not to exceed \$87,000 per year to assist with CDBG program administration.
2. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute all necessary documents.

F. RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2019-20 AND 2020-21 FOR PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICES, DOCUMENT TRANSLATION SERVICES, AND ON-CALL INTERPRETER SERVICES

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 10 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

G. TREASURER'S INVESTMENT REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 2019

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to receive and file the Treasurer's Investment Report as of December 31, 2019.

H. AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO ABC LIOVIN DRILLING, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$390,000 FOR GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE COLORADO RIVER REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD ORDER R7- 2017-0013, CITY PROJECT NO. 19-20

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Award a construction contract to ABC Liovin Drilling, Inc., a California corporation, in the amount of \$390,000 for Groundwater Monitoring Wells for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, City Project No. 19-20.
2. Delegate authority to the City Manager to approve and execute construction contract change orders up to \$39,000 with all change orders reported to the City Council.
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

I. SB NEW HEIGHTS, LLC (DBA: THE ROW HOUSE) GRANTING AN ADMINISTRATIVE MINOR MODIFICATION FOR RELIEF FROM THE MINIMUM SEPARATION DISTANCE REQUIREMENT FOR A CANNABIS DISPENSARY/ LOUNGE AND APPROVING ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW AT 2500 NORTH PALM CANYON DRIVE (CASE 7 .1592 AMM AND 3.2090 MAA)

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 11 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

J. STAFF AUTHORIZED AGREEMENTS AND PURCHASE ORDERS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to receive and file the report of Staff Authorized Agreements and Purchase Orders for the period of January 1, 2020 through January 31, 2020.

K. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT NO. 7109, WITH ADVANTEC CONSULTING ENGINEERS, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, FOR ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (HSIP) CYCLE 8 TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODIFICATIONS, FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. HSIPLN-5282(047) AND INSTALLATION OF A FLASHING BEACON, FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. HSIPL-5282(048), CITY PROJECT NO. 16-18

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Approve Amendment No. 2, in the amount of \$28,965, to Professional Services Agreement No. 7109, for a new not to exceed amount of \$462,109 with Advantec Consulting Engineers, Inc.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

L. APPROVE CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENTS WITH ECS IMAGING, INC., FOR ENTERPRISE CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES, AND CONVERSION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT RECORDS

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Approve a Cooperative Contract Services Agreement with ECS Imaging, Inc., for an initial purchase amount of \$140,725, plus a 10% contingency, and \$19,100 annually thereafter for an initial term of three years with two, one-year optional renewals.

(City Council action continued on the next page)

2. Waive the competitive bidding requirements of the Procurement Ordinance, and authorize the Contract Services Agreement with ECS Imaging, Inc., in the amount not-to-exceed \$128,132.50, plus a 10% contingency, for document scanning and indexing services for Police Department records.
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

M. AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING DATES AND TIMES

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 9 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

N. VILLAGEFEST BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING DATES AND TIMES

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 9 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

O. IMPLEMENTATION OF 3 HOUR TIME-LIMIT PARKING REGULATIONS AND EMPLOYEE PERMIT PARKING AT THE CITY HALL PARKING LOT

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 9 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:

C. REVIEW OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS GENERAL PLAN LIMITED UPDATE PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

Director of Planning Services Fagg presented the staff report.

Following discussion, the City Council received and filed the report on the General Plan limited update process and schedule.

F. RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2019-20 AND 2020-21 FOR PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICES, DOCUMENT TRANSLATION SERVICES, AND ON-CALL INTERPRETER SERVICES

City Clerk Mejia presented the staff report.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 24727 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2019-20 AND 2020-21."

I. SB NEW HEIGHTS, LLC (DBA: THE ROW HOUSE) GRANTING AN ADMINISTRATIVE MINOR MODIFICATION FOR RELIEF FROM THE MINIMUM SEPARATION DISTANCE REQUIREMENT FOR A CANNABIS DISPENSARY/ LOUNGE AND APPROVING ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW AT 2500 NORTH PALM CANYON DRIVE (CASE 7 .1592 AMM AND 3.2090 MAA)

Director of Planning Services Fagg presented the staff report.

Following discussion, MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 24728 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, GRANTING AN ADMINISTRATIVE MINOR MODIFICATION FOR RELIEF FROM THE MINIMUM SEPARATION DISTANCE REQUIREMENT FOR A CANNABIS DISPENSARY/ LOUNGE AND APPROVING ARCHITECTURE REVIEW LOCATED AT 2500 NORTH PALM CANYON DRIVE, UNITS D1/D4," as amended to add a Condition of Approval that exterior artwork shall be provided, subject to approval of the Director of Planning Services.

M. AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING DATES AND TIMES

City Manager Ready presented the staff report.

During the course of discussion, the City Council stressed the importance of increasing accessibility for the public to attend Board and Commission meetings, noting that any requests for waivers of the new meeting time will need to be compelling in nature.

The City Council denied the Airport Commission's request to maintain the current meeting schedule of 8 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

N. VILLAGEFEST BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING DATES AND TIMES

Following discussion, the City Council denied the VillageFest Board's request to maintain the current meeting schedule of 3:30 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

O. IMPLEMENTATION OF 3 HOUR TIME-LIMIT PARKING REGULATIONS AND EMPLOYEE PERMIT PARKING AT THE CITY HALL PARKING LOT

Assistant City Manager Fuller presented the staff report.

The City Council requested that staff notify adjacent businesses of the change in parking regulations and create temporary parking permits for visitors who will be at City Hall longer than three hours.

(City Council action continued on the next page)

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 24729 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING A PARKING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE CITY HALL PARKING LOTS, INCLUDING A MAXIMUM 3-HOUR PARKING TIME LIMIT FOR PUBLIC PARKING SPACES, ESTABLISHING UNLIMITED PARKING FOR CITY EMPLOYEES BY PERMIT, MAINTAINING CLOSURE OF THE CITY HALL PARKING LOTS FROM 12:00 AM TO 6:00 AM; AND AUTHORIZING REVISIONS TO ON-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS ON CIVIC DRIVE, AVIATION ROAD, AND EL CIELO ROAD."

MEETING RECESS

The City Council recessed at 8:41 p.m. and reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

3. LEGISLATIVE:

A. PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, DELETING SECTION 10.20.060 AND 10.20.070 REGARDING REDEEMING ANIMALS AND ADDING SECTIONS 10.04.035, 10.04.040 AND 10.24.045 ESTABLISHING BREEDING PERMITS REGULATIONS AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THE REGULATIONS AND ADOPTING A FEE RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FEES FOR ANIMAL LICENSING

City Attorney Jeffrey Ballinger and Councilmember Holstege presented the staff report.

In response to City Council inquiry, Gabriella Amster, Executive Director of the Palm Springs Animal Shelter, opined there is not a medical reason that a female dog should be bred more than once in a 12-month period, stressing the importance of population control; summarized the typical waiting period before a stray animal is adoptable, voicing support for reducing the period in which an owner can redeem an animal after adoption.

In response to City Council inquiry, City Attorney Ballinger advised that if the City were to become aware of a potential violation it would seek the homeowner's permission or a Court Order to enter onto private property; advised that a business license should be obtained for any business operated in Palm Springs, including animal breeding.

Councilmember Garner expressed concern regarding the increased animal licensing fees and requested that the City Council defer action at this time.

(City Council action continued on the next page)

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON, CARRIED 5-0, to introduce Ordinance No. 2018 entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 10.20 OF THE PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING IMPOUNDMENT OF ANIMALS, DELETING SECTION 10.20.060 "OWNER'S RIGHT TO REDEEM ANIMAL FROM PURCHASER" AND SECTION 10.20.070 "OWNER'S LIABILITY TO CITY WHEN REDEEMING ANIMAL FROM PURCHASER"; AND AMENDING SECTION 10.20.030 AND CHAPTERS 10.04 AND 10.24 OF THE PALM SPRINGS MUNICIPAL CODE ADDING REGULATIONS FOR BREEDING PERMITS," with the following amendment:

1. Allow animals to be claimed within seven days after being impounded and to remove the ability of prior owners to redeem their animals after they have been impounded, but not retrieved within seven days and then adopted out.

City Clerk Mejia read the ordinance by title.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS TO PROCEED WITH CONCEPTUAL PLANNING FOR THE SUNRISE PARK MASTER PLAN AND REDEVELOPMENT OF THE PALM SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY

City Manager Ready presented the staff report and requested that the City Council defer action on the proposed agreement with Rios Clementi Hale Studios to allow staff an opportunity to refine the proposed scope of work.

Councilmember Wood expressed concern with waiving the purchasing procedures for the development of conceptual plans for the Sunrise Park Master Plan and Library; suggested that the City should refrain from using the term "stakeholder," noting that the whole community has an interest in the project.

Councilmembers Garner and Middleton spoke on the importance of maintaining momentum and moving forward with this project.

Mayor Pro Tem Holstege requested that line staff be included in the Building Program Committee and that efforts be made to solicit online survey responses from families with children.

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON, CARRIED 5-0, to:

1. Approve Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. 7157 with Library Strategies Consulting Group in the total amount of \$90,000 for Phase 2 - Vision Statement and Building Program services, for a new maximum contract amount of \$189,500.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

B. DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION REGARDING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION

City Manager Ready presented the staff report.

Mayor Kors requested that staff begin setting up quarterly meetings between the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and Chairs of the boards and commissions beginning in March 2020.

Mayor Pro Tem Holstege recommended that a subcommittee of commissioners be formed to discuss best practices for engaging all members; voiced support for establishing a Youth Commission, suggesting that the youth should provide input on how best to structure the proposed commission; noted that all commissioners should be encouraged to assist with recruitment of new applicants; stated that the hiring of a Social Media Specialist could assist with recruitment efforts.

Councilmember Garner voiced support for the establishment of a Youth Commission, noting that it would provide an opportunity for youth to lead in our community; opined that the City should make a concerted effort to fund recruitment outreach.

Councilmember Middleton opined that the City Council needs to increase recognition and appreciation for board and commission members; suggested that boards and commissions should have a larger role in making recommendations on matters of policy and community engagement.

Councilmember Woods suggested that recruitment materials should generate excitement about serving on boards and commissions; recommended that there should be an annual meeting of the commissions, including video updates about the activities of each commission.

Mayor Kors suggested that an annual recognition dinner for board and commission members could be modeled after the Police Department's Volunteer Recognition Dinner.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of scheduling a study session so that the City Council may establish goals and priorities related to boards and commissions.

Councilmember Garner and Mayor Pro Tem Holstege volunteered to serve as liaisons to work on improving the boards and commissions program.

C. DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA VOTING RIGHTS ACT (CVRA) COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

City Manager Ready presented the staff report.

City Clerk Mejia provided an update on the feasibility of implementing ranked choice voting. Following discussion, the City Council requested that staff continue to monitor the implementation of ranked choice voting and to report back once a city in Riverside County has conducted an election.

In response to City Council inquiry, Kathy Weremuik, Co-Chair of the CVRA Community Working Group, encouraged the City Council to move forward with recommendations related to surveying the demographic make-up of the boards and commissions and to charge the Human Rights Commission with monitoring the progress of diversifying the boards and commissions.

Mayor Pro Tem Holstege spoke on the challenges of attempting to maintain a full-time position while serving as a Councilmember, voicing support for increasing City Council compensation; spoke on the need for a technological solution to assist with streamlining resident requests and responses; recommended that the City seek advice from a diversity consultant for best practices and strategies on diversifying boards and commissions.

Councilmember Middleton noted that Councilmember Garner and Mayor Pro Tem Holstege are making significant sacrifices to their careers and earning potential to serve on the City Council; voiced support for creating a City Council Compensation Committee to review and make recommendations related to City Council compensation; voiced opposition to reducing the number of signatures required for nominations.

City Clerk Mejia pointed out that any proposed increase to the City Council's compensation would not impact any incumbent member as the increases would be effective after the election for each Council seat.

In response to City Council inquiry, City Manager Ready stated that he will review the feasibility of providing the City Council with a vehicle allowance rather than mileage reimbursement.

Councilmember Garner spoke on the need to create a welcoming environment for parents to attend City meetings with their children and/or providing childcare.

Councilmember Garner and Middleton conveyed support for creating a citizen's leadership academy.

Councilmember Woods encourage staff liaisons to share information about upcoming symposiums and conferences with their respective boards and commissions.

5. NEW BUSINESS:**A. DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMUNITY WORKFORCE AGREEMENTS AND LABOR PEACE AGREEMENTS**

City Attorney Ballinger presented the staff report.

In response to City Council inquiry, Bill Perez, representing the Building and Construction Trades Council, addressed use of a national curriculum for an apprenticeship readiness program for youth.

During the course of discussion, the City Council voiced support for community workforce agreements and labor peace agreements, noting that it will provide good paying, stable jobs for local residents, help reduce traffic congestion and pollution, and may avoid stalled development projects which can lead to labor disputes.

Councilmember Middleton questioned whether the minimum staffing requirement for a Labor Peace Agreement should be increased to 10-employees.

Councilmember Garner and Mayor Pro Tem Holstege expressed support for establishing a minimum of a five-employee threshold for the Labor Peace Agreement, noting that it should be inclusive of full- and part-time employees.

In response to City Council inquiry, City Attorney Ballinger stated that he will review whether Labor Peace Agreements can be required of other industries.

B. DISCUSSION OF COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS INITIATIVE RE: SALES TAXATION AUTHORITY

This item was deleted from the agenda at the request of staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Daryl Terrell, presented and encouraged the City Council to adopt his Equal Pay Ordinance proposal.

CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER REQUESTS AND UPCOMING AGENDA DEVELOPMENT:

Mayor Kors requested that consideration of a bike share program, discussion and update regarding the Walk of Stars Ordinance, and an update regarding the Coronavirus be agendized for the next City Council meeting.

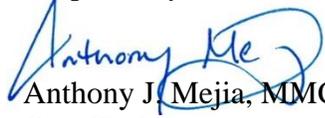
Mayor Pro Tem Holstege requested that consideration of adopting an ordinance related to plastic food containers and straws be agendized for March 19, 2020, and requested that the elementary school students be notified.

The City Council requested that rescheduling of the October 8th meeting be agendized for the next City Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The City Council adjourned at 11:36 p.m., in memory of Dallas John Flicek, former Assistant City Manager.

Respectfully submitted,


Anthony J. Mejia, MMC
City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL: 03/19/2020