



**Thursday, May 21, 2020**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council**  
**of the City of Palm Springs**

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, by Governor Newsom, this meeting was conducted by teleconference and there was no in-person public access to the meeting location.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

A Regular Meeting of the Palm Springs City Council was called to order by Mayor Kors on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.

**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:**

Fire Chief Nalder provided an update regarding an explosion in Los Angeles caused by an illegal cannabis manufacturing facility.

City Manager Ready presented an overview of the draft 2020/21 City Budget and potential scenarios to address the budget deficit.

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:**

**MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, CARRIED 5-0, to remove Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1J, IN, 1O, and 1P for separate discussion.**

**REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION:**

The Regular Closed Session of the City Council of May 21, 2020, was called to order by Mayor Kors at 2:00 p.m., with all members present.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the selling of the Boulders and/or Crescendo properties and urged that the properties be preserved as open space:

Liz Loomis, representing the Little Tuscany Neighborhood Organization

Ned Barker,

Kathy Weremuik

Denise Hoetker

Fred Balduini

Rebecca Hendrickson

Bruce Hoban

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):

4348 Lockwood Avenue LLC et al. v. City of Palm Springs et al.,

Case No. RIC 1703102, 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):

Six (6) 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 three (3) matters the City Council has decided or may decide to initiate litigation.

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

Property Address/Description:	287 S. El Cielo Road (APN 502-210-023)
Agency:	City of Palm Springs
City Negotiator:	David Ready, City Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties:	Coachella Valley Rescue Mission
Under Negotiation:	Price and Terms of Payment

Property Address/Description: Tahquitz Creek Golf Course, 1885 Golf Club Drive, Palm Springs, CA, 92264  
Agency: City of Palm Springs  
City Negotiator: David Ready, City Manager or Designee  
Negotiating Parties:  
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

Property Address/Description: APNs 677-444-010; 677-444-013; and 67470 Sarah Street, Cathedral City, CA 92234  
Agency: City of Palm Springs  
City Negotiator: Marcus Fuller, City Engineer/Assistant City Manager or Designee  
Negotiating Parties: Luis A. Avila Paz, Rosario Avila and Maria Avila  
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

Property Address/Description: APNs 680-170-051 and 680-170-014  
Agency: City of Palm Springs  
City Negotiator: Marcus Fuller, City Engineer/Assistant City Manager or Designee  
Negotiating Parties: Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment (Lease)

Property Address/Description: Palm Springs Visitor's Center (APN 504-040-053)  
Agency: City of Palm Springs  
City Negotiator: Marcus Fuller, City Engineer/Assistant City Manager or Designee  
Negotiating Parties: Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG)  
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 Road and El Cielo Road)  
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 Ready, City Manager or Designee  
Negotiating Parties:  
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment (Sale)

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 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: Boulders Property (Lots 1-45 of Tract Map 31095/APNs 504-150-011 through -055); Crescendo Property (APN 504-040-046); Rimrock Property (APN 681-480-011); Gene Autry Property (APNs 677-540-028 & 677-540-029); Block G of parcel map 36446 (APN 513-560-048)  
 Agency: City of Palm Springs  
 City Negotiator: David H. Ready, City Manager or Designee  
 Negotiating Parties:  
 Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR, Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:

Agency Designated Representatives: David Ready, City Manager or Designee  
 Perry Madison, Director of Human Resources  
 Bryan Reyes, Chief of Police  
 Peter Brown, Attorney

Employee Organizations: Management Association of Palm Springs  
 Palm Springs Firefighters Association  
 Palm Springs Fire Management  
 Palm Springs Police Management Association  
 Palm Springs Police Officers Association  
 Public Employees Association of Palm Springs  
 All Unrepresented Employees

Assistant City Attorney Hull announced that the City Council unanimously added an urgency item to the Closed Session Agenda regarding an amicus brief challenging an Executive Order related to refugee resettlement, based on the findings that the matter came to the attention of the City after the posting of the agenda and there is a need for immediate action; advised that the City Council provided direction to sign onto the amicus brief; reported that the City Council received briefings and provided direction to staff regarding the remainder of agenda items, but did not take any reportable action.

City Attorney Ballinger reported that on May 18, 2020, the City Council received briefings and provided direction to staff regarding the agenda items but did not take any reportable action.

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY:**

The following individuals spoke on Item 4B, voicing their support and recommendations for maintaining service levels at the City's aquatics center:

Bob Bielenberg

Stan May

Allison Alvarado

Maggie Scott

Gavin Scott

Michael Ventura, Assistant Principal, Palm Springs High School

Michael Marks, Boys and Girls Water Polo Coach, Palm Springs High School

Suzanne Kindel

Chantel Sanchez

Sheldon Harmatz

James Gleason

Jolie Estrada

Donnetta Montana-Cordova

Loni Mann

Eric Lemus

Jim Gazan

The following individuals spoke on Item 4B, voicing support for maintaining service levels and programming at the public library:

Barbara Leadholm Abrams

Carol Palmer

Cathleen Brant

Kathy Weremuik

Irene Tritel

Arlene Dulaney

Carol Listenberger

Sheldon Harmatz

Nancy Morrison

The following individuals spoke on Item 4B, urging the City Council not to sell the Boulders, Crescendo, and/or Palm Hills properties and to preserve these properties as open space:

J.R. Roberts

Liz Loomis, representing the Little Tuscany Neighborhood Organization

Ned Barker

Kathy Weremuik

Nickie McLaughlin

David Dry

Barb Kaplan

Sheldon Harmatz

Denise Hoetker

Fred Balduini

Rebecca Hendrickson

Charles Steinman

Michael Hammond

Bruce Hoban

Frank Tyson

Scott Bridgeman

Bettina Rosmarino

John Young

Judy Deertrack

The following individuals spoke on Item 4B, expressing support for adult and/or youth programming at the City's Community Centers and urging the City Council to continue funding such programs:

Tod Davidson

Kristin MacLean

Natasha Montez

Matt Davidson

Margaret Cherry

Angela Cannady

Naomi Molina

Jessica Gallagher

Erica Ponce

Donnetta Montana-Cordova

Frank Galvez

Steve Beck

Nikkola Eto

The following individuals spoke on Item 4B, urging the City Council to explore all options before considering layoffs to public safety services and/or layoffs of city employees:

Lauren Bixler

Jorge Diaz

Mike Casavan, Vice President, Palm Springs Police Officers Association

Michelle Martin

Cherie Miller

Jeanmarie Keough

Leslie Tisdale

Brittany Gunkel

Greg Gunkel

Jose Barragan

Stacey Payton

Sandy Bosler, President, Public Employees Association of Palm Springs

Jarvis Crawford

Peter Garcia

Jeff Kelsheimer, President, Palm Springs Firefighters Association

Barb Kaplan

Sheldon Harmatz

Billy Winters

Sadie Albers

Nicholas Guitron

David Newell, President, Management Association of Palm Springs

Sam Harris

Robert Perotti

John Darryl Thomas, speaking on Item 4A, urged the City Council to allow hotels, vacation rentals, restaurants and bars to operate.

Robert Perotti, speaking on Item 4A, requested that the City Council allow vacation rentals to operate.

Julius Turfur, speaking on Item 4B, recommended that the City Council consider allocating CDBG funds to provide a local rent relief program.

Eric Lemus, representing California Partnership, speaking on Item 4B, urged the City Council to fund a local rent relief program.

Jim Gazan, speaking on Items 4A and 4B, voiced support for moving forward with a less costly, modified Downtown Park design and reallocating Measure J funds to other areas of need; voiced support for allowing vacation rentals to begin operating in June 2020.

Jeffrey Bernstein, speaking on Item 4A, urged the City Council to allow retailers to open immediately with proper safety protocols.

Matt Bousquette, speaking on Item 1J, spoke on the negative impacts caused by the stalled Andaz Hotel project and urged City Council to defer action on the requested permit extension.

Iris Johnson, speaking on Item 4A, opined that COVID-19 is a lie and that the City should open to visitors.

Wolfgang Giesecke, speaking on Item 4A, urged the City Council to allow bars and restaurants to use outdoor space to expand their business footprint, where possible.

### **MEETING RECESS**

At 5:03 p.m. the City Council recessed and reconvened at 5:20 p.m., with all Councilmembers present.

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

Councilmember Garner reported on her attendance at a Coachella Valley Economic Partnership (CVEP) meeting, noting the importance of diversifying the local economy; encouraged residents to volunteer with nonprofit organizations, noting that they are experiencing a shortfall of funding and volunteers.

Mayor Kors reported on recent meetings with County Supervisors, Palm Springs Hospitality Association, and other organizations regarding COVID-19 and benchmarks for reopening the economy; displayed a slide listing available testing sites in the Coachella Valley.

Mayor Pro Tem Holstege provided an update on the Mayor's Business Transition & Re-Entry Task Force, noting that discussion topics have included supporting local businesses, facilitating internet access, and advocating for a sub-regional approach towards reopening the economy; reported on the Coachella Valley Association of Governments Homelessness Committee meeting, noting the collaborative effort Countywide to shelter the homeless; announced that she will hold a townhall meeting for District 4 on June 9, 2020.

Councilmember Middleton announced that she will be meeting with One-PS neighborhood representatives and alternates for District 5; opined that the federal funding packages under consideration do not adequately address smaller, tourism-based cities.

Councilmember Woods pointed out that the proposed budget cuts should be taken as an opportunity to find efficiencies and eliminate redundancies; voiced support for reopening the economy based on a sub-regional approach.

City Manager Ready thanked Toni Romero, Sacher Enterprises, and Destiny Church for providing a food truck to deliver lunches to City Hall employees.

**1. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the consent calendar, with the removal of Item Nos. 1J, 1N, 1O, and 1P for separate discussion.

**A. APPROVAL OF PAYROLL WARRANTS, CLAIMS AND DEMANDS**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 24756 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING PAYMENT OF PAYROLL WARRANTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 05-02-2020 BY WARRANTS NUMBERED 421064 THROUGH 421077 TOTALING \$20,790.49 CLAIMS, DEMANDS AND LIABILITY CHECKS NUMBERED 1113125 THROUGH 1113386 TOTALING \$3,063,899.25, FOUR WIRE TRANSFERS FOR \$69,127.02, AND FIVE ELECTRONIC ACH DEBITS OF \$1,521,392.24 IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$4,675,209.00, DRAWN ON BANK OF AMERICA."

**B. TREASURER'S INVESTMENT REPORT AS OF MARCH 31, 2020**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to receive and file Treasurer's Investment Report as of March 31, 2020.

**C. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF MILLS ACT HISTORIC PROPERTY PRESERVATION AGREEMENT FOR A CLASS 1 HISTORIC SITE LOCATED AT 1872 SOUTH BARONA ROAD (HSPB #93/HD-5)**

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

1. Approve a Mills Act Historic Property Agreement between the City of Palm Springs, William Wilson and Karen Wilson and Sandcliff Homeowners Association, for 1872 South Barona Road, a Class 1 Historic Site (HSPB #93/HD-5). **A8542**
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Agreement.
3. Direct the City Clerk to record the Agreement.

**D. APPROVAL OF A NOTICE TO PROCEED TO VEOLIA WATER WEST OPERATING SERVICES, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$180,512 FOR THE SEWER MANHOLE REHABILITATION, CITY PROJECT NO. 20-17**

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

1. Authorize the City Engineer to issue a Notice to Proceed to Veolia Water West Operating Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$180,512, for the Sewer Manhole Rehabilitation, City Project No. 20-17 (the "Project").
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

**E. ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR THE LOCAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING (LEAP) GRANTS PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$150,000 FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 24757 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR, AND RECEIPT OF, LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING SUPPORT PROGRAM FUNDS."

**F. LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATING TO THE INCREASING SPREAD OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS 2019 PANDEMIC (COVID-19) - EXPENDITURE UPDATE**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to receive and file COVID-19 pandemic expenditure update.

**G. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT NO. 7228 WITH DOKKEN ENGINEERING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$31,306.75 FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE INDIAN CANYON DRIVE SEWER LINE EXTENSION TO BE CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE INDIAN CANYON ROAD AND BRIDGE PROJECT, CITY PROJECT NO. 01-11**

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

1. Approve Amendment No. 1 to Professional Services Agreement No. 7228 with Dokken Engineering in the amount of \$31,306.75 for environmental services related to the proposed Indian Canyon Drive Sewer Line Extension to be considered as part of the Indian Canyon Road and Bridge Project, City Project No. 01-11. **A7228**
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

**H. RATIFY THE NOMINATION OF THE CITY OF LA QUINTA TO THE PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMMISSION**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to re-appoint Kathleen Hughes, representing the City of La Quinta, to the Palm Springs International Airport Commission for a term ending June 30, 2021.

**I. ACCEPT A RESIGNATION FROM THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to accept with regret the resignation of Harry Courtright from the Library Board of Trustees.

**J. APPROVAL OF A REQUEST TO EXTEND THE BUILDING PERMIT EXPIRATION DATE FOR THE ANDAZ HOTEL**

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 13 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

**K. AUTHORIZE AMENDMENT TO INDENTURE FOR 2019 AIRPORT PASSENGER FACILITY CHARGE REVENUE BONDS (PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)**

1. MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 24758 entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT OF THE BOND INDENTURE FOR THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS 2019 AIRPORT PASSENGER FACILITY CHARGE REVENUE BONDS (PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT) AND APPROVING RELATED ACTIONS."

2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the First Amendment to Bond Indenture.

**L. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2023 OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTIONS 91.00.10, 93.13.00, AND 93.23.14 OF THE PALM SPRINGS ZONING CODE RELATIVE TO THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS AND JUNIOR ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (CASE 5.1447 ZTA)**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to adopt Ordinance No. 2023, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTIONS 91.00.10, 93.13.00, AND 93.23.14 OF THE PALM SPRINGS ZONING CODE RELATING TO ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS AND JUNIOR ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS AND DETERMINING THE ORDINANCE TO BE EXEMPT FROM CEQA."

**M. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL MODIFICATIONS PROJECT, CITY PROJECT NO. 19-22**

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

1. Accept the public works improvement identified as the Airport Terminal Modifications Project, City Project No. 19-22, as completed in accordance with the plans and specifications.
2. Authorize the City Engineer to execute and file for recordation with the Riverside County Recorder a Notice of Completion for the Airport Modifications Project, City Project 19-22.

**N. AWARD THE PURCHASE OF TWO AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIREFIGHTING VEHICLES FOR THE PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 13 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

**O. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO SIGN ONTO A LETTER FROM THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SEEKING THE GOVERNOR'S SUPPORT RELATED TO COVID-19**

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 14 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

**P. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES RELATED TO THE FIRE TRAINING TOWER, CITY PROJECT NO. 18-09**

This item was excluded from the Consent Calendar. Please refer to Page 14 of these minutes for a summary of that action.

**Q. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE CITY MANAGER FOR THE APPROVAL OF CONTINGENCY FUNDS FOR THE PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TICKETING HALL EXPANSION, FAA AIP GRANT NO. 3-06- 0181-054-2016, IFB NO. 19-03**

MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, CARRIED 5-0, to authorize the City Manager to approve and execute construction contract change orders up to an additional \$189,199.59 (for a maximum of \$1,689,199.59) for the Airport Ticketing Hall Expansion (the Project), IFB No. 19-03.

**EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:****J. APPROVAL OF A REQUEST TO EXTEND THE BUILDING PERMIT EXPIRATION DATE FOR THE ANDAZ HOTEL**

Assistant City Manager Fuller presented the staff report and responded to City Council inquiries.

Donald Braun, Applicant, summarized the qualifications and experience of his company, noting that he is confident in their ability to complete the project; advised that his company is entertaining offers to purchase the property or enter into a joint venture; offered to provide the City Council with regular updates on the status of the project going forward. In response to City Council inquiry, Mr. Braun indicated that his company has complete ownership and control of the property and there is no involvement from the prior developer; stated that the project is a high priority for his company, but felt that it is inappropriate to commit to a completion date given the need to conduct due diligence on the condition of the project; stated that he support a six month extension, independent of whether the local emergency is lifted.

Mayor Kors requested that the applicant provide bi-monthly status updates to the City Council in the future.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WOODS, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the request for an extension of the building permit for the Andaz Hotel for six (6) months.

**N. AWARD THE PURCHASE OF TWO AIRCRAFT RESCUE FIREFIGHTING VEHICLES FOR THE PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Airport Director Nolan presented the staff report and summarized the funding sources for the purchase of the subject vehicles.

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

1. Award pursuant to IFB 20-01 the purchase of two 1500-gallon Class 4 ARFF vehicles, including all bid alternates, shipping costs, and applicable sales tax, from Oshkosh Airport Products, LLC, Neenah, Wisconsin in the amount of \$1,724,997.49.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

**O. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO SIGN ONTO A LETTER FROM THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SEEKING THE GOVERNOR'S SUPPORT RELATED TO COVID-19**

Mayor Pro Tem Holstege advised that she and Mayor Kors provided feedback and requested modifications to the proposed letter, noting that the County declined to accept the amendments.

The City Council took no action on this matter.

**P. AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES RELATED TO THE FIRE TRAINING TOWER, CITY PROJECT NO. 18-09**

In response to City Council inquiry, City Manager Ready summarized the funding sources, noting that the project is fully funded and recommended proceeding with the project.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MIDDLETON, SECOND BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, CARRIED 5-0, to authorize Staff to advertise a request for proposals for design-build services related to the design and installation of the Fire Training Tower, City Project No. 18-09.

**MEETING RECESS/RECONVENE**

At 8:13 p.m., the City Council recessed and reconvened at 8:25 p.m., with all members present.

**2. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.**

**3. LEGISLATIVE: NONE.**

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A. DISCUSSION OF IMPACTS AND RESPONSE TO THE LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS INCLUDING DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION REGARDING EMERGENCY ORDERS, SUCH AS THE CITY'S SHORT-TERM LODGING PROHIBITION**

Councilmember Woods announced his recusal due to a financial conflict of interest related to possessing a homeshare permit, left the City Council meeting at 8:31 p.m.

City Attorney Ballinger presented the staff report. In response to City Council inquiries, Mr. Ballinger advised that the State's order continues to prohibit travel for leisure and vacation purposes; opined that the City could rescind all prior orders related to hotels and vacation rentals, while maintaining the provisions related to domestic violence victims and witnesses and reservation cancellations via a resolution.

Councilmembers Garner and Middleton and Mayor Pro Tem Holstege voiced support with aligning the City's orders with the State and County's orders as much as practicable.

Councilmember Middleton requested that the City's orders be revised to state that "residents over 65 or older and/or have chronic, underlying health conditions or a compromised immune system are at severe, increasing risk from the virus and therefore, must limit exposure to a greater degree, take more care and be much more cautious while engaging in essential activities" rather than using the term "self-quarantine."

**MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GARNER, SECOND BY MAYOR PRO TEM HOLSTEGE, CARRIED 4-0 (COUNCILMEMBER WOODS RECUSED), to direct staff to prepare Resolution No. 24759 to remove the City's short term lodging order (applicable to hotels, vacation rentals, timeshares, homeshares), thereby leaving in place the State's stay-at-home order, with two exceptions:**

1. Owners/Operators book at their own risk and will have to cancel any bookings that are made that cannot be fulfilled because the State's stay-at-home order remains in place when those bookings arrive.
2. Lodging for victims and witnesses of domestic violence qualifies as a COVID-19 purpose.

Councilmember Woods returned to the City Council meeting at 8:45 p.m.

In response to City Council inquiry, City Attorney Ballinger reported that the State has not indicated whether public pools are considered essential and may reopen, advising that he will continue to seek clarification on the matter.

During the course of discussion, the City Council directed staff as follows:

1. Dog Parks: The City Council directed the re-opening of dog parks, with signs requiring appropriate social distancing and face coverings. A limit of 10 persons in the small dog park was placed. Seating areas are to be made inaccessible, to prevent gatherings.
2. Trailhead Parking: Council directed the re-opening of trailheads. Signage regarding social distancing and face coverings are to remain in place.
3. Library Curbside Service: The City Council authorized the provision of curbside library service.
4. ABC License Regulations: The City Council approved, in concept, the implementation of recent ABC regulations that would allow certain ABC licensees to extend their service area footprint onto adjacent parking areas and rights-of-way (subject to City review/approval).
5. Pools: The City Council directed staff to remove any further City order regarding pools.

**B. CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID- 19); FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 ADJUSTED BUDGET AND FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021 PRELIMINARY BUDGET REVIEW**

Councilmember Woods announced his recusal due to a conflict of interest as his residence is within proximity to the Crescendo property, left the City Council meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Assistant City Manager Fuller provided an overview of the City's real property.

Councilmember Middleton voiced support for identifying all options related to the disposition of real property, noting that the City should analyze litigation risks associated with any attempt to sell the Boulders and Crescendo properties; suggested that staff evaluate other City assets such as surplus vehicles to determine if they have resale value.

Mayor Pro Tem Holstege recommended that the City Council proceed with listing all viable properties with a broker to ascertain what options are available to the City Council and concurrently seek community input regarding the use of such properties.

Mayor Kors and Councilmember Garner volunteered to serve as liaison to staff regarding the listing of City properties with a broker and evaluating the possibility of partnering with a land conservancy for the preservation of the Boulders and Crescendo properties.

Councilmember Woods returned to the City Council meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Mayor Kors noted that Grit Development may have the first right of refusal to purchase the "Downtown Block G" parcel and requested that staff reach out to determine their interest in purchasing the property at appraised value.

Councilmember Woods noted that he has spoken with the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy regarding the possibility of purchasing and preserving the Palm Hills property.

Mayor Pro Tem Holstege voiced support for merging the General Fund Reserve and CalPERS Reserve and moving forward with a rolling budget as outlined by the staff report.

In response to City Council inquiry, City Manager Ready recommended that the City Council maintain a 10% minimum reserve balance; summarized the City's reserve practices during the Great Recession.

Councilmember Middleton pointed out that the proposed budget continues to meet the City's CalPERS obligations; opined that reserves are accumulated so that the City may respond to critical situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Councilmember Garner spoke on the importance of funding resident-centric programs such as the community centers and library programs; expressed a willingness to use more reserves to retain critical positions and programs; noted that the rolling budget will allow the City Council to evaluate conditions as they may change or improve.

Councilmember Woods spoke on the importance of maintaining reserves and planning for the increased pension liabilities.

Mayor Kors requested that each Department Head provide a brief summary of the impacts of the proposed layoffs.

Police Chief Reyes summarized the number of positions which are proposed to be frozen or laid off; noted that his department will be significantly impacted due to the need for police officers to transport suspects to the County jails; advised there will be impacts in the Police Department's ability to post, and respond to inquiries, on social media and other media outlets; stated there will be delays in his department's ability to respond to animal-related calls for service; noted that there will be adjustments to the Police Department's front lobby desk coverage and open hours. In response to City Council inquiry, Chief Reyes confirmed there are no cuts to the number of sworn officers, but that there are non-sworn support staff proposed for layoffs; advised that due to Information Technology upgrades there will be services which were previously provided at the lobby desk, which can now be offered online; spoke on the challenges of hiring lateral police officers and the timeframe to hire and train a new police officer recruit.

The City Council took no formal action and continued discussion of this matter to the Adjourned Regular City Council Meeting of May 26, 2020.

**5. NEW BUSINESS: NONE.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE.**

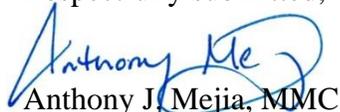
**CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER REQUESTS AND UPCOMING AGENDA DEVELOPMENT:**

The City Council requested that consideration of extending the temporary moratorium on evictions due to nonpayment of rent due to COVID-19 be added to the Adjourned Regular Meeting Agenda for May 26, 2020.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 11:00 p.m., the City Council adjourned to an Adjourned Regular City Council Meeting to occur on May 26, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Anthony J. Mejia, MMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL: 06/25/2020