



**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY*
APRIL 4, 2023 – 6:00 P.M. - MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER –The Closed Session meeting was called to order by Mayor Stephens at 4:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Chavez, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Harper, Council Member Marr (arrived at 4:15 p.m.) Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Absent: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

1. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - ONE CASE**
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2)
2. **THREAT TO SECURITY**
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957(a)
Consultation with: Costa Mesa Director of Emergency Services, City Manager, Police Chief, Fire Chief.
3. **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957, (b)(1)
Title: City Manager
4. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)
Name of Case: Yellowstone Women’s First Step House, Inc., and Sober Living Network, Inc. v. City of Costa Mesa, United States District Court, Central District of California, Case No. SACV14-01852 JVS.

Ms. Hall Barlow, City Attorney, removed item number 1 from the closed session agenda and requested to add one item relating to the national opioid litigation. This was brought to the attention of the City after the agenda had been posted and needed to be considered prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

MOVED/SECOND: Mayor Stephens/ Council Member Chavez

MOTION: Approve adding the additional item relating to the national opioid litigation to the closed session agenda. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1) Existing Litigation.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Chavez, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Harper, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: None.

Absent: Council Member Marr.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 6-0

City Council recessed at 4:03 p.m. for Closed Session.

Closed Session adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER –The Regular City Council and Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency, and Housing Authority meeting was called to order by Mayor Stephens at 6:00 P.M.

NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A video was played of the National Anthem and Mayor Stephens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SOLEMN EXPRESSION - Led by Pastor David Manne.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Chavez, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Harper (left at 10:40 p.m.), Council Member Marr, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Absent: None.

CITY ATTORNEY CLOSED SESSION REPORT – Ms. Hall Barlow stated that the City Council voted to participate in the settlements with Teva, Walgreens, CVS, Walmart, and Allergan in regard to the national opioid litigation by the following vote:

MOVED/SECOND: Council Member Chavez/Council Member Marr

MOTION: Approve participating the national opioid litigation.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Chavez, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Harper, Council Member Marr, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 7-0

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Stephens recognized the Orange Coast College Women's Basketball Team CCCAA State Champion.

Mayor Stephens presented a proclamation to Dan Stefano, Costa Mesa Fire Chief, in recognition of 2023 National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Mayor Stephens presented a proclamation to Jennifer Friend, Chief Executive Officer of Project Hope Alliance, in recognition of 2023 National Community Development Week.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Speaker, recognized Council Member Marr on her new titles, achievements, and positions.

Speaker, expressed concern about cameras/license plate readers on traffic lights, and spoke against cameras at every intersection.

Kim Hendricks spoke on Fairview Nature Park and the fly field.

Len Redmond, spoke on Fairview Park, overgrown plants, problems with electric bikes, and recognized 911 responders.

Speaker, spoke on problems with electric bikes at Fairview Park, and on the speed humps on Royal Palm Drive.

Juana Trejo, requested information on Paularino Ave. improvements, spoke on landlords continuing to raise rents, invited the City Council to visit District 3, spoke on overcrowding in apartments, spoke on hope for low income communities, and fears of being evicted.

Jenn Tanaka, congratulated Council Member Marr on her new doctorate degree, spoke on the rental assistance program, and spoke on an inclusionary housing policy.

Wendy Leece spoke on the restoration and preservation of Fairview Park, and compliance with federal regulations.

Sue Lester, representing the Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center in Huntington Beach, requested Costa Mesa contribute to the non-profit center.

Speaker, spoke on the bus stops on Wilson, Harbor, and Placentia, spoke on having compassion for the homeless people, spoke on people that need rental assistance and the barriers to applying.

Leticia Ortiz spoke on having three jobs to pay the rent and to eat, spoke on a place next to McDonalds on 19th Street and requested a police presence due to potential drugs, spoke on monitoring local businesses that sell drugs.

Speaker, spoke on protecting Fairview Park, and is opposed to the flyers.

Cynthia McDonald, Costa Mesa, spoke on the State proposed Emergency Operations Center at Fairview Developmental Center, and the Environmental Impact Report, inquired if the City will submit formal comments, and spoke on an Inclusionary Housing Ordinance.

Speaker, spoke on preserving Fairview Park.

Hank Castignetti spoke on April 15th and 16th are free train ride days, spoke on preserving Fairview Park, and requested thoughts and prayers for Dr. Mehren who is very ill.

Debby Koken, Fairview Park Alliance, spoke on a restoration event at Fairview Park on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. for removing non-native plants.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS

Council Member Reynolds acknowledged community members, spoke on the proposed Emergency Operations Center and the City preparing a formal response, spoke on the cost of living, spoke on food insecurity and resources available, spoke on addressing homelessness, spoke on speeding and safe streets, spoke on an event on April 29th for bike helmet fitting, on May 27th Estancia High School is hosting a bike event with free helmets and safety education for e-bikes, spoke on attending an event with Council Member Marr regarding careers in engineering, and thanked Kelly Dalton for the Fairview Park vernal pool tour.

Council Member Chavez thanked first responders, welcomed students attending the meeting, thanked the Spanish speaking community for continuing to address the issues and raising concerns, attended a community outreach meeting at Northgate Market with Council Member Gamos, thanked all involved with the Bike Rodeo, spoke on the Joann Street bike trail encampments and graffiti, and congratulated the Estancia Eagles baseball team for winning the Battle of the Bell.

Council Member Gamos spoke on Springfest at Lions Park on Saturday, attending the Northgate community event and the bike rodeo, requested the status of opening the Luke Davis field.

Council Member Harper spoke on Driving While Distracted month and shared a video.

Council Member Marr spoke on an annual ride along with the Police Department, spoke on attending the women in engineering event, spoke on learning about barriers to rental assistance, wished everyone a Happy Easter, and offered prayers to Dr. Mehren and family.

Mayor Pro Tem Harlan spoke on a Daisy Troop visiting City Hall, congratulated Dr. Marr, and wished everyone a Happy Passover and Happy Easter.

Mayor Stephens requested staff to follow up on the Wildlife Center donation, wished everyone a Happy Easter and Holy Week, spoke on the good street conditions in Costa Mesa, spoke on the Flock cameras article in the LA Times, spoke on the City resource guide, praised Dr. Mehren, congratulated Dr. Marr, and spoke in memory of Henry Segerstrom on his 100th birthday.

REPORT – CITY MANAGER – Ms. Farrell Harrison, spoke on the proposed State and Regional Operations Center at the Fairview Developmental Center site and the City providing a formal response, spoke on celebrating Earth Day on April 22nd, Spring Fest on April 8th, congratulated Dr. Marr, and wished all a Happy Easter, Passover, and Ramadan.

REPORT – CITY ATTORNEY – Ms. Hall Barlow, congratulated Dr. Marr on her achievement.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 1-5)

MOVED/SECOND: Mayor Pro Tem Harlan/ Council Member Chavez

MOTION: Approve recommended actions for consent calendar items 1-5 except for item No. 4. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Chavez, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Harper, Council Member Marr, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: Council Member Gameros recused himself on item 3 the Warrant Resolution due to his wife working at Priceless Pets.

Motion carried: 7-0

1. PROCEDURAL WAIVER: WAIVE THE FULL READING OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ACTION:

City Council, Agency Board, and Housing Authority approved the reading by title only and waived full reading of Ordinances and Resolutions.

2. READING FOLDER

ACTION:

City Council received and filed Claims received by the City Clerk: Mercury Insurance Company (Robert Wilson), Austen Kelekian, Lili Mayer, Tien Nguyen, Gerardo Quintana, Nathan Rivera, Deborah Wilkinson.

3. WARRANT RESOLUTION

Council Member Gameros recused himself on this item due to his wife working at Priceless Pets.

ACTION:

City Council approved Warrant Resolution No. 2697.

5. THIRD PARTY WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

ACTION:

1. City Council awarded the contract for Third Party Workers Compensation Claims Administration Services per Request for Proposal (RFP) to AdminSure, Inc.
2. Authorized the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the five (5) year Professional Services Agreement for the contract.

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

4. A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND DECLARING JUNE 19 OF EACH YEAR AS A PAID CITY HOLIDAY IN OBSERVANCE OF JUNETEENTH

Council Member Harper spoke on the financial impacts and that the financial analysis should provide all the costs, stated the item should not have been placed on consent calendar, and on the total number of holidays employees receive.

Public Comments:

Speaker, spoke on June 19th being a Federal and State holiday, and the City of Los Angeles recognizing June 19th.

Andrew Barnes spoke on the financial impacts and the financial analysis providing all the costs.

MOVED/SECOND: Council Member Marr/Council Member Reynolds

MOTION: Approve recommended actions.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Chavez, Council Member Gamos, Council Member Marr, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: Council Member Harper.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 6-1

ACTION:

City Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-17 declaring Juneteenth as a City holiday.

-----**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**-----

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.

(Pursuant to Resolution No. 05-55, Public Hearings begin at 7:00 p.m.)

OLD BUSINESS: NONE.

City Council recessed into a break at 7:58 p.m.

City Council reconvened at 8:13 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. THE COSTA MESA LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Presentation by Ms. Emrick, Acting Emergency Services Manager.

Public Comments: None.

MOVED/SECOND: Mayor Stephens/Council Member Chavez

MOTION: Approve recommended actions.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Chavez, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Harper, Council Member Marr, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 7-0

ACTION:

City Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-18 to approve the City of Costa Mesa's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

2. REVIEW OF CITY COMMITTEES

Presentation by Ms. Farrell Harrison, City Manager and Ms. Green, City Clerk.

Public Comments:

Ralph Taboada spoke on a lack of communication with committee members, different points of view regarding the creation of ad hoc Committees, the subcommittees do not utilize staff time, and spoke on the work being done in the subcommittees.

Speaker, spoke on the committee structure and standards, staff time, and Council Members evaluating committees.

Cynthia McDonald spoke on volunteers that want to participate, spoke on City Council attending meetings, committee work plans, and spoke on the purpose of ad hoc Committees.

Speaker, spoke on participating at meetings and is opposed to decreasing committee membership.

Speaker, spoke in opposition to the recommended changes, and spoke on reviewing the work plans and schedules for each committee.

Speaker, spoke on voting to receive and file, citizen involvement, keeping FiPAC meetings monthly, and on ad hoc Committees compliance with the Brown Act.

Speaker, spoke on the purpose of the committees, City Council input from the committees, the number of committee members, time limits, community input, and is in support of committee meetings via zoom.

Andrew Barnes spoke on the Brown Act, not decreasing public involvement and transparency, spoke on decreasing the number of staff that attend meetings, and in support of additional funding for staff.

MOVED/SECOND: Mayor Stephens/Council Member Gamos

MOTION: Continue the item to the July 18, 2023 to allow time for the City Council to review the committees purpose, scope, and duties.

Discussion ensued on scope of work, statement of purpose, staffing impacts, frequency of meetings, the number of ad hoc committees, and a process for addressing concerns.

Council Member Chavez spoke in opposition of the motion.

MOVED/SECOND: Mayor Stephens/Council Member Gamos

MOTION: Continue the item to the July 18, 2023 to allow time for the City Council to review the committees purpose, scope, and duties.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Gamos, Council Member Marr, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: Council Member Chavez.

Absent: Council Member Harper.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 5-1-1

ACTION:

City Council continued the item to the July 18, 2023 to allow time for the City Council to review the committees purpose, scope, and duties.

3. LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE COSTA MESA-NEWPORT HARBOR LIONS CLUB

Presentation by Mr. Stoddart, Recreation Supervisor.

Public Comments:

Speaker, spoke on the 76th Fish Fry in City, is looking forward to working with the City, and the money goes back into the community.

MOVED/SECOND: Council Member Reynolds/Council Member Marr

MOTION: Approve recommended actions.

The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Council Member Chavez, Council Member Gameros, Council Member Marr, Council Member Reynolds, Mayor Pro Tem Harlan, and Mayor Stephens.

Nays: None.

Absent: Council Member Harper.

Abstain: None.

Motion carried: 6-0-1

ACTION:

1. City Council approved the license agreement between the City of Costa Mesa and the Costa Mesa-Newport Harbor Lions Club to host the annual Fish Fry event at the Lions Park Campus beginning in 2023.
2. Authorized the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the agreement and all future amendments to the agreement.

ADDITIONAL COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS, COMMENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS – NONE.

ADJOURNMENT –The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:57 p.m. in memory of Henry Segerstrom's 100th birthday.

Minutes adopted on this 2nd day of May, 2023.

John Stephens, Mayor

ATTEST:

Brenda Green, City Clerk

DRAFT