



**MINUTES
CARSON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 31, 2011**

4:30 P.M.

AGENDA POSTED: MAY 26, 2011

“In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call the City Clerk’s office at 310-952-1720 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.” (Government Code Section 54954.2)

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:59 P.M. by Mayor Dear in the Council Chambers, Carson City Hall, located at 701 E. Carson Street, Carson, California 90745.

ROLL CALL: City Clerk Kawagoe noted the following:

Council Members Present: Mayor Jim Dear, Mayor Pro Tem Julie Ruiz-Raber, Council Member Lula Davis-Holmes, and Council Member Elito Santarina

Council Members Absent: Council Member Mike Gipson

Other Elected Officials Present: Karen Avilla, City Treasurer

Other Elected Officials Absent: Helen Kawagoe, City Clerk

Also Present: William Wynder, City Attorney Wynder; Lindsay Tabaian, Deputy City Attorney; and staff:

Robert Eggleston, IT Manager; Glenn Turner, Computer Systems Support Technician; and Wanda Higaki, Chief Deputy City Clerk

CLOSED SESSION (Items 1-3)

City Attorney Wynder requested that the City Council hold its Closed Session in the following order:

First: Item No. 1
Second: Item No. 3
Third: Item No. 2

Council Member Davis-Holmes expressed concern that the meeting was called for 4:30 P.M., and felt that the Council Members should be polled for their availability. Whereupon, Mayor Dear clarified that the Closed Session was requested to be held before the budget workshop.

ITEM NO. (1) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (CITY MANAGER)

RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:

1. A closed session will be held pursuant to Government Code §54957 to consider filling the position of City Manager.

ACTION: This item was scheduled for Closed Session.

ITEM NO. (2) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR: ALL GROUPS (CITY MANAGER)

RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:

1. A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code § 54957.6, with the Interim City Manager and Administrative Services General Manager, regarding labor negotiations with AME, Supervisors Association, Professional Association, AFSCME Local 809, ACE, Unclassified and Unrepresented employees.

ACTION: This item was scheduled for Closed Session.

ITEM NO. (3) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION

RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:

1. A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(a), to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation to which the city is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows: Carson Harbor Village vs. City of Carson; Case Number BS112239; Court Name: Los Angeles County Superior Court.

ACTION: This item was scheduled for Closed Session.

RECESS: The City Council was Recessed at 5:04 P.M., by Mayor Dear to a Closed Session to discuss the items described on this evening's agenda.

RECONVENE: The City Council was Reconvened at 6:33 P.M., by Mayor Dear with all members previously noted present, with Davis-Holmes and Gipson absent.

REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Wynder provided the Closed Session Report as follows:

Council Closed Session Item No. 1

A privileged and confidential status report was provided. Questions were asked and answered. The executive search consultant was authorized to schedule interviews.

Council Closed Session Item No. 2

A privileged and confidential status report was provided on ongoing negotiations. Questions were asked and answered. No reportable action was taken nor was any solicited.

Council Closed Session Item No. 3.

A privileged and confidential briefing was provided on ongoing negotiations and a litigation strategy was discussed. Questions were asked and answered. No reportable action was taken nor was any solicited.

(Council Member Davis-Holmes entered the meeting at 6:35 P.M.)

ROLL CALL: City Clerk Kawagoe noted the following:

Council/Agency Members Present: Mayor/Chairman Jim Dear, Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chairman Julie Ruiz-Raber, Council/Agency Member Davis-Holmes. and Council/Agency Member Elito Santarina

Council/Agency Members Absent: Council/Agency Member Mike Gipson

Other Elected Officials Present: Helen Kawagoe, City Clerk/Agency Secretary, and Karen Avilla, City/Agency Treasurer

Other Elected Officials Absent: None

Also Present: Clifford Graves, Interim City Manager/Interim Executive Director/Economic Development General Manager; and staff:

Jackie Acosta, Administrative Services General Manager; Ray Cruz, Public Services General Manager; and Vic Rollinger, Development Services General Manager;

Lisa Berglund, Principal Administrative Analyst; Zarah Cruz, Public Information Manager; Robert Eggleston, IT Manager; Glenn Turner, Computer Systems Support Technician; and Wanda Higaki, Chief Deputy City Clerk/Chief Deputy Agency Secretary

FLAG SALUTE: HONORABLE KAREN AVILLA, CITY TREASURER

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Public testimony may be given on any agenda item as it is called and will be LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER. Please fill out a Speaker Form in order to be identified correctly in the minutes. The forms are provided on the podium in the Council Chambers. All Speaker Forms must be given to the City Clerk at the beginning of the meeting.

WORKSHOP (Item 4)

ITEM NO. (4) BUDGET WORKSHOP #1

RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:

Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves reported that the purpose of the meeting was to accomplish the following items:

To present the year-end results of revenues and expenditures and initial outlook for the coming fiscal year.

To suggest policies and assumptions for staff to develop and bring back a draft budget.

(Mayor Dear exited the meeting at 6:38 P.M., and Mayor Pro Tem Ruiz-Raber assumed the Chair.)

(Mayor Dear reentered the meeting at 6:39 P.M. and resumed the Chair.)

Administrative Services General Manager Acosta summarized the staff report. Upon inquiry, she reported that a list of the 21 vacant positions recommended to be filled would be provided to the City Council.

Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves discussed the following policy issues:

- Possible increases in fees
- Removal of UUT cap for another year
- No furloughs, but possible layoffs or demotions

- No expansion of programs; replenish replacement funds and catch up on backlog of service requests
- Elimination of positions for lack of work
- Evaluate services that no longer have significant enrollment/participation
- Consideration of filling full-time vacancies by:
 - Filling with part-timers
 - Contracting out
 - Lateral transfers
 - Demotions
- Divisional consolidations
- Examine financing options for equipment replacement and major projects
- Allow a portion of divisional savings to go back to divisional budgets
- Initiate budgetary referrals for future consideration, not during the budget process

Elections

Administrative Services General Manager Acosta reported the following:

\$177,000 was received from the State of California for November, 2008 and March, 2009.

\$25,000 was anticipated from the State of California for November, 2010.

\$100,000 was anticipated from the State of California for the March, 2011 Election, plus reimbursement from the City of Los Angeles for shared election-related expenses.

Upon inquiry, City Clerk Kawagoe reported that legislation for general law cities to conduct all-mail ballot elections was not going well.

Public Comments

Dr. Rita Boggs, 21328 Island Avenue, Carson, California 90745

Inquired into and discussed the following items:

- Inquired into the amount of Redevelopment Agency money which was transferred into the General Fund for this fiscal year. Administrative Services General Manager Acosta reported that under \$3M was transferred.
- Inquired into the payment of naming rights on a facility. Mayor Dear clarified that Magic Johnson had wanted his name on the theatre and paid a naming right.

- Referred to the presentation about the Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center at Carson and recommended to increase fees, decrease subsidies, and no free lunches. Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves reported that Management Partners had recommended a slight increase in room rates.
- Felt that the quality of life for Carson residents comes first. Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves reported that the cumulative effect from the Management Partners Phase One Report (Overall Efficiency Report) showed about \$1.7M in increased revenues.
- Recommended to look at salaries and benefits paid to council members. Mayor Dear reported that the Carson Mayor was paid the least of the five council members and requested staff to post the information on the City's website. Administrative Services General Manager Acosta clarified that information regarding total taxable compensation was from the State Controller's website. Whereupon, Council Member Davis-Holmes requested that the information be placed on the agenda.

1. HOLD the workshop.

ACTION: The City Council held Budget Workshop No. 1.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 7:26 P.M., by Mayor Dear with Gipson absent.

Mayor Jim Dear

ATTEST:

City Clerk Helen Kawagoe