



**MINUTES
CARSON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 6, 2011**

6:00 P.M.

AGENDA POSTED: JUNE 2, 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 6:17 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, and Council Member Elito Santarina

Council Members Absent: Council Member Lula Davis-Holmes (Entered at 6:18 P.M.) and Council Member Mike Gipson (Entered at 6:31 P.M.)

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

Other Elected Officials Absent: None

Also Present: Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves; and staff:

Jackie Acosta, Administrative Services General Manager, Ray Cruz, Public Services General Manager (Entered at 6:22 P.M.), Vic Rollinger,

Development Services General Manager
(Entered at 6:19 P.M.);

Lisa Berglund, Principal Administrative Analyst; Dan Cisneros, Human Services Manager; Zarah Cruz, Public Information Manager; Robert Eggleston, IT Manager; Edward Escamilla, Landscape and Building Maintenance Superintendent; Brent Gesch, Administrative Analyst; Cedric Hicks, Recreation Superintendent; Luchie Magante, Senior Administrative Analyst; Mike Page, Community Center Manager; Gina Marie Trinidad, Administrative Analyst; Glenn Turner, Computer Systems Support Technician; and Wanda Higaki, Chief Deputy City Clerk

CLOSED SESSION (Item 1)

ITEM NO. (1) 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, Carson Professionals and Supervisors Association, AFSCME Local 809, ACE, Unclassified and Unrepresented employees.

ACTION: This item was not scheduled for Closed Session.

FLAG SALUTE: MAYOR JIM DEAR

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 2)

ITEM NO. (2) BUDGET WORKSHOP #2

Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves presented the Budget Workshop and discussed the following items: 1) policies discussed on at the workshop held on May 31, 2011; 2) the draft balanced budget; and 3) organization and staffing. He presented the following policy issues for discussion:

- Updated schedule of fees
- Removal of the cap on the Utility Users' Tax for this year
- No furloughs
- Reallocation of staff, e.g., layoffs/demotions
- Equipment replacement fund
- No expansion of programs/services
- Elimination of unfunded positions
- Evaluation of services, e.g., enrollment/need
- Review of full-time vacancies and those that should be filled, including alternatives, e.g., part-time v. full-time; contracting out; transfer employees; and demotions
- Divisional consolidations
- Financing for equipment and projects
- Allow divisions to reinvest savings

Administrative Services General Manager Acosta presented and discussed the draft balanced budget.

(Council Member Gipson entered the meeting at 6:31 P.M.)

Public Comments

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

Inquired into the interest earning rate and the new lease agreement with the Carson Redevelopment Agency.

The City Council discussed the following items:

Council Member Davis-Holmes

Requested additional information regarding: revenue from building permits, negative impact of gas tax funds on capital projects, and increase in property tax revenue.

Referred to receiving late staff reports which adversely impacts her ability to ask questions of staff and clarified that she wanted to review staff reports before the meetings and not at the meetings.

Discussed five unfunded positions to be filled.

Council Member Santarina

Discussed the Equipment Replacement Fund.

Mayor Dear

Requested to discuss capital projects that could be deferred for one year at the next budget workshop.

Administrative Services General Manager Acosta distributed and discussed the Schedule of Vacant/Unfunded Positions.

RECESS: The City Council was Recessed at 6:57 P.M. by Mayor Dear to allow the City Council to review the Schedule of Unfunded Positions.

RECONVENE: The City Council was Reconvened at 7:06 P.M. by Mayor Dear with all members previously noted present.

The City Council discussed the following items and gave direction to staff:

Office Clerk (City Clerk's Office)
Housing and Neighborhood Development Manager

Requested that staff provide the following information:
Recap how vacancies occurred, e.g., promotion, transfer, retirement, etc.
Denote any connection to the audit by Management Partners

Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves reported that staff would be recommending the removal of vacant, unfunded positions.

Public Comments

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

Referred to the City Manager position and felt that leave redemption should be eliminated.

Upon inquiry, Administrative Services General Manager Acosta clarified the status of leave redemption time for unclassified employees as follows:

- Accrual of 15 hours per month
- Leave redemption suspended for FY 2010-2011 only
- Leave redemption reduced from 200 hours per year to 100 hours per year

Council Member Davis-Holmes reported that top management employees had redeemed \$274,000 during the time that employee furloughs were being discussed by the City Council and should be reviewed.

Upon inquiry, Administrative Services General Manager Acosta referred to the issue of exempt employees and reported that all exempt employees receive pay for whole days without having to work whole days and subsequently confirmed that this was the application for all exempt employees in Carson.

Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves clarified that Administrative Services General Manager Acosta was referring to federal law for exempt. He reported that Carson used time accounting and every employee accounted for his/her ten hours by using work and/or leave time.

(Council Member Davis-Holmes exited the meeting at 7:52 P.M.)

Mayor Dear felt that additional workshops would be needed to consider cost-saving ways and that, perhaps, the new city manager may agree to come in at a lesser salary than paid to former City Manager Groomes.

Interim City Manager/Economic Development General Manager Graves reported that staff was looking at the following concepts: a possible combination of Parks and Recreation and Human Services and requested a sixty-day review period; a separate CIP for the Congresswoman Juanita Millender-McDonald Community Center at Carson and wanted to come back with a recommendation to the City Council; the cost and benefit of increasing the General Fund contribution to the Equipment Replacement Fund; and three deferred capital projects.

(Council Member Davis-Holmes reentered the meeting at 7:55 P.M.)

RECOMMENDATION for the City Council:

1. HOLD the workshop.

ACTION: The City Council held Budget Workshop No. 2.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:00 P.M., by Mayor Dear.

Mayor Jim Dear

ATTEST:

City Clerk Helen Kawagoe