

MINUTES

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on November 21, 2023 at 5:00 P.M.

Present: **Eddie Tejeda, Mayor**
 Paul Barich, Mayor Pro Tempore
 Denise Davis, Council Member
 Jenna Guzman-Lowery, Council Member
 Mario Saucedo, Council Member

Staff: **Charles M. Duggan, Jr., City Manager; Yvette M. Abich Garcia, City Attorney;**
 Jeanne Donaldson, City Clerk; Phillip Doolittle, City Treasurer; Janice McConnell,
 Assistant City Manager; Chris Boatman, Assistant City Manager; Danielle Garcia,
 Management Services/Finance Director; John Harris, Municipal Utilities and
 Engineering Director; Rich Sessler, Fire Chief; Rachel Tolber, Police Chief; Tabitha
 Crocker, Facilities and Community Services Director

Mayor Tejeda called the meeting to order and explained that comments could be presented in-person, via Zoom, via cell phone or landline. He offered the public an opportunity to provide comment on any item on the agenda for the closed session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Coyote Aviation - Seven people, including Eric Paul, Gil and Carol Brown, Brad Evans, Michael Paisner, Dr. Pam Miller and Barry Neumayer voiced their displeasure with the City's treatment of Coyote Aviation, stating they thought it seemed the City was determined to unfairly shutter the local business. They questioned whether Council Members truly supported local businesses when it appeared to them that this was not always the case. They disputed the timeline of events and stated the City should review the facts and ultimately renegotiate the lease. They asked for fair treatment, and an honest and open dialogue.

CLOSED SESSION

Conference with legal counsel: Existing Litigation - Government Code §54956.9(d)(1)
(City Attorney Garcia)

One Case:

a. City of Redlands v. Coyote Aviation, Inc., San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No. LLTVA2200544

Conference with legal counsel: Initiation of Litigation - Government Code §54956.9(d)(4): One (1) Case.

Conference with real property negotiators - Government Code §54956.8
(Assistant City Manager Boatman)

Property: 204 E. Redlands Blvd (APN 0171-071-08-0000); 180 Ninth Street (APN 0171-088-06-0000, APN 0171-088-07-0000)

Agency Negotiators: Charles M. Duggan, City Manager; Christopher Boatman, Assistant City Manager

Negotiating Party: Lance Lenhart, Redlands Community Investment Corporation

Under Negotiation: Terms of payment and price of possible purchase of property by the City

RECONVENE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting reconvened at 6:22 P.M. with an invocation by Council Member Saucedo followed by the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Garcia announced that no reportable action was taken during the closed session.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Pro Tem Barich presented a Proclamation declaring November 25, 2023, as Small Business Saturday to Evan Sanford of Redlands Chamber of Commerce.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Thanks and No Thanks - Dennis Bell thanked Project Manager Ross Wittman for managing the remote callers during all the council meetings and complimented city staff who maintain the downtown area. He criticized Governor Newsom for patting himself on the back for the quick reopening of an LA stretch of the I-10 freeway which was temporarily shut down due to a fire.

Homelessness - Gregory Brittain complained the state of California can't seem to get a handle on solving the homelessness crisis, despite the millions of dollars being thrown at it. He recommended cities across the nation incorporate the tactic used by Governor Newsom to clean up San Francisco's homeless population in preparation for China's President, Xi Jinping. He encouraged cities across the nation to invite dignitaries for a visit, as this would be the most expedient way to clear the streets and make them safe again.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the regular meeting minutes of November 7, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Small Business Saturday Proclamation

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, a Proclamation declaring November 25, 2023 as Small Business Saturday.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Student Commissioner Appointments

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously appointed, by roll call vote, Ryan Chau, Citrus Valley High School, to serve as the student commissioner on the Human Relations Commission for calendar year 2024; appointed Benjamin Daniel Perez, Redlands East Valley High School, to serve as the student commissioner on the Traffic and Parking Commission for calendar year 2024; and appointed Noah Nguyen, Redlands High School, to serve as the student commissioner on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission for calendar year 2024.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Annual Maintenance Payment Dispatch/Records Management System

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, an annual maintenance payment to Motorola Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$103,633 for the Police Department's Spillman Computer Aided Dispatch/Records Management System.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

License Agreement SBCTA Rights-of-Way

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of a License Agreement with San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) for City utilities is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved a License Agreement with San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) for City utilities within SBCTA rights-of-way.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

2023 JAG Grant Award Distribution & Interlocal Agreement

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the Interlocal Agreement between the Town of Apple Valley, the Cities of Adelanto, Barstow, Chino, Colton, Fontana, Hesperia, Highland, Montclair, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, Twentynine Palms, Upland, Victorville, and the County of San Bernardino concerning distribution of the 2023 Justice Assistance Grant Award; and approved an additional appropriation of \$19,851 to the Police Department.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

ABC / Office of Traffic Safety Grant Agreement

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the agreement between the City and the

Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC-OTS) grant concerning the distribution provided by the Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the amount of \$30,000; approved the additional appropriation of \$30,000 in grant funds to the Police Department; and authorized the Chief of Police to sign and execute any agreements concerning the grant.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Agreement for City Park Shade Sail Replacements

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the agreement with R.E. Schultz Construction, Inc. is exempt from the state's California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15301; and approved the non-professional services agreement with R.E. Schultz Construction, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$115,500 for the replacement of shade sails at seven (7) city parks.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

License Agreement City's Corporate Yard Food Truck

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the License Agreement with Juan Morales, "The Dog House", is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15301 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines; and approved the License Agreement with Juan Morales, "The Dog House", for a food truck at the City's Corporate Yard, 1270 W. Park Avenue.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Amend Agreement Redlands Bowl Electrical & Theatrical Lighting Project

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the agreement is exempt from an environmental review pursuant to Section 15061 of the State's CEQA guidelines; and approved the Third Amendment to the Public Works Contract with My Electrician Inc. for the Redlands Bowl Electrical and Theatrical Lighting Upgrade Project to extend the time for completion by sixty (60) calendar days ending January 29, 2024.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

In-Kind Support Redlands Turkey Trot

Facilities and Community Services Director Crocker introduced the request by Phoenix Hope International to hold The Redlands Turkey Trot event on November 23, 2023, within Sylvan Park and the surrounding area, which included street closures and a request for in-kind support in the amount of \$12,649 related to the event. The application states the event proceeds will be

used to further mission goals, which include building schools and health clinics in Guatemala, and half of the event proceeds are donated to Redlands-based charities. In the past, the organization has donated to the Redlands Educational Partnership (REP), YouthHope, and to elementary, middle, and high schools in the Redlands Unified School District. As public comment, Dennis Bell was opposed to granting in-kind support to out-of-state organizations and questioned why the support amount increased 105% from last year's event. Mayor Pro Tem Barich voiced opposition to the request due to the organization's out-of-state status and questioned the benefit to the City. Assistant City Manager Boatman added that organizations requesting in-kind support must show a community benefit to the City in order for the Council to approve.

On motion of Mayor Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the event is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15311(c) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; authorized the closure of E. High Ave., Division St., E. Park Ave., N. University St., Sylvan Blvd., N. Grove St., E. Brockton Ave., and Chapel St.; and authorized the expenditure of city resources and in-kind support in the amount of \$12,649 related to this event.

Vote: 4 - 1 Passed

YMCA Holiday Home Tour Event In-Kind Support

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the in-kind support and temporary street closure is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15311(c) of the state's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; approved the request for in-kind support in the amount of \$1,800 related to this event; and authorized the temporary street closure of Valle Vista Drive, from Rossmont Drive to Sunset Drive for the YMCA Holiday Home Tour event to be held on December 3, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

COMMUNICATIONS

2023 National Community Survey Results

Project Manager Ross Wittman provided a brief report regarding the 2023 National Community Survey (NCS) and introduced Brandon Barnett, of Polco, who presented an overview of the survey results. In order to effectively gauge Redlands residents' continued satisfaction with City services, in August 2023, the City released the 2023 NCS. During the months of August and September, Polco compiled the results into the report, highlighting trends over the three NCS periods, noting areas where the City received positive feedback from Redlands' residents, while also identifying areas where City services can improve.

Mr. Barnett reviewed the procedures for undertaking the survey and listed five key findings: 1) Overall, Redlands residents enjoyed a positive quality of life; 2) Ratings for safety were on the rise, and residents continued to emphasize its importance; 3) There were many positive reviews regarding community design, but residents identified a need for improvement related to the availability of affordable quality housing; 4) Overall economic health of Redlands was rated good

or excellent; 5) Residents showed a renewed appreciation for education, arts, and culture. Special topics were also addressed in the survey, including homelessness and downtown parking and ease of travel in Redlands.

Council Member Saucedo stated the results were good news, indicating city services were running well, but he pointed out there was a need for improvement regarding homelessness, protecting small businesses, code enforcement and sustainability issues. Council Member Guzman-Lowery said the results seemed to line up with email communications she had received, and she saw a need to create more infrastructure throughout the City. Council Member Davis recommended the City continue to focus on promoting transparency and encouraging open government policies. Mayor Pro Tem Barich invited the public to suggest ways in which the City could improve. Mayor Tejeda was pleased with the results.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, to receive and file the presentation on the results of the 2023 National Community Survey (NCS) conducted by Policy Confluence, Inc. dba Polco.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

HELPER Act Letter of Support

Mayor Tejeda briefly reviewed the HELPERS Act which aims to provide favorable mortgage terms and conditions for eligible first responders, including law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and teachers. By establishing a dedicated mortgage insurance program, the bill eliminates the traditional mortgage down payment requirement and monthly mortgage insurance premiums, which can be substantial barriers to homeownership. The legislation has received endorsements from mayors of several California municipalities.

As public comment, Gregory Brittain admitted this program might look good on paper, but he complained the national debt was spiraling out of control, and he urged for more fiscal responsibility. Michael Paisner said there is a need for fiscal responsibility, but he pointed out the source of the nation's debt came mostly from Social Security and Medicare and defense spending and people should keep it all in perspective.

On motion of Council Member Denise Davis, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously authorized, by roll call vote, Mayor Tejeda to sign a letter on behalf of the City of Redlands in support of the HELPER Act (S. 1514 / H.R. 3170).

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

January 2, 2024 City Council Meeting Cancellation

Mayor Tejeda recommended the cancelation of the January 2, 2024, regular meeting of the City Council in light of the holiday closure. The next regular meeting will be held on January 16, 2024.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the cancelation of the January 2, 2024, regular

meeting of the City Council in light of the holiday closure.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

American Rescue Plan Act Progress Report

Grants Coordinator Selena Sanchez provided an overview and progress report of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) program and explained the City received a total allocation of \$11,508,106 of the \$350 billion SLFRF funding through ARPA. ARPA funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and fully expended by December 31, 2026. Staff recommended the reallocation of \$1,857,000 from the Small Business Gift Card Match Program and \$55,000 from the Nonprofits Assistance Program to fund a second round of the Grocery Gift Card Program. Staff further recommended approval of two limited-term, full-time Administrative Assistants I/II positions effective January 8, 2024, for the administrative support and facilitation of the community programs under the American Rescue Plan Act SLFRF allocation. Council Members strongly supported the continuation of the gift card program as it has proven to be an effective way to assist those in need.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the reallocation of \$1,625,000 from the Small Business Gift Card Match Program and \$55,000 from the Nonprofits Assistance Program to fund a second round of the Grocery Gift Card Program; and approved two limited-term, full-time Administrative Assistants I/II positions effective January 8, 2024, for the administrative support and facilitation of the community programs under the American Rescue Plan Act SLFRF allocation and the reallocation of \$232,000 from the Small Business Gift Card Match Program to fund the positions.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Resolution No. 8522 Fee and Service Charge Revenue/Cost Comparison

Mayor Tejada opened the public hearing and called on Management Services/Finance Director Garcia who announced that staff requested the public hearing be continued to a date certain of December 5, 2023 in order to compile more information on the background of the fees, related to Resolution No. 8522.

On motion of Mayor Eddie Tejada, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously agreed, by roll call vote, to continue the public hearing to a date certain of December 5, 2023, to allow for additional time to compile more information on the background of the fees related to Resolution No. 8522, approving the Fee and Service Charge Revenue/Cost Comparison System, establishing the amounts of fees and charges levied In connection with the City's provision of services.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8523 Participation in Statewide Community Infrastructure Program This item was pulled from tonight's agenda. Staff will reschedule the matter for the City Council meeting held on December 5, 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

City Branding

Project Manager Ross Wittman briefly reported on the agreement with Pastilla, Inc for City Branding. He introduced Rudy Manning, of Pastilla who described the branding effort intended to embody Redlands' unique characteristics, strengths, and identity and clearly identify and differentiate Redlands and its inimitable assets, culture, environment, and location within Southern California and California as a whole. Mr. Manning provided background on the company's team, qualifications and experience. The goal of the branding effort was to create an effective and professional brand, giving Redlands a strong and easily identifiable presence in media, marketing, and economic development endeavors.

Pastilla has developed a tried and tested process to create an elevated brand identity, that includes community engagement, identifying the community's values and strengths and building a brand strategy. Anticipated deliverables from the branding initiative include alternative logos, colors, wordmarks, fonts and insignias. Template materials will be developed to create standardized city letterhead, business cards and email signatures. Finally, a brand implementation guide will be created for City staff outlining the standards and rules for the use of the brand. A brief discussion included the difference between city seals versus city logos. The timeline for full completion was anticipated at 6 to 9 months.

Council Members were enthusiastic about the presentation and appreciated the fact that Mr. Manning had attended schools in Redlands. The desire was to create cohesion within the community and give people a consistent message. City Manager Duggan added that the goal was to unify messaging, so the public could easily recognize the city brand. As public comment, Andy Hoder was opposed to spending taxpayer dollars to develop a brand image when there were so many other pressing needs, such as tree trimming and repairing cut stone curbs. Dennis Bell also considered this a waste of money, and he said the City's image can't be changed by simply changing the branding images.

On motion of Mayor Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the agreement with Pastilla, Inc. in the amount of \$82,075 for City Branding.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Police Department Portable Radios Purchase

Police Chief Tolber explained the need for the sole source purchase for 800 MHz APX 6500 and APX 6000 portable radios from Motorola Solutions to replace current aging equipment, in an amount not to exceed \$684,650.96.

On motion of Mayor Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the sole source purchase for 800 MHz APX 6500 and APX

6000 portable radios from Motorola Solutions to replace current aging equipment, in an amount not to exceed \$684,650.96.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Fire Department All-Band Portable Radios Purchase

Fire Chief Sessler reviewed the sole source purchase of 800 MHz APX NEXT XN all-band portable radios from Motorola Solutions to replace current aging equipment, for an amount not to exceed \$805,692.46.

On motion of Mayor Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the sole source purchase of 800 MHz APX NEXT XN all-band portable radios from Motorola Solutions to replace current aging equipment for the Fire Department, in an amount not to exceed \$805,692.46.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8521 New Payment Schedule for Lease Purchase 3 Type I Fire Engines

Fire Chief Sessler provided background of Resolution No. 8521 for a new payment schedule under the existing Master Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement with Holman Capital Corporation, for the lease purchase of three Type I Fire Engines in the total amount of \$3,668,444.93. Per its Fleet Replacement Plan, the Fire Department has identified a critical need for replacing two Type I Fire Engines (Medic Engines 262 and 264). These engines are used as primary means for fire suppression and emergency response. Each of these units are outside the recommended standard for front line service.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8521 authorizing a new Payment Schedule under the existing Master Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement with Holman Capital Corporation, for the lease purchase of three Type I Fire Engines in the total amount of \$3,668,444.93.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Agreement for Citrus Center Security Services

Facilities and Community Services Director Crocker presented the agreement with Universal Protection Service, LP, doing business as Allied Universal Security Services for unarmed security guard services at the Citrus Center in an amount not-to-exceed \$355,206.30 for a period of three years.

On motion of Mayor Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the agreement is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15301 of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved the agreement with Universal Protection Service, LP dba Allied Universal Security Services for unarmed security guard services at the Citrus Center in an amount not to exceed \$355,206.30.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

License Agreement Zanja Trail Construction

Facilities and Community Services Department Director Crocker summarized the License Agreement with Larry Jacinto Construction, Inc. authorizing construction of the Zanja Trail between Church Street and 9th Street and a parking lot serving the Zanja Trail between 7th Street and 9th Street. As public comment, Bruce Laycook asked if there was a cost for the City. Assistant City Manager Boatman clarified a donation was received donating the trail and all the construction for the trail and this agreement authorizes the contractor to perform the work on the property.

On motion of Council Member Mario Saucedo, seconded by Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the License Agreement with Larry Jacinto Construction, Inc. is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act guidelines pursuant to Section 15061; and approved a License Agreement with Larry Jacinto Construction, Inc. for the construction of the Zanja Trail between Church Street and 9th Street and a parking lot serving the Zanja Trails between 7th Street and 9th Street.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Tree Lighting Ceremony at Ed Hales Park - The event was a huge success and attended by Mayor Tejeda, Mayor Pro Tem Barich, and Council Members Davis and Saucedo.

Veterans Day Parade and Ceremony - All the Council Members participated in the parade and activities at Jennie Davis Park.

Mayor Tejeda enjoyed the Salvation Army's Red Kettle cook-off event, met with a mortgage specialist for information related to the HELPER Act, toured District 2 with Police Chief Tolber, and attended an event honoring the many years of pastoral service of Dr. Donald Robinson.

Mayor Pro Tem Barich enjoyed Thanksgiving Tuesday, sponsored by the RPOA, Police Officers Foundation and Stater Bros, where over 300 people were fed a holiday feast at Sylvan Park. He attended the recent Library Board meeting, the Chamber's Rise and Shine meeting and was happy to participate in the 100th anniversary celebration of the Redlands Lawn Bowling club.

Council Member Davis thanked City Manager Duggan for addressing the Youth Council, with 35 students, participated in a parade in Fontana hosted by Assemblymember Eloise Gomez Reyes and enjoyed the Benevolent Fund Bowling event.

Council Member Guzman-Lowery attended the Ark of Safety Community Resiliency Summit, sponsored by Building Resilient Communities. The event showcased safety solutions for the community.

Council Member Saucedo participated in a County level roundtable discussion related to homelessness, and was proud to attend an event hosted by the San Bernardino County Schools

Superintendent, who awarded diplomas to veterans. He thoroughly enjoyed the ribbon cutting event at Lugonia Groves celebrating the replanting of trees as a way to preserve the community's citrus heritage. He added, the grove has been a vital part of the City's legacy.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further action required the meeting adjourned at 8:17 P.M. The next regular meeting of the City of Redlands City Council will be held on December 5, 2023.

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