

MINUTES

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on October 17, 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; Chris Boatman,
 Assistant City Manager; Carl Baker, Public Information Officer; Danielle Garcia,
 Management Services/Finance Director; Brian Desatnik, Development Services
 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

None forthcoming

CLOSED SESSION

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

 a. *Atkinson v. City of Redlands, et al.*, San Bernardino Superior Court, Case No.
 CIVSB2224706

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 Lenhert, 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 6:00 P.M. with an invocation by Mayor Tejeda 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

Proclamation Redlands Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Mayor Pro Tem Barich presented a Proclamation in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Redlands California Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to Henk Fischer, President of the Redlands Stake, and Stephen Tyler.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Renaming Redlands Theatre Festival - Paul Blatchley again urged the Council to consider renaming the Avice Meeker Sewall Theatre in honor of Cliff Cabanilla, who provided the vision, tenacity and leadership to establish a repertory theatrical organization bringing 51 years of entertainment to the lush surroundings of Prospect Park.

Drag Show - Joshua Hall, Pastor Heather Holley Baeumel, and Dale Broome, M.D. raised concerns related to an upcoming event, sponsored by Stronger Together Now, celebrating Hispanic and Latino culture at Ed Hales Park. They said the program advertised a 15-minute drag queen show in the afternoon, and they strongly opposed this performance, thought the segment should be cancelled and said it was not appropriate for young children. Kenneth Ford supported the La Mas event and said it was important to show compassion rather than hatred when talking about different lifestyles.

Voter Registration - Peter Hall said he thought that a large number of people were falsely registered to vote in Redlands.

Various Concerns - Dennis Bell expressed frustration related to the Arrow Train and noted this month marks the one-year anniversary. He questioned why no one seemed to be using the service and thought the official ridership numbers were high. He wasn't impressed with the building at 300 E State Street slated as the new city hall, and said it was outdated.

Step Up in Redlands - Bradley Williams thanked the Council for converting the Good Nite Inn to house the City's homeless community but was worried about the recent default notices served on the property owners and the \$2 million in liens filed. He asked if the City had a contingency plan if financial woes continued to plague the owners.

Assistance for Those in Need - Paul Martinez wondered if there were resources to assist those in need and especially for those who may not be homeless but still very much in need of help.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the regular meeting minutes of October 3, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Proclamation 20-year Anniversary of Redlands LDS Temple

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the issuance of a proclamation celebrating the 20-year anniversary of the dedication of the Redlands California Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8519 Classifying Food Waste Processing

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that the proposed action is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act; and adopted Resolution No. 8519 approving Commission Determination No. 65, seeking classification of food waste processing as a permitted use at existing composting recycling facilities in the Agricultural (A-1-20) zoning district, including the specific facility at 13024 San Timoteo Canyon Road (APN: 0294-071-01-0000).

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Environmental Site Assessment Services Alabama Street Septage Disposal Ponds

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc. is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved the Agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc. for environmental site assessment services at the Alabama Street Septage Disposal Ponds for an amount not-to-exceed \$132,900.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Amend Agreement for Environmental Document Sunset Reservoir Site

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Chambers Group, Inc. for the preparation of an environmental document is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved the First

Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Chambers Group, Inc. to extend the contract termination date to March 29, 2024 for the preparation of an environmental document for the Sunset Reservoir site.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

PMP 2022 Street Resurfacing Project Time Extension

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the First Amendment to the Public Works Contract with Matich Corporation for the PMP 2022 Street Resurfacing Project to extend the time for completion by sixty-five (65) calendar days to December 16, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

2022 CIP Water Pipeline Replacement Project Time Extension

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the First Amendment to the Public Works Contract with Tryco General Engineering for the 2022 CIP Water Pipeline Replacement Project to extend the time for completion by sixty (60) calendar days ending December 13, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Kiwanis Christmas Parade In-Kind Support

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the request for the event related to the Kiwanis Christmas Parade hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Redlands is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15311 of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; authorized and approved a request for in-kind support in the amount of \$22,671; and authorized the temporary closure of East Citrus Avenue, 8th Street, Orange Street, Eureka Street, West State Street, and Brookside Avenue, on December 2, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Revel Big Bear Marathon Event

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the request for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages and temporary closure of East San Bernardino Avenue from Dearborn Street to Wabash Avenue during the Revel Big Bear Marathon is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15311 of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and authorized the temporary closure of East San Bernardino Avenue from Dearborn Street to Wabash Avenue and the request for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages during the Revel Big Bear Marathon to be held on November 18, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Veterans Day Celebration Event In-Kind Support

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the request for the event in Jennie Davis Park for the Redlands Veterans Day Celebration is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15311 of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; authorized and approved a request for in-kind support in the amount of \$18,266 relating to this event; authorized the temporary closure of E. Citrus Ave., Eureka St., W. State St., Center St., and Redlands Blvd., on November 11, 2023; and approved the request for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages in Jennie Davis Park during the Redlands Veterans Day Celebration to be held on November 11, 2023.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Shade Sail Replacements at City Parks Staff requested this item be pulled from tonight's agenda. The item will be re-agendized for the City Council meeting scheduled for November 7, 2023.

COMMUNICATIONS

San Bernardino Community College District

City Manager Duggan introduced Chancellor Diana Rodriguez of the San Bernardino Community College District, who provided a presentation regarding the colleges' impact on the community. Their mission is to open doors of opportunity for all and to educate, inform and inspire the Inland Empire through various ways, such as KVCR, PBS, NPR, Inland Edition and FNX (First Nations Experiences). She offered statistics about who they are, who they serve and she described the inherent value and affordability factor when you compare costs of higher education and career training with traditional 4-year colleges. The District encourages student community service and has big future plans to offer more local career training.

Broadband Improvement Update

Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director Harris explained that on August 22, 2023, the City Council reviewed projects and program priorities. That discussion resulted in a list that identified seven primary priorities, one of which was Broadband improvement in underserved areas of the City. He summarized research regarding broadband coverage and whether potential improvements could be made. He defined different ways in which data is transmitted, such as fiber optics, wireless and cable and satellite. He showed maps that reflected the City's coverage, indicating that fixed broadband is available through several providers throughout the entire city with monthly prices from \$50 to \$150 depending on data transfer speed. He identified underserved areas to show that most of those are either outside the city limits, orange groves/open space areas, or undeveloped tracts. In summary, he said the City is extremely well covered at this time. He added he may have additional information to bring to the Council in the future regarding topics, such as possible funding opportunities. Council Member Guzman-Lowery thanked him for the informative report.

League of California Cities Annual Conference Report

Council Member Davis reported on her attendance at the 2023 League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo event held in Sacramento and said it was her pleasure to represent the City on Thursday, September 21. She found the Keynote Address with Brandon Fleming very inspirational. Other courses she enjoyed included: "Stop Hate: How Local Elected Officials Can Combat Rising Hate Crimes and Hate Speech; LGBTQ Caucus and was happy to announce she was elected to the Board; Building Relationships Between Police Departments and the Community; and Women's Caucus Reception. Overall, she said it was a great day.

Council Policy to Add Items to Agenda

Council Member Davis opened the discussion to consider establishing a policy for council members to add items to future City Council meeting agendas and reminded everyone this item was continued from the September 19, 2023 meeting, in order to provide additional policy details relating to the City of Corona. While the City of Corona has no written policy, if a Council Member wants an item on the agenda, they complete a form, submit it to the city manager, and it is added to a list of future agenda items on the council agenda. Her intent was not to create something overly restrictive, but more as an opportunity to practice good governance and be a useful tool for staff. A Council Member would complete five questions, as seen in the staff report, and submit the form prior to the Council meeting in which the agenda item was being requested.

Each Council Member provided their thoughts and perspectives with Mayor Tejeda and Council Member Saucedo stating they were comfortable with the current system for agendaing items and didn't see the need to change the process. Council Member Guzman-Lowery wanted to avoid putting more work on staff, but she recognized that submitting a form in advance could benefit everyone as they go about preparing future agendas. Mayor Pro Tem Barich was not convinced the new process was practical and thought the form might actually discourage members from submitting their requests. He questioned why a proposed item was required to be tied to the City's Strategic Plan. Council Member Davis requested a sub-committee be formed to review and analyze the proposed process. As public comment, Valerie Taber and Jennifer Maravillas supported the proposed change and thought the form would promote transparency and would help to explain why an item was added to an agenda. Andy Hoder stated that agenda items should be brought forward as a way to benefit the whole community, not one individual.

On motion of Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council approved, by roll call vote, to form a City Council subcommittee to develop a policy to add items to future City Council meeting agendas and appointed Mayor Pro Tem Barich and Council Member Davis to serve on the subcommittee and report back to their colleagues in the future.

Vote: 3 - 2 Passed

NEW BUSINESS

Purchase and Sale Agreement Downtown Parking Lots

Assistant City Manager Boatman provided background of the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Redlands Community Investment Corporation for the acquisition of downtown parcels currently utilized as two separate parking lots. Redlands Community Investment

Corporation owns the two parking lots, with one located on the southeast corner of 6th Street and Redlands Boulevard and consists of 28 spaces. Currently, the lot is leased out to adjacent businesses and is used for employee and customer parking. The second lot is located on the southwest corner of 9th Street and State Street and consists of 17 spaces. This lot is partially rented by Taco Shack and is utilized by customers. In total, these lots consist of a combined 45 spaces. The Planning Commission evaluated the proposed purchase for General Plan conformity and found that the purchase would be in conformance with the General Plan and was consistent with General Plan Policies.

The City has initiated the PSA, with the intent of ensuring these lots remain as parking in perpetuity and to make them available to the public. Funding will be allocated from the General Fund Parking Reserve. As public comment, Andy Hoder thought this purchase was a step in the right direction as a way for the City to address the parking needs of the downtown area.

On motion of Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Redlands Community Investment Corporation is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; approved the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Redlands Community Investment Corporation for the acquisition of Assessor's Parcel Numbers 0171-071-08-0000, 0171-088-06-0000, and 0171-088-07-0000 in the amount of \$750,000; and approved the additional appropriation in the amount of \$750,000.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

Amending Sports Field Maintenance Agreement

Facilities and Community Services Department Director Crocker reviewed the First Amendment to the Non-Professional Services Agreement with Mariposa Landscapes, Inc., for an increase of \$73,484.46 over the remaining two years of the agreement for a total contract amount of \$999,458.84, for sports field maintenance. The original Agreement included Orangewood High School baseball fields and Clement Middle School football fields, which will be removed with this amendment, and the Redlands Sports Complex will be added to the contract for \$9,979.17 per month. The parks division budget has sufficient funding for this amendment as approved by City Council during the fiscal year 2023-2024. Council Member Saucedo requested staff explore ways the City could make needed improvements to the RUSD fields, such as replacing backstops and old netting. Assistant City Manager Boatman and Director Crocker pointed out this agreement with Mariposa Landscapes covered turf maintenance and not field enhancements, but that staff would pursue discussions with RUSD to work out a way for improvements to be made.

On motion of Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the First Amendment is categorically exempt from environmental review in accordance with Section 15301 of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; and approved the First Amendment to the Mariposa Landscapes Inc. agreement, fnc., for an increase of \$73,484.46 over the remaining two years of the agreement for a total contract amount of \$999,458.84, for sports field maintenance.

Vote: 5 - 0 Passed

COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Fire Department Open House - All Council Members attended the open house and expressed their appreciation of such a great day.

Mayor Tejeda attended the Lighthouse for the Blind annual car show and chili cook-off event, Coptober, the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and spoke with members of the Northside Impact Committee regarding concerns they had about the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Barich enjoyed the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Community Senior Center in celebration of the recent renovations, attended the SBCTA meeting, as well as the Oktoberfest and Coptober events. He enjoyed the Redlands Conversancy fundraising dinner on October 7, and thanked City Manager Duggan for speaking at the Optimist Club meeting.

Council Member Davis participated in the Clergy Appreciation Luncheon at Redlands Community Hospital, the State of Black Inland Empire, hosted by Assembly Member Corey Jackson, "Vintage Johnson" event at the University of Redlands, and on October 11, she hosted 35 students for the start of a third year of the Redlands Youth Council. Lastly, she attended the California Forward Economic Summit held in Indian Wells.

Council Member Guzman-Lowery invited everyone to join the fun with the Chamber of Commerce Dog Jog event on Sunday, October 22.

Council Member Saucedo enjoyed the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Community Senior Center in celebration of the recent renovations, attended the Coptober event, participated in the AK Smiley Public Library Family Day, the Tailgate with a Cop event and with the Common Vision Coalition, he was a part of the Redlands Hispanic Heritage Celebration event held at the University of Redlands.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further action required the meeting adjourned at 7:41 P.M. The next regular meeting of the City of Redlands City Council will be held on November 7, 2023.

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