

# MINUTES

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Redlands held in the Council Chambers, Civic Center, 35 Cajon Street, on April 15, 2025 at 5:00 P.M.

Present: Mario Saucedo, Mayor  
Marc Shaw, Mayor Pro Tempore  
Paul Barich, Council Member  
Eddie Tejeda, Council Member  
Denise Davis, Council Member

Staff: Charles M. Duggan, Jr., City Manager; Yvette M. Abich Garcia, City Attorney; Jeanne Donaldson, City Clerk; 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; Robert Meteau, HR/Risk Management Director

Mayor Saucedo 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

Claim Against the City - Steve Rogers asked about the timing of the claim submitted by Travis Martinez and urged the Council to use a law firm other than Best Best & Krieger LLP on this matter.

## CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNCIL- ANTICIPATED LITIGATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 54956.9(d)(2) and (e)(3): A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the legislative body of the local agency on the advice of its legal counsel, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the local agency, based on the receipt of a government claim from claimant Travis Martinez threatening litigation (copy available for public inspection in City Clerk's Office).

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

One Case:

- a. California Department of Housing and Community Development v. Shangri-la Industries, LLC, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court, Case No. 24STCV00629

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

|                     |                                                                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Property:           | APN 0292-063-38-0000                                                         |
| Agency Negotiators: | Charles M. Duggan, City Manager; Christopher Boatman, Assistant City Manager |
| Negotiating Party:  | Seth Davis; Managing Director, Arix Capital                                  |
| Under Negotiation:  | Terms of payment and price for possible purchase of property by the City.    |

Conference with real property negotiators - Government Code §54956.8  
(Facilities and Community Services Director Crocker)

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Property:           | 0168031120000, 0168031100000, 0168031080000, 0291201110000, 0291201170000, 0168041190000, 0168041250000, 0168041490000, 0168041600000, 0291201060000, 0291201050000, 0291201040000, 0291201030000, 0168041210000, 0168311080000, 0297111050000, 029711107000 |
| Agency Negotiators: | Charles M. Duggan, City Manager; Tabitha Crocker, Facilities and Community Services Director                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Negotiating Party:  | San Bernardino County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Under Negotiation:  | Terms of property transfer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

RECONVENE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting reconvened at 6:35 P.M. with an invocation by Mayor Saucedo followed by the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Garcia announced Item No. C.1. - The City Council approved a settlement agreement and release of all claims between the City of Redlands and Travis Martinez pursuant to the following material terms: 1-Martinez shall file the required application for retirement within 10 days of the effective date of the settlement agreement; 2-City shall pay Martinez the sum of \$871,956 plus the payout of accrued leave time and other accruals within 30 days of the effective date of the settlement agreement; 3-Within 30 days from the effective date of the settlement agreement City shall: 1) issue a retiree "flat badge"; 2) return to Martinez personal property in the department and retrieve personal photos and contacts from his city-issued cell phone; 3) make Martinez' personnel file available for his review; and 4-City and Martinez shall release each other for any and all current and future claims each may have against the other.

Once fully executed, the agreement will be on file with the City Clerk's Office. The motion to approve the settlement agreement and release of all claim was made by Council Member Davis seconded by Council Member Tejeda and passed as follows: YES: Tejeda, Saucedo and Davis; NO: Shaw and Barich; Absent: None

City Attorney Garcia added there was no reportable action taken on Items C.2.; C.3.; and C.4.

PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation National Donate Life Month

Mayor Saucedo presented a Proclamation declaring the month of April 2025 as National Donate Life Month to John Vancampen, One Legacy Ambassador.

Sister Cities Gift Presentation

Roy Cencirulo, Redlands Sister Cities Board President, thanked the City for their support of the Sister Cities program and pointed out that the Redlands relationship with Hino, Japan, dated back to 1963. Mr. Cencirulo, fellow Board Members, and several students and chaperons who recently visited Hino, presented a lovely vase to Mayor Saucedo and the Council. They shared stories of their experiences and were grateful for the City's partnership.

PUBLIC COMMENT

In Honor of Officer Seth Franklin - Redlands Police Officers Association President Jeff Frisch spoke to the sadness felt by so many at the loss of Police Officer Seth Franklin. He pointed out Officer Franklin's requests for presumptive work-related injuries had been denied, and he urged the City to reconsider, as his young family had been left with no income or health benefits.

Bicycle Classic - Dennis Bell took an unofficial head count of Bicycle Classic attendees a few different times throughout the weekend, and he said he could not come close to the 35,000–45,000 projected attendees as presented by the event organizers. He came up with about 1,200 people during the women's race on Saturday and about 300 people for the Sunday afternoon races. He wondered why the prize amounts were much lower than in past years.

Bike Safety & Traffic Enforcement - SD2 complained that the bike lanes near Redlands High School are often blocked by cars and are unsafe for cyclists. He said he had reported this, but he claimed the Police Department had not been responsive to his requests to enforce parking violations.

Claim Against the City - Steve Rogers raised questions regarding the Closed Session Report, announcing the Council had approved a settlement agreement with Travis Martinez. He restated his concerns about the City's choice to use Best Best & Krieger LLP, and he said there appeared to be a conflict of interest.

Opposition to Political Violence - Gregory Brittain said that incidences of political violence were increasing and, as an example, he described how recently someone had spray-painted a swastika on a local church, and it appeared to be politically motivated. He pushed the Council to officially condemn all violence.

Condemn Acts of Hatred - Michael Paisner put forth that one act of hate does not justify another act of hate, and he added that all acts of hatred should be condemned.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

### Minutes

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the regular meeting minutes April 1, 2025.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

### Proclamation National Donate Life Month

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the issuance of a proclamation declaring the month of April, 2025 as National Donate Life Month.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

### Proclamation May 1, 2025, National Day of Prayer

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the issuance of a proclamation declaring May 1,

2025, as National Day of Prayer in the City of Redlands.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8680 City Council Member Reference Handbook

City Manager Duggan provided background on Resolution No. 8680 and the establishment of the proposed City Council Member Reference Handbook, which was intended to serve as an orientation tool for new City Council members and as a reference manual. The Handbook is a collection of City Council practices, policies and ordinances relevant to the roles and responsibilities of City Council members, as well as state laws pertaining to legislative bodies and elected officials, such as the Ralph M. Brown Act and the Political Reform Act of 1974. The Handbook is an evolving document, and may be amended as needed. As public comment, Steve Rogers was disappointed that a 'code of conduct' was not included in the Handbook. He thought the document was lacking in other areas, as well, and suggested the handbook should have included steps by which the public could file a formal complaint.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously adopted, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8680 approving the City Council Member Reference Handbook.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

Resolution No. 8678 CUP No. 1107 Time Extension

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8678, authorizing a one-year time extension to the expiration date of Conditional Use Permit No. 1107 and associated entitlements for the adaptive reuse of a historic single-family residence as a medical clinic and pediatrician's office. The project site is located at 1605 Calvary Circle (APN: 0293-133-13-0000).

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

Terminate Agreement/Reject All Bids for WWTP Secondary Clarifier Rehab Project

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the termination of the Non-Professional Services Agreement with Clean Infusion, LLC for cause, rejected all bids for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation Project (Bid #20240923-FM), and directed staff to solicit new bids for the project.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

Temporary Street Closure for U of R Commencement

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that authorization for the items associated with the University of Redlands commencement ceremony on April 25, 2025 are exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15311(c) of the State's guidelines implementing the California

Environmental Quality Act; and approved the temporary street closure of E. Brockton Ave from University Street to Grove Street on April 25, 2025, for the University of Redlands commencement ceremony.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

#### In-Kind Support Redlands Festival of Arts

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that authorization for the items associated with the Redlands Festival of Arts to be held on Saturday, May 24, and Sunday, May 25, 2025, are exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15311(c) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; authorized and approved the expenditure of city resources and in-kind support in the amount of \$7,587, the temporary street closures, and the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages during the Redlands Festival of Arts to be held on Saturday, May 24 and Sunday, May 25, 2025.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

#### In-Kind Support Redlands Firefighter's Car Show Event

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that authorization for the items associated with the Redlands Firefighter Car Show are exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15311(c) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; authorized and approved the temporary street closures, expenditure of city resources and in-kind support in the amount of \$16,507, and the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages relating to the Firefighter Car Show Event on May 25, 2025.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### Charter Review of City's Commissions, Boards and Committees

Mayor Pro Tem Shaw opened the discussion to consider the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee of the City Council to review all charters for the City's Commissions, Boards and Committees. The goal is to increase and improve consistency across the various Commissions, Boards and Committees of the City. The Ad Hoc Committee, comprised of two Council members, will review the charters and make recommendations to the Council in approximately 60 days (Regular Meeting of June 17, 2025) on any proposed language amendments. The Committee will not be subject to the Brown Act as it will be limited in scope and duration and once the work has been finalized, the Ad Hoc Committee will automatically dissolve.

As public comment, Steve Rogers saw the value in a review of the City's commissions and boards, but urged the Council to review and examine the City Council itself. He added he disliked the move to district representation and preferred a separate office of the mayor, giving the final choice to the voters to select a mayor, and he supported a hybrid voting system, offering voters the ability to vote across districts.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee of the City Council to review all charters for the City's Commissions, Boards and Committees; and appointed Mayor Pro Tem Shaw and Council Member Barich to the Ad Hoc Committee.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

## NEW BUSINESS

### Safety Hall Facility Design & Construction Management Services

Assistant City Manager Boatman reviewed the First Amendment to a Professional Services Agreement with Holt Architects, Inc. for design and construction management services of the City's new Safety Hall Facility and explained the need to increase the total agreement to an amount not to exceed \$4,537,563.

The initial contract, approved in February 2023, included space planning, design drawings, and construction drawings. This amendment represents the entirety of the contract and reflects the full scope of the project now that the space planning and design are complete. As the fee schedule for the design and construction management services is based on a percentage of the total project budget, an amendment to the agreement is required. To contribute to the success of this project, Holt Architects has reduced the standard service fee from 5.79% to 4.25%. As public comment, Steve Rogers questioned whether this project would ever be completed, and he thought the public would suffer because the City was not properly utilizing licensed engineers to act as project manager.

On motion of Mayor Pro Tempore Marc Shaw, seconded by Council Member Eddie Tejeda, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the First Amendment to a Professional Services Agreement with Holt Architects, Inc. for design and construction management services of the City's new Safety Hall Facility to increase the total agreement to an amount not to exceed \$4,537,563; and approved an additional appropriation in the amount of \$2,302,563 from the General Fund Reserve for Future Facilities.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

### Ordinance No. 2981 & Resolution No. 8674 Selecting/Appointing Planning Commissioners

Development Services Director Desatnik presented Ordinance No. 2981, amending Section 2.36.020 of the Redlands Municipal Code relating to the appointment of members of the Planning Commission and Resolution No. 8674 establishing procedures for the selection of Planning Commissioners. An ad-hoc subcommittee of the City Council was formed in March 2025, to review and interview applicants and then make recommendations for appointments to the full City Council. The ordinance will require that the terms of Planning Commissioners be staggered such that two or three Commission terms terminate every two years. The resolution establishes procedures for the selection process, and includes criteria to be considered in the review of applications, to provide for a variety and diversity of backgrounds. It also discusses training that new Commissioners should complete as they start their service on the Commission.

On motion of Mayor Mario Saucedo, seconded by Council Member Eddie Tejeda, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the introduction of Ordinance No. 2981, amending Section 2.36.020 of the Redlands Municipal Code relating to the appointment of members of the Planning Commission; and adopted Resolution No. 8674, establishing procedures for the selection of Planning Commissioners; and determined that the Ordinance and Resolution are exempt pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15378(b)(5) of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Solid Waste Collection Vehicles Purchase

Facilities and Community Services Director Crocker reported on the request to purchase and replace two solid waste collection vehicles from Rush Truck Centers in an amount not to exceed \$968,279.76. She pointed out the City's inventory of solid waste vehicles does not include any vehicles powered by diesel and instead, are powered by CNG or LNG.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, the purchase and replacement of two solid waste collection vehicles from Rush Truck Centers in an amount not to exceed \$968,279.76.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Resolution No. 8677 Exempt Surplus Land

Assistant City Manager Boatman presented Resolution No. 8677, declaring that certain real property located at 304 9th Street, Redlands, comprising approximately .48 acres (APN: 0169-321-03-0000) is exempt surplus land. The City desires to transfer interest in the property to Redlands Unified School District. Adoption of the Resolution would declare the city-owned Property as exempt surplus land and the City must submit the adopted resolution to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) at least 30 days prior to disposal so that HCD can review the exemption declaration.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously adopted, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8677, pursuant to Government Code Section 54221 declaring that certain real property located at 304 9th Street, Redlands, CA 92373 (APN: 0169-321-03-0000) is exempt surplus land; and determined that such declaration is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15060(c)(3) under the California Environmental Quality Act.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Resolution No. 8679 Redlands Personnel Rules and Regulations

Human Resources Manager Kisha McDonald reviewed Resolution No. 8679 approving the City of Redlands Personnel Rules and Regulations. The City's Personnel Rules and Regulations were last revised in September 2021. Since that time, changes to labor laws have required updates to ensure compliance and address the evolving needs of the workplace, and it is essential that the City's policies remain up to date, providing clear guidance to employees and management while ensuring alignment with best practices and legal standards. Mayor Pro Tem Shaw and Council Member Barich raised questions surrounding the section related to nepotism, and it was suggested that the current practice was possibly a hindrance to the recruitment and retention of employees. Council Members agreed the section should be reviewed again.

On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously agreed, by roll call vote, to table Resolution No. 8679 indefinitely, to allow staff time to review the section regarding nepotism, and develop new language and guidelines that would allow family members to work within the same department.

**Vote:** 5 - 0 Passed

#### Contract Award A.K. Smiley Library Lower Level Revive Project

A.K. Smiley Library Director McCue provided background on the Public Work Construction Contract with Liftech Elevator Services for the A.K. Smiley Library Lower Level Revive, Phase 1 project. This project is grant-funded and included in the current Library Budget. The total project cost will be \$276,100 (\$251,000 plus 10% contingency). Council Member Barich was pleased this project was moving forward as it will provide everyone with the ability to access all areas of the library.



On motion of Council Member Paul Barich, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of the contract and construction of the A.K. Smiley Lower Level Revive, Phase 1 Project is categorically exempt from environmental review in accordance with Section 15301 of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; approved the A.K. Smiley Lower Level Revive, Phase 1 Project; and awarded a Public Work Contract to Liftech Elevator Services for an amount not-to-exceed \$251,000.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

#### Resolution No. 8676 Business License Amnesty & Compliance Program

Sr. Customer Service Account Specialist Ashley Deem-Sepulveda highlighted the key objectives of Resolution No. 8676, to establish a Business License Amnesty and Compliance Program. An audit conducted by Hinderliter De Llamas & Associates (HdL) suggested that hundreds of businesses within the City of Redlands may be operating without a business license. The proposed Amnesty and Compliance Program seeks to create a more business-friendly environment while improving compliance with the City's business licensing requirements. As public comment, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Evan Sanford announced the Chamber supported this item as it promotes fairness and equity and holds everyone to the same standard. They will assist the City in identifying businesses that may be out of compliance and encourage them to take advantage of the 6-month amnesty program.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously approved, by roll call vote, Resolution No. 8676, establishing a Business License Amnesty and Compliance Program.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

#### Contract Award WWTP Improvement Phase 2 Project

Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director Harris explained the need for a non-competitive Professional Services Agreement with Parsons Water & Infrastructure, Inc. for construction plan consolidation and bid support services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Phase 2 Project. In anticipation of approval of a \$45,000,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan to construct this Project, additional support services are required by Parsons, the Project Engineer of Record. MUED staff and Parsons developed a scope of services for construction plan consolidation and bid support services and negotiated a service fee not-to-exceed \$694,473. As public comment, Steve Rogers criticized the effort as piecemeal and said a full EIR should have been conducted. Director Harris clarified that the project underwent a full CEQA review, with the state's approval.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Denise Davis, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval a Professional Services Agreement with Parsons Water & Infrastructure, Inc. for construction plan consolidation and bid support services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Phase 2 Project is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the State's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act; approved an additional appropriation of \$444,473 from the Wastewater Fund; and approved a non-competitive Professional Services Agreement with Parsons Water & Infrastructure, Inc. for an amount not-to-exceed \$694,473.

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

#### Sunset Reservoir Replacement Project Agreement

Municipal Utilities and Engineering Director Harris presented a Professional Services Agreement with Richard Brady & Associates, Inc. for the Engineering phase of the Sunset Reservoir Replacement Project, and the request for an additional appropriation of \$1,305,910 from the Water Fund (501). He described the project as a high need. The Sunset Reservoir is a 3.0 MG above-ground riveted steel potable water reservoir originally constructed in 1967, which serves the 2,340 pressure zone and does not meet current seismic resistivity standards.

On motion of Council Member Eddie Tejeda, seconded by Council Member Paul Barich, the City Council unanimously determined, by roll call vote, that approval of a Professional Services Agreement with Richard Brady & Associates, Inc. for the Engineering phase of the Sunset Reservoir Replacement Project 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 \$1,305,910 Professional Services Agreement with Richard Brady & Associates, Inc. and an additional appropriation of \$1,305,910 from the Water Fund (501).

**Vote: 5 - 0 Passed**

#### COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Celebration of Life - Several Council Members attended the Celebration of Life held at Wildwood Calvary Chapel Church, in honor of Police Officer Seth Franklin, who passed away on April 6, 2025.

Redlands Bicycle Classic Event - Several Council Members attended the 40th Annual Bicycle Classic. The event was enjoyed by all and brought thousands together for another successful year.

RPOA Go Fund Me - Mayor Saucedo and Council Member Barich asked Jeff Frisch to offer the details of the RPOA Go Fund Me page where anyone can make a donation in honor of Officer Seth Franklin.

Mayor Saucedo suggested Council Members may choose to submit their recent activities/reports to the City Clerk in a written format. City Manager Duggan pointed out this could be incorporated as a written policy, but should be agendaized and discussed at a future meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Shaw reminded everyone to keep Officer Seth Franklin's family, including his wife, two young sons, his parents and siblings in their thoughts and prayers.

Council Member Barich attended the Library Board meeting.

Council Member Tejeda and Council Member Davis requested the City consider revising language in the Redlands Police Officers Association's Memorandum of Understanding related to healthcare benefits and, as a starting point, Council may want to review the proposal made a few years ago by the Redlands Professional Firefighter's Association. The Council agreed the matter should be agendaized for a proper discussion.

Council Member Davis proudly participated in the procession honoring Police Officer Seth Franklin, and she attended the Omnitrans meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Shaw adjourned the meeting at 8:20 in honor of Redlands Police Officer Seth Franklin, Badge No. 4888, End of Watch April 6, 2025. Officer Franklin served this community with dedication and selflessness. He will be remembered as a loving servant to his family and friends and anyone who met him. The next regular meeting of the City of Redlands City Council will be held on May 6, 2025.