REGULAR MEETING of the CITY OF RIALTO

CITY COUNCIL

City of Rialto, acting as Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency

MINUTES Tuesday, June 27, 2023

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Rialto was held in the City Council Chambers located at 150 South Palm Avenue, Rialto, California 92376 on Tuesday, June 27, 2023.

000

This meeting was called by the presiding officer of the Rialto City Council in accordance with the provisions of **Government Code §54956** of the State of California.

000

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robertson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

000

The roll was called, and the following were present: Mayor Deborah Robertson, Mayor Pro Tem Andy Carrizales, Council Member Ed Scott, and Council Member Joe Baca.

Also, present were Acting City Manager Arron Brown, City Attorney Eric Vail, and City Clerk Barbara McGee.

City Treasurer Edward Carrillo was absent.

000

CLOSED SESSION

 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)

Number of matters: Two (2) Matters

- (1) Gerald Thomas v. City of Rialto et al., USDC Case No. 5:22-cv-01743-SSS-SHK
- (2) Esteban Hernandez v. City of Rialto et al., USDC Case No. 5:22-cv-01807-SSS-SP

CLOSED SESSION

2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6 Labor Negotiator: Arron Brown, Shama Curian Employee Organizations:

- Executive Management Team
- Management Unrepresented Employees
- Rialto City Employee's Association (RCEA)
- Rialto Mid-Management & Confidential Employee's Association (RMMA)
- Rialto Fire Management Association (RFMA)
- Rialto Police Benefit Association Management
- Rialto Police Benefit Association General
- Rialto Professional Firefighters of California Local 3688
- Unrepresented Employees
- 3. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b)

One (1) position:

Title: Acting / Interim / City Manager

000

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales, and second by Council Member Trujillo and carried by a 5-0 vote to go into Closed Session at 5:02 p.m.

000

The City Council returned from Closed Session at 6:45 p.m.

000

CALL TO ORDERMayor Robertson called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

000

OPEN SESSION

The roll was called, and the following were present: Mayor Deborah Robertson, Mayor Pro Tem Andy Carrizales, Council Member Ed Scott, Council Member Rafael Trujillo, and Council Member Joe Baca. Also, present were Acting City Manager Arron Brown, City Attorney Eric Vail, and City Clerk Barbara McGee.

City Treasurer Edward Carrillo was absent.

000

Council Member Joe Baca led the pledge of allegiance.

000

Pastor Victor Lopez – Calvary Chapel Rialto.

000

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

City Attorney's Report on Closed Session

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)

Number of matters: Two (2) Matters

- (1) Gerald Thomas v. City of Rialto et al., USDC Case No. 5:22-cv-01743-SSS-SHK
- (2) Esteban Hernandez v. City of Rialto et al., USDC Case No. 5:22-cv-01807-SSS-SP

Special Counsel gave a report, City Council gave direction and concluded session. There is no reportable action.

2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6 Labor Negotiator: Arron Brown, Shama Curian Employee Organizations:

- Executive Management Team
- Management Unrepresented Employees
- Rialto City Employee's Association (RCEA)
- Rialto Mid-Management & Confidential Employee's Association (RMMA)
- Rialto Fire Management Association (RFMA)
- Rialto Police Benefit Association Management
- Rialto Police Benefit Association General
- Rialto Professional Firefighters of California Local 3688
- Unrepresented Employees

The City Council had an initial session with the labor negotiator. Item will continue at a future date. No reportable action.

3. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b) One (1) position:

Title: Acting / Interim / City Manager

The City Council had a discussion on the Item. Session was concluded. It is anticipated Item will return at a future date.

PRESENTATION AND PROCLAMATIONS

- San Bernardino County Supervisor Joe Baca Jr. Check presentation to the City of Rialto for \$1.6 million dollars
- 2. Presentation by C.A.S.A. of San Bernardino County Diane Smyers, Donor Relations Manager
- 3. Fireworks Safety Presentation Rialto Fire Department and Rialto Police
- 4. National Parks and Recreation Month Cynthia Alvarado, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services
- 5. Juneteenth Jam Celebration Update Vickie Davis

000

Lawrence Jenkins addressed the City Council and ask how a resident can help with the fireworks matter.

000

Mayor Robertson stated she would take executive privileges based on the City Resolution No. 6773 related to meeting conduct.

I am going to take this opportunity as a Presiding Officer, because I know there are people here to speak on a number of things. This past week, something was brought to our attention, and it's covered under our Resolution when a person asks or writes into our City about a written correspondence. When they write in about a written correspondence, per our Resolution, and it doesn't change, written correspondences, under the proceeding and procedures, should be always brought to the City Council.

This past week, I made a request to add something to the agenda. Under our resolution, I made the request because a citizen had written a written correspondence to us, on the 15th of June, which was acknowledged, we received it. Then on the 22nd of June, it was also acknowledged. I said to the Acting City Manager, I wanted to have this Item put on the agenda. The Acting City Manager wrote back and said that he needed to refer it to our Counsel. So I wanted to bring this up.

We seem to be operating without realizing we have Resolutions and rules. When I made that request, in our Resolution it says, under Agenda: Preparation of the Agenda: "An agenda shall be prepared for each regular meeting containing specific items of business to be transacted and the order thereof. Items of business may be placed on the agenda by any Council Member," -- I'm included – "the City Administrator, or the City Attorney. Agenda Items shall be delivered to the City Administrator."

It does not say that the City Manager is supposed to refer it to the City Attorney for him to make a decision on whether it can go on our agenda.

I am bringing this up because I don't expect our City Attorney to respond. I'm not directing this for a response, and I'm not directing it to the City Manager. I am bringing it up because an agenda that we're going to be dealing with in business, and the reason I requested because it was a matter of business. And it does not say that the City Attorney should be even giving an opinion.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Robertson Statement

Mayor Robertson stated the City Attorney proceeded to give an opinion on the content of the letter not on the request that it was a written communication that needs to be agendize. There is a section in our Resolution that also speaks to correspondences and the role that our City Administrator or City Manager should play. Still, they chose not to address that but instead bypass that and make a decision.

I have to say this publicly right now. The Council is the policy body. Read the Resolutions. The Acting City Manager may not be briefed on these Resolution, but I expect the City Attorney, who also, before he acts on something should be knowledgeable of the Resolution that he so quoted to me when he responded back – not to me – but to Arron Brown, who in turn, referred that to all of us.

I want to bring this up because I am very concerned that we are taking interpretations and applying the Resolutions the way that a City Attorney has decided that he has the ability to usurp a request of a Mayor or a Council Member or himself or the City Administrator. It does not call for a review.

Before we go through the 20 comments, I wanted to read a section that he referenced and was in Section 4. It's called "Addressing the City Council. Written Correspondence: The City Administrator is authorized to receive and open all mail addressed to the City Council and to give it immediate attention to the end that is all administrative business referred to in said communication and not necessarily requiring Council action be disposed of between council meetings provided that all communications and any actions taken pursuant to thereto shall be reported to the City Council."

In other words, if you get a correspondence from a citizen asking us to do something, that is not an administrative matter. If further says, "Any communication requiring City Council action shall be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting together with a report and a recommendation by city staff."

The request was for Council to do something. It was not up to the City Manager to not even look at that or the City Attorney to decide that he can decide and give an opinion on the content of the request not acknowledging that a request was considered a written correspondence. I'm bringing this up because I don't know where we're going in a lot of things. Along with everything else that has been asked of me and people have spoken to me, and concerns we've had, I finally had to ask somebody. I heard about something. I haven't received it. I needed a copy. Today, I finally got a copy – and I'm putting this out publicly – because it's not for the attorney to give another opinion. On November 8th, 2021, a memorandum was sent to Council Member Carrizales and Commissioner Puekert, who is a Planning Commissioner, and it was sent on the conflict-of-interest inquiry.

Mayor Robertson stated this is not about the action on what we voted on. It's about the conflict of interest. And in this memorandum, I'm just going to move to bottom of the Executive Summary and Conclusion. It says: "Council Member Andy Carrizales, and Planning Commissioner John Puekert each of whom owned a personal resident adjacent to and within 500 feet of the boundary line of the Pepper Avenue Specific Plan area, and the areas are prohibited by political reform act from participating in decisions related to the specific plan. The respective personal residence owned by the Council Member Carrizales and the Planning Commissioner John Puekert while within 500 feet of the Specific Plan boundary lines are each between 750 and 800 feet of the boundary lines of particular parcels. Seeking approval to be entitled development industrial warehouse.

You go on and on. It starts with telling us that this is an opinion of our own attorney on November 2021. I'm raising this and putting this in the public venue, because this now has become an issue that has been addressed; it has been discussed. It has never been brought publicly. I know that Commissioner Peukert, he took heed, he abstained. I don't know what was the subsequent actions nor am I looking to get an answer. What I am looking to say, is that now, having this, I hate this. I hate that as a Mayor of a City, as a leader, this conversation does not have to go back and forth and debate to our Council, our General Counsel, or the Council Member. I feel obligated and I will send this to our District Attorney, at the County and send it to the State Attorney General because it needs to be reviewed as a violation of political reform act of Government Code Act, Section 10.90.

It's hard; it's tough. He's sitting to my left. And we have a relationship, but when I had to go under conflict of interest in a public thing, no one seemed to be concerned, and I'm not looking for people to be sympathetic to me. I'm looking for if this is an issue. There's no resolution but for a decision to come from the Attorney General's Office. The conflict was stated in 2021. There has been nothing publicly in the course of the conversation when we did the public hearing other than there was no opinion given publicly by our General Counsel. I don't know what the opinion is now. I can't speak to it. It was given to us in Closed Session. But one of the things I do know is that California is a

common law state. We can't split hairs. And I'm not going to split hairs. I'm not going to sit here and keep acting like the rule of our General Counsel is the law. It's not. I'm saying that now, and I'm putting it out there. I don't know why this issue has to be dragged. It is not about the

decision. It is about an issue that was raised. I put that forward.

Mayor Robertson stated it will be a matter of public record. I went through this record here, and I want to tell you there's a part where you can ask for an investigation. I'm not going to go through all of that. I am just going to send this to the Counsel, DA, District Office. That's what I've been advised, but this is a document, and there's been no subsequent answer or a written opinion from our Counsel when this matter came up. With that, I wanted to say that so that if some of you in here to speak to that issue, continue to speak to it, but this is not open for debate. Thank you.

Would you please call your first oral communications?

000

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales asked to speak.

000

Mayor Robertson stated Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales does not have the floor.

000

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales stated Mayor Robertson referred to him.

000

Mayor Robertson emphasized Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales does not have the floor. I am the Presiding Officer, and I have to acknowledge there is no opinion for rebuttal that's needed.

000

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales stated to Mayor Robertson that when the results come out, she does the same and she present to the public that he has no conflict of interest.

000

Mayor Robertson stated Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales is out of order.

000

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales thanked Mayor Robertson.

000

City Attorney Vail requested the floor out of personal privilege. He stated Mayor Robertson addressed a matter.

000

Mayor Robertson emphasized City Attorney Vail is out of order.

000

City Attorney Vail stated it is a point of personal privilege.

Mayor Robertson emphasized she is not accepting a point of personal privilege. She asked City Attorney Vail to read the City's resolutions.

000

City Attorney Vail stated he is very familiar with the resolutions and can explain all of the situations if given an opportunity.

000

Mayor Robertson stated City Attorney Vail had not applied to them. She asked City Clerk McGee to call up the next person in oral communications.

000

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Leo Padilla with Southwest Mountain States Regional Council of Carpenters addressed the City Council and expressed his support of the City's various industrial developments. He stated they are good-paying local job opportunities for community members in the area.

000

Robert Lee Sneed III addressed the City Council and expressed his full support of industrial development in Rialto.

000

Jack Huggins with Southwest Mountain States Regional Council of Carpenters addressed the City Council and expressed his support of industrial projects in the City specifically the Pepper Avenue Specific Plan. Industrial growth is good for the City. It creates jobs during and after construction and a continued tax base for the City.

000

Jesse Suazo with Southwest Mountain States Regional Council of Carpenters addressed the City Council and expressed his support of the various industrial projects in the City

000

Peter Herrera with Southwest Mountain States Regional Council of Carpenters addressed the City Council and expressed his support of the various industrial projects in the City. He stated by working locally, allows workers to spend time with their family.

000

Edwin Hanger with Southwest Mountain States Regional Council of Carpenters addressed the City Council and expressed his support of the industrial development in the City and the importance of skilled trade work and importance of job opportunities close to home.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Thomas Ruiz with the Laborers International Union of North America addressed the City Council and expressed his support of the logistics industrial projects in the City. They are good, family-sustaining jobs.

000

Bill Blankenship with NAIOP Inland Empire Chapter addressed the City Council and expressed his support. He stated Rialto is an integral part of the supply chain in the Inland Empire. He thanked the City Council for allowing the industry to expand.

000

Jose Mungia with Laborers Union No. 783 addressed the City Council and expressed his support and thanked the City Council for bringing jobs close to home near family.

000

Joseph Quezada with Laborers Union No. 783 addressed the City Council and expressed his support for industrial jobs and thanked them for their leadership and providing jobs in the community. They impact the livelihood of the members' employment benefits.

000

Michael Alvarado with Laborers Union No. 783 addressed the City Council and expressed his support for industrial jobs and the benefit it has brought to the community.

000

Selena Gonzales with Southwest Mountain States Regional Council of Carpenters addressed the City Council and expressed support of the City's various industrial developments.

000

Joe Baca, Resident, addressed the City Council and complimented Mayor Robertson for her earlier comments. He referenced the June 13, 2023 City Council meeting minutes related to the undetermined conflict of interest and his recommendations to the City Council in relation to TAB 4. His statements were made at the last meeting. He is not against warehouses. Many good warehouses are being built in Rialto and will continue to be built in Rialto. The Pepper Avenue Specific Plan is not in the best interest of the City of Rialto. The City has a responsibility to follow the Ordinance that are in place abiding to the 1000 feet from school or residence specification. This warehouse is a lot closer and impact schools and parks in the area with pollution and affect the healthcare of its citizens. He stated the Planning Commission had made its recommendations for retail, commercial and housing. That is what it was zoned for. The area was never zoned for industrial warehouse or a logistic center.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Baca stated that was not the original plan submitted. The City admitted that it was not. It was changed. The City changed an Ordinance that should not have been changed. We violated our own Ordinance. He believes it needs to be revisited, reconsidered, and vote in the best interest of the City.

He believes the Resolution that was passed violates Title VI, of the Civil Rights Act in 1983, and believes it also should have been inclusive specifically to the African American community relating to the community benefit agreement.

He thanked the Mayor for allowing him to express his concerns.

000

Ed Scott, 30-year resident, addressed the City Council related to the Pepper Avenue Specific Plan and emphasized that the City Council took a majority vote and passed. The accusation against Mr. Carrizales' regarding his vote as being a potential conflict of interest, by State law, is his decision to make. If he has a question about it, there's an avenue for him to go through and encourages him to do that. The City Attorney does not make decisions for Council Members regarding matters of conflict of interest. It's up to each individual Council Member.

At the last meeting, a motion was made to reconsider the Item and vote to send it to the voters. The City Council voted the Item down. A group opposed to the Pepper Avenue Specific Plan has chosen the referendum process. Should signatures be secured to place Item on the ballot, the community should support it. He stated that as of today, the City Council made a decision.

He emphasized that constant attacks on Council Members who don't vote the way two of them want them to vote is not only improper, it's undemocratic.

The allegation that the warehouse is near schools and parks is unfounded. The building is not within 1000 feet. The Specific Plan may be, but that building is not.

He appreciates all the laborers who spoke on behalf of the residents of this community. Warehouses and the growth of this City have brought substantial funds needed for this community for projects such as \$19 million spent on Frisbie Park which came from the warehouses at Renaissance Marketplace.

He stated former Congressmen Baca carried forward the legislation to allow the Renaissance project to occur. He asked why 50 percent of the City's profit were given to the City of San Bernardino. It needs to be explained to the community.

There is a process. We live in a democracy. This is not a one-person rule. It's by a vote of the majority. The majority has spoken. We need to abide and live by that unless the voters of this City overturn that decision. Which they have a right to do.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Scott stated the City does not have an Ordinance on Community Benefits. Donations were made on a voluntary basis made by the developer. He is proud and happy that the developer chose to give \$5 million dollars to our Police Department and Code Enforcement. He thanks the developer and encourages other developers to participate in the community. We should be supporting development and growth and warehouse jobs and construction jobs. That is the heart of the community. We are a blue-collar community.

He encourages the City Council to rethink their stand and the behavior taking place.

000

City Council to Consider removing or continuing any items on the agenda

Mayor Robertson abstained from Warrant Resolution No. 48 Voucher No. 231180 made out to the National Council of Negro Women for \$3,662.25.

000

Council Member Baca asked to pull C.1, approval of the June 13, 2023 minutes.

000

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales abstained on TAB 7 due to a conflict of interest with his business on Foothill Boulevard, and it encompasses the entire Specific Plan.

000

Acting City Manager Brown stated TAB 1 will need to be conducted to adopt Resolution 8110 that carries over the budget and not move forward with the current Item.

000

Council Member Scott asked if the Item will not be presented.

000

Acting City Manager Brown stated correct if that is the City Council's pleasure.

000

City Attorney Vail asked if the Public Hearing will be continued without opening the Public Hearing.

000

Mayor Robertson stated it is to continue a Resolution to carry the budget to continue operations without adopting the budget. Either the Item is not addressed, or the Public Hearing is opened and then continue the Public Hearing.

City Council to Consider removing or continuing any items on the agenda

Acting City Manager Brown recommended the Item be moved to the August 22, 2023, City Council meeting. He stated the Resolution from 2021 would be utilized.

000

Mayor Robertson stated the problem is that the Resolution is not part of this written agenda.

000

Council Member Scott recommends the Item be pulled to a subsequent meeting.

000

Motion by Council Member Scott, second by Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales and carried by a 5-0 vote to continue TAB 1 to a subsequent City Council meeting.

The vote was AYES: Mayor Robertson, Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales, Council Member Scott, Council Member Trujillo, Council Member Baca.

NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

000

City Attorney Vail stated the fiscal year and funding authorizations expire June 30, 2023. Should TAB 1 continue to a future date, a Subsequent Need Item will be required to adopt a continuing resolution for the authority to expend funds for the existing budget over into the next fiscal year until the August 2023 meeting.

000

Motion by Council Member Scott, second by Council Member Trujillo and carried by a 5-0 vote to add TAB 8: Subsequent Need Item to Adopt Resolution 8110.

The vote was AYES: Mayor Robertson, Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales, Council Member Scott, Council Member Trujillo, Council Member Baca.

NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

000

Council Member Trujillo requested to pull F.3 for comment.

He acknowledged and thanked Assembly Member Ramos for moving the discussion forward and create local partnerships related to Assembly Bill 349 addressing homelessness and mental health services.

000

Council Member Scott commended Assembly Member Ramos for his efforts related to Assembly Bill 349. He contacted Assembly Member Ramos and requested substance abuse be included.

City Council to Consider removing or continuing any items on the agenda

Council Member Baca requested to pull C.1 for clarification.

He referenced the June 13, 2023, City Council meeting minutes and inquired why City Attorney Vail presented report on TAB 4 rather than Acting City Manager Brown.

000

City Attorney Vail stated he had presented the Item as a procedural action that was brought back before the City Council. There were no Resolution supporting the majority decision to approve the project. The presentation related to adopt the resolutions that support the project consistent with the majority's previous decision. No recommendations were made related to the specific project Items. It was a matter of procedure.

000

Council Member Baca emphasized that the Item included recommendations under community benefits that changed the original proposal related to the voluntary, one-time, \$5-million-dollar contribution to fund a new charter school then changed to benefit going to the Rialto Unified School District.

He asked if that should have been brought before the City Council for consideration since it was changed.

000

City Attorney Vail stated that was changed at the last meeting by the direction of the City Council. The community benefits agreement was incorporated into the motion that approved those minutes.

000

Council Member Baca referenced the June 13, 2023, minutes when Council Member Scott asked staff who had made those recommendations. Staff indicated they did not make recommendations for changes and City Manager was not aware. He asked how it came about if no one was aware.

000

Council Member Scott stated Item C.1 relates to the June 13, 2023, City Council minutes. He emphasized that the minutes stand as they were spoken in the City Council meeting. It is not the time and place to be questioning who did what.

000

Council Member Baca appreciates the clarification and appreciates Council Member Scott questioning the process at the last City Council meeting.

City Council to Consider removing or continuing any items on the agenda

Council Member Baca motioned to approve the minutes.

000

Mayor Robertson stated the motion is already on the floor and has been seconded.

000

City Clerk McGee clarified if the minutes were going to be pulled.

000

Mayor Robertson stated Council Member Baca is not pulling the minutes. He is not questioning what was stated. He is questioning the process of action.

000

CONSENT CALENDAR

A. WAIVE FULL READING OF ORDINANCES

000

B. APPROVAL OF WARRANT RESOLUTIONS

- B.1 Warrant Resolution No. 47 (06/08/2023)
- B.2 Warrant Resolution No. 48 (06/15/2023)

000

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C.1 Regular City Council Meeting – June 13, 2023

000

D. CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY

- D.1 Leila D. Robertson Damages
- D.2 Andrea Ellis Vehicle Damages
- D.3 Daniel Berumen Vehicle Damages
- D.4 Fredy Gonzalez Personal Property
- D.5 Kellee L. Shorts Vehicle Damages
- D.6 Larry H. Ta Property Damages
- D.7 Liliana Cerpa Personal Injury

CONSENT CALENDAR

E. SET PUBLIC HEARING

- E.1 Request City Council to Set a Public Hearing for July 25, 2023, to Consider and Ratify Adoption of General Plan Amendment No. 2021-0002 for the 2021-2029 6th Cycle Housing Element Update
- E.2 Request City Council to Set a Public Hearing for July 25, 2023, to Consider and Adopt Environmental Assessment Review No. 2022-0083, Zoning Code Amendment No. 2022-0004, Specific Plan Amendment No. 2022-0007, and Specific Plan Amendment No. 2022-0007, and Specific Plan Amendment No. 2022-0008, to implement the 2021-2029 (6th Cycle) General Plan Housing Element Residential Overlay Rezone Program.

000

F. MISCELLANEOUS

- F.1 Request City Council to; (1) Approve a Ninth Amendment to Extend the Professional Service Agreement with Law Enforcement Medical Services, Inc. for an On-Call Forensic Evidence Recovery Service Contract for a Not to Exceed Amount of \$70,000 Annually for Fiscal Year 2024 Through 2027; (2) Approve an \$8,000 Increase to the Annual Purchase Order 2023-0642, from \$59,000 to \$67,000 and (3) Authorize the Acting City Manager, or his Designee, to Execute All Documents.
- F.2 Request City Council to Authorize the Release of Bids for the Construction of the Terra Vista Drive Neighborhood Safe Routes to School Infrastructure Implementation ATPSB1L-5205(029) City Project No. 200813.
- F.3 Request City Council Approve a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 349 Patton State Hospital Lease for Housing and Mental Health Services to Homeless Individuals
- F.4 Request City Council to Adopt Resolution No. 8104, approving the Industrial Disability Retirement for Craig Hauenstein.

000

Motion by Council Member, second by Council Member and carried by a 5-0 vote to adopt the Consent Calendar

Mayor Robertson abstained from Warrant Resolution No. 48 Voucher No. 231180 made out to the National Council of Negro Women for \$3,662.25.

000

TAB 1 was pulled from the City Council Agenda.

000

TAB 1 City's Fiscal Year 2023-24 Proposed Annual Budget

TAB 2 Approve Resolution No. 8105 and RUA Resolution No. 06-23

Tom Crowley, Utilities Manager, presented staff report to Conduct a Public Hearing to Receive Public Comments Related to the Placement of Sewer Service Charges on the County Property Tax Roll for Delinquent Accounts and Approve City Resolution No. 8105 and RUA Resolution No. 06-23 Authorizing the Placement of Delinquent Wastewater Payments on the County Property Tax Roll.

000

Mayor Robertson opened the Public Hearing.

000

No one requested to speak.

000

Motion by Council Member Baca, second by Council Member Trujillo and carried by a 5-0 vote to close the public hearing.

000

Council Member Trujillo asked if any other City is combining dual payment.

000

Mr. Crowley stated he is not aware. At times, the sewer agency will use the property tax approach.

000

Motion by Council Member Scott, second by Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales and carried by a 5-0 vote to Approve City Resolution No. 8105 and RUA Resolution No. 06-23 Authorizing the Placement of Delinquent Wastewater Payments on the County Property Tax Roll.

000

Mike Orona, Acting Public Works Superintendent, presented staff report to Request City Council to Conduct a Public Hearing to Adopt (1) Resolution No. 8106 Approving the Engineer's Reports and Ordering the Levy of Assessments for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 for Street Light Maintenance District No. 1, (2) Resolution No. 8107 for Landscape Maintenance District No. 1, and (3) Resolution No. 8108 for Landscaping and Lighting District No. 2.

000

Mayor Robertson opened the Public Hearing.

000

No one requested to speak.

000

Motion by Council Member Baca, second by Council Member Trujillo and carried by a 5-0 vote to close the public hearing.

000

TAB 3
Adopt Resolution No. 8106 Approving Engineer's Reports and Ordering the Levy of Assessments for FY 2023-2024; Resolution No. 8107 for LMD District No. 1; and Resolution No. 8101 for LLD No. 2

Adopt Resolution No. 8106 Approving Engineer's Reports and Ordering the Levy of Assessments for FY 2023-2024; Resolution No. 8107 for LMD District No. 1; and Resolution No. 8101 for LLD No. 2

Council Member Scott referenced the report and asked if there is an increase proposed for LMD 2.

000

Mr. Orona stated there are no increases being proposed.

000

Council Member Scott clarified there will be no CPI increases.

000

Mr. Orona stated correct.

000

Council Member Scott asked what the plan is to catch the districts up.

000

Acting City Manager Brown stated a plan needs to be developed now to lower the subsidy.

000

Mr. Orona stated there is collaboration with Tom Crowley, Utilities Manager, and staff to secure grant funding to convert LMD 1 more drought tolerant.

000

Council Member Scott asked how the figure added up. He stated Public Works had expressed that drought tolerant is more expensive to maintain and less expensive on water. He asked wouldn't that maladminister the efforts.

000

Mr. Orona stated correct. The water consumption cost will exceed the cost of the maintenance increase resulting in a savings of \$3,300 per acre.

000

Council Member Scott asked if that has been calculated and been reflected.

000

Mr. Orona stated yes.

000

Council Member Scott asked how approximately \$500,000 in overage is accounted for.

Adopt Resolution No. 8106 Approving Engineer's Reports and Ordering the Levy of Assessments for FY 2023-2024; Resolution No. 8107 for LMD District No. 1; and Resolution No. 8101 for LLD No. 2

Mr. Orona stated it is based off projected assessments.

000

Council Member Scott asked why maintenance costs are increased over previous years.

000

Mr. Orona stated labor cost and rates have increased across the various trades in the industry.

000

Council Member Scott asked other than tree trimmers, how many landscaping companies are contracted for LMDs.

000

Mr. Orona stated one company. Contract has been extended beginning July 1, 2023, and holds them more accountable.

000

Council Member Scott asked if it includes maintenance of LMDs.

000

Mr. Orona stated yes. They are transitioning to a workforce system.

000

Council Member Scott asked when does their extended contract expire.

000

Mr. Orona stated it is a three-year contract with two optional extensions based on satisfactory work performance beginning July 1, 2023.

000

Council Member Trujillo asked if Dryscape had been considered.

000

Mr. Orona stated Dryscape has been utilized in certain areas of the City on Ayala north of Baseline Avenue. Opportunities have been taken wherever possible to incorporate Dryscape.

000

Council Member Trujillo suggested obtaining grants to pursue that option to contain costs.

000

Mr. Orona stated it would be considered further.

Adopt Resolution No. 8106 Approving Engineer's Reports and Ordering the Levy of Assessments for FY 2023-2024; Resolution No. 8107 for LMD District No. 1; and Resolution No. 8101 for LLD No. 2

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales requested a report in a year's time that reflects the savings projected. Past reports do not show a favorable outcome.

000

Mr. Orona stated he would include one.

000

Council Member Scott stated there needs to be an improved Dryscape plan than what is on Ayala Avenue. He asked that the weed control on Dryscape be monitored.

000

Mr. Orona stated absolutely.

000

Mayor Robertson stated she agrees with her colleagues and emphasized the need to utilize funds from the General Fund to compensate for deficits.

She requested a water consumption cost analysis on the acreage around the Civic Center campus. She asked about projected data to determine if drought tolerant or Dryscape options are more cost effective.

000

Mr. Orona stated a cost comparison was conducted on current LMDs and the maintenance cost and water consumption. He would need to delve into it further for the Civic Center area and return to the City Council.

000

Mayor Robertson stated the topic has been discussed in the past but not seen any follow-through.

000

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales, second by Council Member Scott and carried by a 5-0 vote to Adopt (1) Resolution No. 8106 Approving the Engineer's Reports and Ordering the Levy of Assessments for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 for Street Light Maintenance District No. 1, (2) Resolution No. 8107 for Landscape Maintenance District No. 1, and (3) Resolution No. 8108 for Landscaping and Lighting District No. 2.

NEW BUSINESS

TAB 4

Adopt Four Year Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling, Organics, and Disposal Rates for FY 2023/2024 through 2023/2027 and Adopt Resolution No. 8109, Approving Municipal Solid Waste Collection Recycling and Disposal Service Rates for FY 2023/2024 through 2026/2027

Public Comment

Tom Crowley, Utilities Manager, Rose Radford with R3 Consulting, Inc. and Richard Nino with Burrtec Waste Industries, presented staff report to Request City Council to Conduct a Public Hearing in Accordance with Proposition 218 Procedures and Consider Adopting the Four Year Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling, Organics and Disposal Rates for Fiscal Years 2023/2024 through 2026/2027 and Request City Council to Adopt Resolution No. 8109, Approving Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling and Disposal Service Rates for Fiscal Years 2023/2024 through 2026/2027.

000

Mayor Robertson opened the Public Hearing.

000

June Hayes addressed the City Council related to her concerns with community gardening. She recommends funds for community gardening and mulching be removed from AB 939 Household Hazardous line item and be included in the general trash rates portion. She believes it corresponds closer to AB 1383 than AB 939. She is pleased with the work by City Staff and listening to her concerns.

000

Motion by Council Member Scott second by Council Member Baca and carried by a 5-0 vote to close the Public Hearing.

000

Council Member Scott asked for clarification on the payment management fee.

000

Tim Sullivan, Director of Maintenance & Facilities, stated the payment management fee has been eliminated from these rates. The City Council eliminated fee from residential in 2020 and a moratorium for commercial earlier this year.

000

Council Member Scott asked why.

000

Director of Maintenance & Facilities Sullivan stated it was at the direction of the City Council to place a moratorium.

000

Council Member Scott stated it is illegal. The question is: What is the City of Rialto going to do to reimburse businesses and residents from the money taken illegally?

He asked about implementation on SB 1383 postponement.

Adopt Four Year Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling, Organics, and Disposal Rates for FY 2023/2024 through 2023/2027 and Adopt Resolution No. 8109, Approving Municipal Solid Waste Collection Recycling and Disposal Service Rates for FY 2023/2024 through 2026/2027

Director of Maintenance & Facilities Sullivan stated jurisdictions could seek postponement through AB 619, which the City of Rialto took benefit from.

000

Council Member Scott asked Mr. Nino related to postponement.

000

Mr. Nino stated the Little Hoover Commission conducted an evaluation on SB 1383 and made recommendations to legislators addressing certain elements. Currently, it is up for review and no action has been taken.

000

Council Member Scott emphasized that this is an unfunded mandate imposed by the State on residents. He stated there are other ways to manage food waste than the current plan. He is opposed to State mandates. He asserted he will not support unfunded State mandates that have no logical reason for its implementation.

000

Council Member Trujillo recommended highlighting that this is a State program and make that distinction by delineating State and standard trash fees on website.

He inquired about a City waiver or program promoting composting as an alternative to fee. He asked if there are programs in place to offer residents relief.

000

Director of Maintenance & Facilities Sullivan stated educational composting outreach programs include routine classes. The State requires everyone to subscribe.

000

Council Member Trujillo reiterated his confidence in establishing a City-funded program to promote composting as an alternative than the proposed State program.

000

Council Member Baca commended staff, Mr. Nino, and Committee for arriving at a solution addressing the cost to the residents. He appreciated the rate comparison chart. It's a mandate that needs to be complied by July 31, 2023.

As a former legislator, he stated he would appreciate if current State Legislators could visit municipalities to determine requirements prior to establishing mandates and the impact on the public.

Adopt Four Year Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling, Organics, and Disposal Rates for FY 2023/2024 through 2023/2027 and Adopt Resolution No. 8109, Approving Municipal Solid Waste Collection Recycling and Disposal Service Rates for FY 2023/2024 through 2026/2027

Council Member Baca stated the law must be complied until it is changed either at the State or Federal level. He suggested Council Member Trujillo discuss it with Congresswoman Norma Torres at the Federal level and someone else at the State level.

000

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales emphasized the need for outreach and informational material in English and Spanish with a QR code to keep the public informed on mandate's full explanation and its origin specifically informing residents that mandate is not City imposed.

000

Mayor Robertson requested a plan to address the payment management fees and find a solution as to how fees will be returned to the public.

000

City Attorney Vail stated since there was a Prop 218 Notice, he asked if written protests were received.

000

City Clerk McGee stated no.

000

City Attorney Vail stated since no protests have been received either written or the Public Hearing, means there has not been a majority protests to the rates. The City Council can proceed for a motion.

000

Council Member Trujillo asked if notification was sent to everyone.

000

City Attorney Vail stated identification is sent to identified property owners. Prop 218 allows a protest by property owner or tenant.

000

Council Member Scott asked who sent out notifications.

000

Director of Maintenance & Facilities Sullivan stated it was sent out by Burrtec Waste Industries.

000

Council Member Scott asked if it was sent in a Burrtec or City envelope.

000

Director of Maintenance & Facilities Sullivan believed it was in a Burrtec envelope.

Adopt Four Year Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling, Organics, and Disposal Rates for FY 2023/2024 through 2023/2027 and Adopt Resolution No. 8109, Approving Municipal Solid Waste Collection Recycling and Disposal Service Rates for FY 2023/2024 through 2026/2027

TAB 5 Authorize Purchase Order to Onward Engineering for "On-Call" Construction Inspection Services for FY 2023/2024

Motion by Council Member Baca, second by Council Member Trujillo and carried by a 3-2 vote to Adopt the Four Year Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling, Organics and Disposal Rates for Fiscal Years 2023/2024 through 2026/2027 and Request City Council to Adopt Resolution No. 8109, Approving Municipal Solid Waste Collection, Recycling and Disposal Service Rates for Fiscal Years 2023/2024 through 2026/2027.

The vote was AYES: Mayor Robertson, Council Member Trujillo, Council Member Baca.

NOES: Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales and Council Member Scott ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

000

Art Cervantes with Engineering presented staff report to Request City Council to: (1) Authorize Issuance of a Purchase Order in the amount of \$561,600 to Onward Engineering for "On-Call" Construction Inspection Services for Fiscal Year 2023/2024; and (2) Authorize the City Manager to Execute all Related Documents.

000

Council Member Scott asked if there is a provision in the contract that prohibits friends or family members that work for one of these consultants who work for the City if they have a relationship with a City employee.

000

City Attorney Vail stated the Purchasing Ordinance requires a disclosure of any type of financial relationship.

000

Council Member Scott stated he is aware, but the current disclosure is moot.

000

City Attorney Vail stated he does not believe there is a prohibition. He would need to refer back.

000

Council Member Scott asked if the prohibition can be included in the motion.

000

City Attorney Vail stated the City Council is in authority to do edit.

000

Council Member Baca agreed. He made the motion.

Authorize Purchase Order to Onward Engineering for "On-Call" Construction Inspection Services for FY 2023/2024

TAB 6

Approve Professional Services with 4LEAF, CSG Consultants, Inc., True North Compliance Services, Inc, and Transtech Engineers, Inc for On-Call Plan Check, Inspection and Additional Support Services; Authorize Acting City Manager to exercise one-year extensions subject to satisfactory service

Council Member Scott stated he would second the motion

000

Motion by Council Member Baca, second by Council Member Scott and carried by a 5-0 vote to (1) Authorize Issuance of a Purchase Order in the amount of \$561,600 to Onward Engineering for "On-Call" Construction Inspection Services for Fiscal Year 2023/2024; and (2) Authorize the City Manager to Execute all Related Documents with the following condition: the existing contract shall include a related party or financial/relationship disclosure.

000

Jesse Sanchez, Chief Building Official, presented staff report to Request City Council to: (1) Approve a Professional Services Agreement with 4LEAF, inc., CSG Consultants, Inc, True North Compliance Services, Inc. and Transtech Engineers, Inc. for On-Call Plan Check, Inspection and Additional Support Services; and (2) Authorize the Acting City Manager to exercise the optional one-year extensions subject to satisfactory performance of the services and the continuing need for such services; and (3) Authorize the Acting City Manager to Execute All Documents.

000

Council Member Scott stated this arrangement has been long term. The City Council has given clear direction to have City positions filled. It has not been accomplished.

He is requesting that the City Council be given a report on the recruitment status of City employee positions including application submissions, interviews, interview outcomes, and the recruitment process.

Council Member Scott believes that should the outside consultants continue; positions will not be filled. He would like to know the plan to fill positions. Leaving positions vacant, impacts employee morale and contributes to PERS deficit funding. He recommends a financial/relationship disclosure to these contracts.

000

Council Member Trujillo asked how contracts are evaluated to assure follow-through.

000

Mr. Sanchez stated they make certain they are being managed appropriately, that policies are being administered within the contract and goals are met.

Approve Professional Services with 4LEAF, CSG Consultants, Inc., True North Compliance Services, Inc, and Transtech Engineers, Inc for On-Call Plan Check, Inspection and Additional Support Services; Authorize Acting City Manager to exercise one-year extensions subject to satisfactory service Council Member Trujillo stated the consultants are hired multiple times and have a long stay in the City. He asked if other contractors have been explored that may offer further additional services.

000

Mr. Sanchez stated an RFP was performed and nine proposals were evaluated during the process. The top four vendors were selected.

000

Council Member Trujillo asked if the industry consultants keep recycling back return to the City.

000

Mr. Sanchez stated it is a small industry. The challenge is finding qualified people. The City is attempting to broaden the pool by bringing additional consultants.

000

Council Member Baca stated it is important to recruit, but the City has a responsibility to the citizens to issue permits in a timely fashion. He agrees with Council Member Scott's amendment and motion.

000

Mayor Robertson asked for clarification between Code Enforcement Officer and Code Compliance Office positions.

000

Mr. Sanchez stated the titles are used interchangeably in the Code Enforcement industry. The current proposal is for building and safety services.

000

Mayor Robertson clarified that they were not being pulled or utilizing Code Enforcement Officers.

000

Mr. Sanchez stated correct.

000

Mayor Robertson agreed with Council Member Scott and expressed her concerns with efficiency in turnaround time. She asked Acting City Manager to follow-through with Director of Development Services Cataldi to examine processing turnaround time with the current consultants.

Approve Professional Services with 4LEAF, CSG Consultants, Inc., True North Compliance Services, Inc, and Transtech Engineers, Inc for On-Call Plan Check, Inspection and Additional Support Services; Authorize Acting City Manager to exercise one-year extensions subject to satisfactory service Council Member Trujillo asked if there is a stipulation on the length of time for inspectors to review building permits. There has been concerns with six-month reviews.

000

Mr. Sanchez stated the department has policy timeframes for plan checks and inspections assuming there is proper staffing to meet goals and objectives. Policy timeframes are stipulated in the vendor contracts.

000

Motion by Council Member Baca, second by Council Member Scott and carried by a 5-0 vote to (1) Approve a Professional Services Agreement with 4LEAF, inc., CSG Consultants, Inc, True North Compliance Services, Inc. and Transtech Engineers, Inc. for On-Call Plan Check, Inspection and Additional Support Services; and (2) Authorize the Acting City Manager to exercise the optional one-year extensions subject to satisfactory performance of the services and the continuing need for such services; and (3) Authorize the Acting City Manager to Execute All Documents. The existing contract shall include a related party or financial/relationship disclosure.

000

City Attorney Vail stated a Subsequent Need Item was added to the agenda, which is TAB 8, which is the continuing resolution.

000

Mayor Robertson believed action had already been taken.

000

City Attorney Vail stated it was voted to add on the agenda. There was no motion to approve it. The resolution was not available. Now it is.

000

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales stepped away from the dais at 9:50 p.m.

000

Siri Champion, Senior Planner and David Suls with WSP, presented report to Request City Council to receive a presentation on the Foothill Central Specific Plan.

000

Council Member Scott asked to define Foothill Transit Oriented Zone.

000

TAB 7 Receive Presentation on Foothill Central Specific Plan

TAB 7 Receive Presentation on Foothill Central Specific Plan

Mr. Suls stated the Foothill Transit Oriented Zone is a zoning district name given for the proposed zoning.

000

Council Member Scott asked what property owners in the brown-zoned area are allowed to do.

000

Mr. Suls stated the Foothill Transit Oriented Zone and the Downtown Oriented Zone they are both mixed-use zones open for residential and commercial.

000

Council Member Scott asked why it is not called a mixed-use zone versus transit oriented.

000

Mr. Suls stated both Foothill Boulevard and Riverside Avenue were identified as future transit quarters for possible future Bus Rapid Transit, (BRT).

000

Council Member Scott expressed his concerns with the description versus being mixed-use. He suggested it be described as Transit Oriented/Mixed Use.

000

Ms. Champion stated there is no magic to the terminology. "Transit Oriented" is a term commonly used for this type of area.

000

Council Member Scott stated he understands. He emphasized not everyone understands Planning and Engineering. The description is not very understandable. He suggests a slash and mixed-use, so the public understands the concept when viewing.

000

Council Member Scott inquired about the red-zoned area on Palm Avenue and Acacia Avenue and discussions held at EDC related to being changed to allow mixed-use. Most business in the area are older businesses, and he asked why it would not be considered transit-oriented mixed-use. It makes it economical viable for small buildings to have the option of mixed-use. The same applies on Lilac Avenue to Cactus Avenue except for the new commercial property at Cactus Avenue and Foothill Boulevard. It is something that needs to be explored.

TAB 7 Receive Presentation on Foothill Central Specific Plan

Ms. Champion stated that is something that can be done.

000

Council Member Trujillo inquired about the housing element on Foothill Boulevard and asked if previous discussions led to the transit-oriented zone.

000

Ms. Champion stated based on Council Member Scott suggestions, the name will change to "mixed-use" rather than appending the name "mixed use".

In reference to the proposed residential overlay, it is an implementation of the housing element. Several sites that have been previously zoned for 30 dwell units per acre have been identified along Foothill Boulevard. This update proposes all properties along Foothill Boulevard would be increased to 35 dwell units per acre.

000

Council Member Trujillo asked if there were other areas of proposed housing in the Downtown area that have not been detected.

000

Ms. Champion stated residential would be a permitted use in addition to commercial. Those are key areas that have been identified as opportunities for mixed-use residential development or straight residential development. Beyond that, there is multi-family residential zone and single-family residential zone that allows for diverse typologies of residential uses.

000

Council Member Trujillo asked about the State law pertaining to Granny Flats. He asked if the zone considered it single or multi-family residential.

000

Ms. Champion stated the State allows accessory dwelling units also knowns as Granny Flats. They are allowed in single and multi-family residential zone.

SB 9 allows two-unit developments and will be allowed in the single-family residential zone.

000

Council Member Trujillo thanked Ms. Champion for her participation at Downtown events for community outreach.

TAB 7 Receive Presentation on Foothill Central Specific Plan

Mayor Robertson referenced the staff report and asked how a mixed environment is created with existing property. She asked if property owners allowed to add to their existing structure or is already permissible.

000

Ms. Champion clarified if it was referring to a residential on a second story.

000

Mayor Robertson stated yes.

000

Council Member Scott stated south of 1st Street, there are apartments at the top of buildings.

000

Ms. Champion stated in the current specific plan, there are discrete areas where a second story residential unit is allowed, but not in all zones.

000

Council Member Scott stated that on south of 1st Street both sides of Riverside Avenue, it is denoted as commercial.

000

Ms. Champion stated this Specific Plan Amendment would allow residential to be incorporated into commercial uses.

000

Mayor Robertson asked if it is to build up.

000

Ms. Champion stated correct. In addition to the proposed land use map, there is a table of permitted uses. For commercial, proposal is to allow residential on the second floor and above.

000

Council Member Scott stated perfect.

000

Ms. Champion stated the conditional development permit will provide the option to have residential on the first floor.

TAB 7 Receive Presentation on Foothill Central Specific Plan

Mayor Robertson asked if it is in process.

000

Ms. Champion stated a draft of the plan is being created. More community outreach is planned. She presented a specific plan update overview.

000

Council Member Baca clarified that this is a partial of the overlay from the original plan. Originally, it was the northern portion of Rialto as part of that overlay.

000

Ms. Champion stated this is a separate project. The residential overlay is one project that involves residential uses throughout the City at various locations. This is a specific plan update for these two specific plans that currently exist to combine them into one.

000

Council Member Baca stated he needed to make certain he was not in conflict of interest.

000

TAB 7 – Presentation on Foothill Central Specific Plan was received. No action required.

000

Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales returned to the dais at 10:12 p.m.

000

Eric Vail, City Attorney, presented Item of Subsequent Need to the City Council to: Adopt Resolution No. 8110 that the City Council of the City of Rialto does hereby continue the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 annual budget in full force and effect through August 29, 2023, or adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget.

000

Motion by Council Member Scott, second by Council Member Trujillo and carried by 5-0 vote to Adopt Resolution No. 8110 that the City Council of the City of Rialto does hereby continue the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 annual budget in full force and effect through August 29, 2023, or adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget.

000

TAB 8 ITEM OF SUBSEQUENT NEED

Adopt Resolution No. 8110 to continue the FY 2022-2023 Annual Budget and effect through August 29, 2023

REPORTS The City Council gave their reports.

000

Community Services Director of Community Services Alvarado-Crawford gave the report.

000

ADJOURNMENT Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carrizales, second by Council Member

Trujillo and carried by a 5-0 vote to adjourn the City Council Meeting at

10:37 p.m.

000

MAYOR DEBORAH ROBERTSON

ATTEST:

Barbara a. McGu

CITY CLERK BARBARA A. McGEE