

**RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL
SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
FINANCING AUTHORITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY**

MINUTES

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

**Closed Session – 5:30 p.m.
Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.**

Pursuant To California Government Code 54953 An Additional Call In Location Has Been Established For Council Member(s) Who Will Attend This Meeting Via Teleconference At 91 12th Street, Cayucos, CA 93430

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by the Ridgecrest City Successor Agency/Financing Authority/Housing Authority. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

ROLL CALL – 5:30 p.m.

Council Present: Mayor Eric A. Bruen; Mayor Pro-Tem Solomon P. Rajaratnam; Vice Mayor Kyle Blades; Council Member L. Scott Hayman
Absent: Council Member Skip Gorman
Staff Present: City Attorney M. Koczanowicz; City Clerk Charlon; Captain Dampier; PW Director/Deputy City Manager Reed; Parks & Rec Director Wegener; Finance Director Cheri Freese

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Motion To Approve - **Rajaratnam - Hayman: 4 Ayes, 1 Absent (Gorman)***

NOTE: The vote is displayed in bold below each item. For example, **Blades-Rajaratnam** denotes Council Member Blades made the motion and Council Member Rajaratnam seconded the motion. Ayes, Noes, Absents, Abstentions follow.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION - none

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION - Pursuant to Government Code § 54959.9(b) – One Case

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION - Pursuant to Government Code § 54959.9(c) – One Case

REGULAR SESSION – 6:00 p.m.

ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION – No Reportable Action Taken

PRESENTATION

Waste Water Treatment Plant Update

~~Strand~~ Reed

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA – M. Sinnott; V. Brookman; T. Wiknich

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/DIRECTION

Mayor asked Travis to reach out to Wiknich re: WWTP questions
Mayor Introduced April Moore, new SSUSD Superintendent

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council SPECIAL Meeting Dated July 10, 2023 **Charlon**
2. A Resolution to Approve the FY23-24 Rate Adjustment Request for Solid Waste Services **Strand**
3. Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Memorandum Of Agreement With Sierra Sands Unified School District For Law Enforcement Services (School Resource Officer Program) **Dampier**
4. Resolution Reaffirming and Approving the Annual Investment Policy **Freese**
5. A Resolution Approving The Project List For Fiscal Year 2023-2024 For The California State Of Good Repair (SGR) Program For The Following Project: Electric Transit Van Replacement **Smith**
6. Authorization For The City Manager, Ron Strand, To Sign The Notice Of Completion For The Replacement Of The Existing Partitions Located At The Kerr McGee Community Center, For The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion And For City Staff To Release Retention In The Amount Of \$43,470.55 To The Contractor, Horizons Construction Company, Within Thirty (30) Days After Recordation Of The Notice Of Completion **Wegener**
7. Authorization For The City Manager, Ron Strand, To Sign The Notice Of Completion For The Painting Of The Caps On The City Hall And Kerr McGee Community Center, For The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion And For City Staff To Release Retention In The Amount Of \$2,568.75 To The Contractor, KC Martin Construction, Within Thirty (30) Days After Recordation Of The Notice Of Completion **Wegener**

City Clerk mentioned to small changes:

- Item 6 change resolution from 'replacing the flooring' to 'replacement of the partitions'
- Item 7 change NOC to state 'KC Martin Construction' not 'Bentley Flooring'

Items number 2 (Rajaratnam) & 3 (Blades) pulled

*Motion To Approve Consent Calendar items 1, 4, 5, 6 as modified & 7 as modified- **Blades - Hayman: 4 Ayes, 1 Absent (Gorman)***

Item 2 – Rajaratnam explained his reading of the contract and that it does not mention the linking of the increase being related to performance.

- Public comment V. Brookman
- Mayor stated Waste Management will come to City Org Committee Aug 3rd then there will be another trash townhall – both to discuss performance issues

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar Item 2-Hayman - Rajaratnam: 4 Ayes, 1 Absent (Gorman)

Item 3 –Blades and Hayman recognized the value of the program

- Public comment V. Brookman

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar Item 3-Blades - Rajaratnam: 4 Ayes, 1 Absent (Gorman)

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

8. Proposed Approval of Increased Appropriations to the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget for the Human Resources/Risk Management Internal Service Fund (ISF) **Freese**

- Rajaratnam commented the 5th whereas should be \$200k not \$150k, Freese agreed
- Public comment - none

Motion To Approve as amended - Rajaratnam - Hayman: 4 Ayes, 1 Absent (Gorman)

9. Discussion And Proposed Action To Approve A Resolution Designating A Voting Member And Alternate(s) To Attend The League Of California Cities Annual Conference And Represent The City Of Ridgecrest **Charlon**

- Blades and Gorman attending conference in Sacramento

Motion To Approve Blades as Primary and Gorman as Secondary - Hayman – Rajaratnam: 4 Ayes, 1 Absent (Gorman)

10. Discussion Regarding The Board Of The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)

Hayman

11. A Resolution To Approve The Professional Service Agreement With Willdan Engineering For An Amount Not To Exceed \$578,021 For Preliminary/Construction Engineering Services For The Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities Grant Project; And Authorize The City Manager To Sign The Agreement **Reed**

- Public comment – unknown caller

Motion To Approve - Blade - Rajaratnam: 4 Ayes, 1 Absent (Gorman)

PUBLIC HEARING

12. Public Hearing For Input To The City Council Regarding Request From Ridgecrest Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (RACVB) For Council's Adoption Of A Resolution Of Intention To Renew The Ridgecrest Tourism Improvement District (RTID) 2023-2033 And Sunset The Existing One

Attorney

- Opened public hearing @ 7:38 p.m.
- Attorney reviewed the staff report and request from the RACVB
- Comments received – Patel, hotel owner, in favor of increase but wants to know how the increase helps all the hotels equally. Attorney responded City is a passthrough agency, City does not control the funds, the RACVB chooses how it will/can be spent.
- Closed public hearing @ 7:44 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitor Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Megan McKenzie (staff)

Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 9:00 a.m.

Location: California Welcome Center

➤ **Report from 6/28/23**

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman
Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Report from 7/11/23**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Kyle Blades
Meeting: 4th Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Report from 6/22/23 - canceled**
➤ **Next meeting 7/27/23**

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam
Meeting: 1st Monday of the month @ 5:15 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Report from 7/3/23 - canceled**
➤ **Next meeting 8/7/23**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman
Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Report from 7/4/23 – canceled**
➤ **Next meeting 8/1/23**

City Organization and Services Committee ('City Org')

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman
Meeting: 1st Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Report from 7/6/23 – canceled**
➤ **Next meeting 8/3/23**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Mayor - IT Firewall and the use of remaining ARPA funds

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT – 8:16 p.m.