

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

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday, July 20, 2022**

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

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.

**CALL TO ORDER - 5:03 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

Council Present: Mayor Eric A. Bruen; Mayor Pro Tem L. Scott Hayman; Vice Mayor Solomon P. Rajaratnam; Council Member Kyle Blades

Absent: Council Member Peggy Breeden

Staff Present: City Attorney Koczanowicz (WebEx); City Attorney K. Lemieux (WebEx); City Manager Strand; City Clerk Charlon; Finance Director Freese; PW Director Reed; Captain Justin Dampier

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- **Blades – Rajaratnam 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breeden)**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION - None**

**CLOSED SESSION**

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (§ 54956.9)

Name of Case: Mojave Pistachios, LLC v Indian Wells Valley Water District, et al.  
(Case No. 30-2021-01187275-CU-OR-CJC)

**REGULAR SESSION – 6:02 p.m.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Presentation of the *Key to the City* to Doug Lueck

**BLADES**

**ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION – No reportable action**

**PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

- Public Comment – S. Ayon, M. Neel, T. Wiknich, O. Allen, R. Porter

**COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS - None**

## CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Regular Meetings Dated June 15, 2022 And July 6, 2022 CHARLON
  - Blades – Rajaratnam 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breedon)

## DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

3. Discussion Regarding The Board Of The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA) HAYMAN  
Report received from K. Lemieux. Recommendation by Counsel to now participate in the adjudication. Blades nominated Hayman, all agreed. Hayman accepted the appointment to participate in the adjudication to represent the City.
  - Public Comment – R. Porter
4. 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 RESO 22-53 CHARLON
  - Blades nominated as Primary, Solomon nominated as alternate
  - Blades – Hayman 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breedon)
5. Consideration Of Resolutions Relating To The Calling Of Ridgecrest's General Municipal Election To Be Held On November 8, 2022 RESO 22-51 & RESO 22-52 ATTORNEY
  - Public Comment – T. Wiknich, R Porter, S. Miller, C. Holloway, D. Gorman, M. Neel
  - Blades – Rajaratnam 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breedon)
  - Hayman – Rajaratnam 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breedon)

## ORDINANCES

6. Introduction And First Reading, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Of Ridgecrest City Council Adding Division 3 To Article III Of Chapter 9 Of The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Imposing A Transactions And Use (Sales) Tax Locally Controlled For City Services To Be Administered By The State Board Of Equalization (November 8, 2022 Ballot) ATTORNEY

Motion To Waive Reading In Full Of An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Adding To The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Concerning A Temporary Transactions And Use (Sales) Tax, Locally Controlled, To Be Administered By The State Board Of Equalization

- Blades – Hayman 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breedon)

Motion To Introduce, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Adding To The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Concerning A Temporary Transactions And Use (Sales) Tax, Locally Controlled, To Be Administered By The State Board Of Equalization

- Rajaratnam - Blades 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breedon)

7. Second Reading And Adoption, Ordinance 22-03, An Ordinance Of The Ridgecrest City Council Authorizing An Amendment To The Contract Between The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest And The Board Of Administration Of The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) CHARLON

Motion To Waive Reading In Full, Ordinance No. 22-03, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Authorizing An Amendment To The Contract Between The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest And The Board Of Administration Of The California Public Employees' Retirement System

- **Rajaratnam – Hayman 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breedon)**

Motion To Adopt, By Title Only, Ordinance No. 22-03, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Authorizing An Amendment To The Contract Between The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest And The Board Of Administration Of The California Public Employees' Retirement System

- **Hayman - Blades 4 Ayes – 1 Absent (Breedon)**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** *\*\*Committee Meeting dates are subject to change and will be announced on the City website*

City Organization and Services Committee ('City Org')

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Peggy Breedon

Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 7/7/22**

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 7/12/22**

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam

Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month @ 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 7/13/22**

**OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS**

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT – 8:40 p.m.**