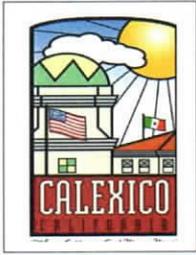


AGENDA
ITEM

2



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

DATE: April 15, 2020
TO: Mayor and City Council
APPROVED BY: David B. Dale, City Manager *MF for P.D.*
PREPARED BY: Gabriela T. Garcia, City Clerk *GT*
SUBJECT: Approval of City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meeting of March 18, 2020

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Recommendation:

Approval of City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meetings of Meeting of March 18, 2020.

Background:

In accordance with Municipal Code Section 2.04.070, the City Clerk shall prepare minutes of the proceedings of each City Council Meeting.

Discussion & Analysis:

City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meeting of March 18, 2020 have been prepared for City Council review and approval.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Coordinated With:

None.

Attachments:

Minutes for City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meeting of March 18, 2020.

AGENDA
ITEM
2

THE CITY COUNCIL/CALEXICO COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY SUCCESSOR AGENCY/CALEXICO FINANCING AUTHORITY MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THE 18TH DAY OF MARCH 2020 AT 5:30 PM AT THE FERNANDO “NENE” TORRES COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 608 HEBER AVENUE, CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA. THE DATE, HOUR AND PLACE DULY ESTABLISHED FOR THE HOLD OF SAID MEETING.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA - 5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hodge called the closed session portion of the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Mayor: Bill Hodge
Council Member: Rosie Arreola-Fernandez
Council Member: Morris Reisin
Mayor Pro Tem: David Romero
Council Member: Lewis Pacheco

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

City Council adjourned to closed session at 5:46 p.m. to discuss the following:

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency Representatives: David Dale, City Manager, Carlos Campos, City Attorney

Employee Organizations: Calexico Municipal Employees Association, Fire Fighters Association, Certified Operators Association/SEIU Local 221, Calexico Police Officers Association, Calexico Management Association, Calexico Supervisors Association

CALEXICO CITY COUNCIL/CALEXICO REDEVELOPMENT SUCCESSOR AGENCY/CALEXICO FINANCING AUTHORITY

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA - 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hodge called the regular portion of the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Mayor: Bill Hodge
Mayor Pro Tem: David Romero
Council Member: Rosie Arreola-Fernandez
Council Member: Morris Reisin44
Council Member: Lewis Pacheco

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Hodge led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MISSION STATEMENT PLEDGE

City Manager Dale led those present in reciting the Mission Statement Pledge.

INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem Romero led those present in prayer.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Attorney Campos reported direction was given, no reportable action was taken.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

City attorney introduced the following four urgency items to be added to the agenda.

11. Adopt Resolution of the City Council of the City of Calexico declaring a Local Emergency regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).
12. Approve an Emergency Telecommuting Agreement between the City and Exempt Employees and Authorize the City Manager to Sign the Agreement.
13. Approval of Letter to be sent Water Customers with regards to Assistance During the Local Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).
14. Adopt a Resolution No. 20-___ Approving Emergency Administrative Leave (EAL) Policy Authorizing the City Manager to provide EAL to Affected Employees.

Motion was made by Council Member Pacheco, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero to approve the agenda with the addition of the four urgency agenda items as introduced by the City Attorney. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Hodge requested to suspend office hours and he could take calls on these matters.

PRESENTATIONS**PROCLAMATION ON DECLARATION OF DOWN SYNDROME DAY – MARCH 21, 2020**

Mayor Hodge and Council Members read the proclamation on the declaration of Down Syndrome Day on March 21, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Pursuant to Executive Order No. N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, members of the public were allowed to make public comments via email. The following comments were received email:

Ben Horton recommended all portable restrooms such as the ones in the alley by Jack in the Box on Rockwood Avenue be removed from city properties as soon as possible for health and liability reasons.

James Beaver stated that due to the mandatory absence of the general public at the meetings, he would like to ask if the League of Cities of the State of California could ask the Governor or Secretary of State for DMV to allow persons to take the written exam online during the Coronavirus episode.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED

Mayor Pro Tem Romero addressed the public regarding the current situation with the Coronavirus and asked the public keep calm and asked that the public follow the directions given by authorities from municipal to federal. He wished everyone the best and sent his prayers to all.

Council Member Pacheco expressed his sentiments for everyone worldwide and asked that everyone follow the guidelines provided and stay home.

Mayor Hodge thanked City Staff for immediately being proactive during the Coronavirus Pandemic. Mayor Hodge read the following statement:

The City of Calexico is closely monitoring the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) on a daily basis and is following the latest information provided by the California Public Health Department, the Imperial County Public Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The City of Calexico is committed to maintain the safety and wellbeing of our community by taking socially responsible preventive measures.

Effective March 17, 2020, the City of Calexico will be taking the following preventive measures:

1. City-organized events will be cancelled/postponed.
2. Temporary Use Permits for community events and gatherings will be suspended and new applications will not be issued.
3. All programming at the Calexico Recreation Department will be suspended.
4. City parks will close-organized sports practices and events will be suspended.
5. Camarena Memorial Library will close; however, book loaning and other services will continue. Please call the library at (760) 768-2170 for more information.
6. Until further notice, there will be no public access to City Council meetings. Please submit your public comments for the upcoming meeting by 5:00 p.m.

The City of Calexico asks that you follow the Imperial County Public Health Department recommendation to stay home and minimize social contact to the extent possible and follow daily preventive actions like, washing hands for 20 seconds, covering mouth and nose with a tissue when

coughing or sneezing, cleaning and disinfecting areas frequently, avoiding touching your face, and avoiding close contact with people who are sick.

The Calexico's Fire Department's Facebook Page will be the official site to disseminate current and on-going updates on behalf of the City. For the latest information on behalf of the City of Calexico, visit our Face book page at <https://www.Facebook.com/CalexicoFire/>

He also spoke regarding the Calexico School District and advised they will have online schooling.

He advised there will be a program called “Meals to go” offered at all school sites with the exception of Aurora High School. Breakfast is from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and lunch is from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. He further stated these meals are to be picked up and taken home.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

City Manager Dale stated the City continues to monitor the situation and additional measures will be implemented and they will be disseminating to the public as they are decided upon. He stated the City will follow the County’s advice and guidance issued at 3:00 p.m. on March 17, 2020. Any questions from the public will be taken via email or phone call.

Assistant City Manager Figueroa reported attending two sub-committee meetings in Sacramento on March 4th and 5th relating to the appropriations for the New River Infrastructure Improvements south of the 2nd Street Bridge in the amount of \$28 million which were approved by both Senate and Assembly subcommittees which will assure funding for the 2020-2021 State Budget. He credited City Staff for their work on the project and the Council for their support. He also reported on the proposal submitted by the City for Planning Grants was approved in the amount of \$160,000. City Manager Dale commended Assistant City Manager Figueroa for his accomplishments. Mayor Hodge also commended Assistant City Manager Figueroa for his work with the New River project.

Mayor Hodge reported Calexico Wal-Mart is number one in the nation.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Ten Romero, seconded by Council Member Arreola-Fernandez to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following: Approval of City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meetings of March 4, 2020; Warrants from February 15, 2020 to February 28, 2020 and City Salaries from February 15, 2020 to February 28, 2020; Adopt a Resolution Declaring Out of Service Equipment as Surplus and Authorize the Donation, Sale, or Destruction of these Items; Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Destruction of Certain Departmental Records as per the City’s Records Retention and Destruction Policy; Transition of Imperial Valley Resource Management Agency (IVRMA) from the City of El Centro to the Regional Umbrella of Imperial Valley Transportation Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS**ALLIED WASTE SERVICES, INC./REPUBLIC SERVICES – 2020 WAIVER OF CPI INCREASE FOR RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS AND REQUEST TO PASS-THROUGH COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTING 2020 ORGANICS WASTE RECYCLING PROGRAM.**

City Manager Dale stated AB 1826 approved by the Assembly in September 2014 mandates that the city establish an organics waste recycling program. He advised Allied Waste has started an organic systems waste recycling program in the City of Calexico as mandated by State law. He further stated the cities of Imperial, Brawley and Calexico who are served by Allied have met with Allied Waste to determine the costs for the mandated new service. The additional cost to implement the program for all three cities is four hundred and seventy five thousand per year. Allied/Republic Services provided several alternatives and city is requesting consideration of Item E which fairly distributes the cost between residential and commercial. The increase for Item E is an additional increase of \$1.88 for residential and additional 2.5% for commercial plus an additional 2.5% CIP for inflation for a total increase for commercial of 5%. He further explained this is a pass-through cost and the city will not profit from this item and the city has to be implement per State mandate.

City Manager Dale answered questions from the Council. Motion was made by Council Member Reisin for approval of Allied Waste Services, Inc./Republic Services – 2020 Waiver of CPI Increase for Residential Customers and Request to Pass-Through Costs Associated with Implementing 2020 Organics Waste Recycling Program. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero and passed unanimously.

AWARD THE BID PROPOSAL FROM CRAFTERS FENCE, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$167,750.00 AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT FOR ADRIAN C. CORDOVA BASEBALL FIELDS FENCING PROJECT NO. 2020-200

Liliana Falomir, Public Works Manager advised the City went out for bid on February 11, 2020 and received three bids on March 5, 2020 from Crafters Fence, Inc., Red Hawk Services and George Mitchell Builders. The low bidder was Crafters Fence, Inc. in the amount of \$167,750.00. She requested Council authorization to award the proposal to Crafters Fence, Inc. in order to begin installing the fence at Adrian Cordova Park.

Council Member Reisin requested to table the award, re-bid the project and allow local vendors to participate. Ms. Falomir advised him the project was advertised in the Imperial Valley Press and in the City Website. City Manager stated there is a timeline because the city is trying to plant in the current season and re-bidding would delay the process about three months causing the city to lose the planting window. City Manager Dale answered questions from Council Members.

Council Member Reisin motioned to reject the bids and re-bid the project to allow more local companies the opportunity to bid. Motion died due to lack of second.

Council Member Pacheco motioned to approve award the Bid Proposal from Crafters Fence, Inc. in the amount of \$167,750.00 and authorize City Manager to sign construction agreement for Adrian C. Cordova Baseball Fields Fencing Project No. 2020-200. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Ten Romero and passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Arreola-Fernandez, Pacheco
NOES: Reisin
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2020- _____, APPROVING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CALEXICO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD AND DECLARING THE CITY COUNCIL'S INTENTION TO LEVY AN ANNUAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE CALEXICO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020 AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR APRIL 1, 2020 TO CONSIDER LEVYING THE ASSESSMENT

City Attorney Campos explained the process and stated this item will schedule the public hearing for the next City Council meeting.

Assistant City Manager Figueroa advised the BID's activities increased in 2019. He advised that the levy had not been assessed because it was not appropriate to assess a fee on a business which was not receiving a particular service. He stated that due to the increase in activities by the BID in 2019 and an activities report was presented to the BID, they approved it and they expressed support for the assessment. This report is being presented for council for consideration to assess the levy and approval and to set the public hearing for the following meeting of April 1, 2020.

Mayor Hodge asked if the members of the BID were in agreement with the \$100 fee assessment. Assistant City Manager advised him the BID approved the assessment.

Motion by Council Member Reisin, seconded by Pacheco and passed unanimously to Adopt Resolution No. 2020- _____, Approving the Annual Report of the Calexico Business Improvement District Advisory Board and Declaring the City Council's Intention to Levy an Annual Assessment for the Calexico Business Improvement District for the Calendar Year 2020 and Directing the City Manager to Schedule a Public Hearing for April 1, 2020 to Consider Levying the Assessment.

ADOPT RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY REGARDING NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19).

Fire Chief Favila requested Council consideration for approval of the Resolution Declaring the Local Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). He stated this action is pro-active in nature and places the city in line in case the City is so overwhelmed and it requires assistance from outside the City and for Federal and State funding. He cautioned the residents not to panic due to the declaration of emergency and stated the City has this under control and is currently

working with its counterparts at the County and State level and are following all the precautions and recommendations provided to the City.

Motion was made by Council Member Reisin, seconded by Council Member Arreola-Fernandez and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution of the City Council of the City of Calexico Declaring a Local Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

APPROVE AN EMERGENCY TELECOMMUTING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND EXEMPT EMPLOYEES AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT.

Denise Garcia, HR Manager stated Administration is requesting approval of an Emergency Telecommuting Agreement which will allow exempt employees to work from home and allow the City Manager to sign that agreement.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Romero, seconded by Council Member Pacheco and passed unanimously to approve an Emergency Telecommuting Agreement between the City and Exempt Employees and Authorize the City Manager to Sign the Agreement with salaried employees which are management and above.

APPROVAL OF LETTER TO BE SENT WATER CUSTOMERS WITH REGARDS TO ASSISTANCE DURING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY REGARDING NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19).

Karla Lobatos, Finance Director stated that due to the Coronavirus emergency, she is suggesting a letter by sent by City to its water customers in which it will offer other options for paying, waive fees effective today and going forward and not disconnect water service. Ms. Lobatos addressed the progress made by the City with regards to disconnections and advised the disconnection rate has gone down from 1500 customers to 60 customers per month. She cautioned this may affect the City's progress with disconnections. She further stated the customers will still be responsible to pay the water bill and the City will be able to set up payment plans on a case by case basis.

City Manager Dale clarified the City is not waiving the water bill, the city will waive the late fees and the city will not disconnect services. Customers will still be responsible to pay the bill.

Council Member Reisin asked for a time frame. City Manager Dale stated he does not know how long this will last, however, the City will be assessing the matter continuously.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Romero, seconded by Mayor Hodge and passed unanimously to approve a letter to be sent water customers with regards to assistance during the Local Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

ADOPT A RESOLUTION NO. 20-__ APPROVING EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE (EAL) POLICY AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO PROVIDE EAL TO AFFECTED EMPLOYEES

Denise Garcia, HR Manager stated Administration is requesting approval of an emergency administrative leave policy which will provide up to ten days or eighty hours of emergency administrative leave to cover an employee due to work unavailability caused by a major public disaster. She stated the current pandemic qualifies as a disaster and employees would be eligible. Mrs. Garcia answered questions from the Council.

Motion by Council Member Pacheco, seconded by Arreola-Fernandez and passed unanimously to adopt a Resolution approving Emergency Administrative Leave (EAL) Policy authorizing the City Manager to provide EAL to affected employees.

PUBLIC HEARING

PUBLIC HEARING TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE EXISTS A MAJORITY PROTEST TO LEVYING THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020 ASSESSMENT FOR THE CALEXICO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2020-____ A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA, CONFIRMING THE ADVISORY BOARD 2019 REPORT AND LEVYING AN ASSESSMENT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2020 ON THE CALEXICO BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

City Attorney Campos stated the Council previously set the Public Hearing for April 1, 2020 and recommended to open the public hearing and continue the public hearing to April 1, 2020.

Mayor Hodge opened the public hearing at 7:42 p.m.

Motion was made by Council Member Arreola-Fernandez to continue to the public hearing to April 1, 2020. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION NO. 2020-____, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA, INCREASING THE MAXIMUM RATES BUSES AND TAXICABS ARE PERMITTED TO CHARGE PASSENGERS AND TAKING OTHER ACTION RELATED THERETO

Mayor Hodge opened the public hearing at 7:44 p.m.

Assistant City Manager Figueroa presented the item and stated it has been a substantial amount of time since the consideration of the rates for buses and taxis. The consideration of increase of fees is in line with which should have been done in previous years. He stated the taxi and bus companies have worked diligently with the city on these increases up for consideration.

Mayor Hodge stated he strongly believed is not the time to increase bus and taxi fares due to the coronavirus crisis and because the nation will most likely go to a recession, many people will lose their jobs and it will affect the citizens especially the seniors. Raising the bus and taxi rates it will have a disproportionate effect on the low-income citizens and seniors and not in favor of the increase.

Council Member Reisin commented on a reduced fee for seniors for taxi. Assistant City Manager Figueroa stated there is a reduced fee for seniors and students for bus service only and the taxi

companies provided the flat fee for everyone. Council Member Reisin expressed belief that seniors should receive a reduced fee and with a regular fee of \$6.50 the reduced fee for seniors would be \$5.50. He further stated the fee for seniors is now \$4.00 and requested the senior rate be reduced to \$5.50.

Mayor Hodge closed the public hearing closed at 7:48 p.m.

Motion was made by Council Member Reisin to adopt the Resolution increasing the maximum rates buses and taxicabs are permitted to charge passengers with the modification that the resolution include a reduced taxicab rate of \$5.50 for seniors. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero and passed by the following vote-to-wit:

AYES: Romero, Arreola-Fernandez, Reisin, Pacheco
NOES: Hodge
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Council Member Arreola-Fernandez requested an item for updates on the current coronavirus situation.

Council Member Reisin requested an item to address knocking down the Elks Lodge.

Mayor Hodge strongly urged an item to set up a hotline for the seniors for the purpose of opening the flow of questions and to provide information regarding the coronavirus and to report incidents and to create a pamphlet regarding the hotline. He also requested a meeting with market managers to urge them to implement exclusive hours for the seniors in the community as it is being done by cities such as San Diego.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Council Member Arreola-Fernandez, seconded by Council Member Reisin and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Bill Hodge, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gabriela T. Garcia, City Clerk