



Monday, March 16, 2020

An Emergency Meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, Pico Rivera City Hall, 6615 Passons Boulevard, Pico Rivera, California.

Mayor Camacho called the emergency meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. on behalf of the City Council.

PRESENT: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho

ABSENT: None

INVOCATION: Delivered by Councilmember Sanchez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Mayor Pro Tem Elias

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman announced that there was a need for the City Council to Call and Notice an Emergency Meeting pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.6 to discuss the following items.

Motion by Councilmember Salcido, seconded by Councilmember Tercero to declare an Emergency Meeting. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho

NOES: None

Motion by Councilmember Salcido, seconded by Councilmember Tercero to enter into Closed Session. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho

NOES: Elias

Recessed to Closed Session at 3:37 p.m.

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT

CLOSED SESSION:

a. THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES

Government Code Section 54957

Consultation with City Manager, Los Angeles County Sheriff representative, City Attorney and other related City Officials

Reconvened from Closed Session at 3:47 p.m.

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE PRESENT

OPEN SESSION:

1. Consideration Of Direction And Strategy By The City Council To Provide Continued Public Services Due To The Covid-19 Virus.

Mayor Camacho stated that City staff has taken measures to ensure the safety and health of the residents and employees and therefore City Hall and City facilities are closed to the public and all City events have been suspended or cancelled.

City Manager Carmona stated that it is necessary to declare a local emergency for reimbursed costs associated with the COVID-19 virus. He provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining current statistics, rate of testing COVID-19 per capita, world health organization's primary strategic objective, responses from neighboring cities/agencies, City of Pico Rivera's response, and potential mitigation measures for discussion.

City Council Members discussed the list of potential mitigation measures voting on each item separately. Discussions included suspending utility shut offs until April 4, 2020 and extending late water payments; suspend parking violations and issue warnings for street sweeping through April 4, 2020; pending parking violations would receive a 90-day extension; redirect Code Enforcement to other safety issues (public health or quality of life) to minimize contact with residents and businesses; temporary increase of purchase order amount for single purchases \$5,000 and credit card purchases to \$20,000 for Public Work's Director and Supervisor with specific limitations and reporting requirements through April 4, 2020; suspend unnecessary employee travel for 30-45 days; support price gouging ordinance limiting 10% increase or more and utilize City App to report price gouging and hoarding; suggested utilizing the *Profile* to update residents on COVID-19; City Manager Carmona stated that he is currently looking at teleworking/telecommuting for employees and reassigning part-time employees; temporarily cancelling all future events and re-evaluating long-term contractual obligations; suggested support of residential and commercial eviction resolution for the duration of this emergency; reallocate resources to supplement reduction in services to assist the most impacted residents; enact Disaster Council in accordance with the Pico Rivera Municipal Code Chapter 2.52 Emergency Preparedness; and City Manager Carmona to report back actions taken to the City Council within sixty (60) days from adoption of the resolution for re-evaluation.

Councilmember Salcido asked that staff look at other cities who have implemented "shelter in place" policies. Councilmember Dr. Sanchez suggested that the City utilize other resources such as WIC, SASSFA, etc. and Mayor Pro Tem Elias suggested utilizing the buddy system to check on neighbors. Other discussions included the closure of restaurants except for delivery or pickup of food; implement full refunds for City classes that have been cancelled; utilize the City's reader boards, *Profile*, social media to reach out to residents and remind residents to reach out to their neighbors; and reported that the Montebello Bus Lines have waived cost to riders.

1. Emergency Declaration by the Pico Rivera City Council.

Motion by Councilmember Dr. Sanchez, seconded by Councilmember Salcido to approve Resolution No. 7054 declaring and proclaiming the existence of a Local Emergency due to the affects of the COVID-19 virus and the effects and impacts upon the operations of government of the City of Pico Rivera with the addition of the proposed amendments. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Resolution No. 7054 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PICO RIVERA, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING AND PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO THE AFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS AND THE EFFECTS AND IMPACTS UPON THE OPERATION OF GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF PICO RIVERA

AYES: Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: Elias

2. Utilities Policy.

Motion by Councilmember Tercero, seconded by Councilmember Salcido to suspend utility shut offs and waive late water payments fees until April 4, 2020. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

3. Parking Enforcement.

Motion by Councilmember Tercero, seconded by Councilmember Salcido to suspend violations on street sweeping until April 4, 2020 and pending parking citations would receive a 90-day extension. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

4. Code Enforcement.

Motion by Councilmember Salcido, seconded by Councilmember Tercero to temporarily redirect Code Enforcement assignments to public health and quality of life until April 4, 2020. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

5. Purchase Order Process for Necessary COVID-19 Purchases.

Motion by Councilmember Tercero, seconded by Councilmember Salcido to temporarily increase single use purchases by \$5,000 and credit card purchases to \$20,000 for Public Works Director and Public Works Supervisor until April 4, 2020 with specific limitations and reporting. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

6. Employee Travel Policy.

Motion by Councilmember Salcido, seconded by Councilmember Tercero to suspend all unnecessary employee travel for 45 days. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

7. Price Gouging Ordinance.

Motion by Councilmember Tercero, seconded by Councilmember Salcido to implement price gouging ordinance adopted by the Los Angeles County and California Penal Code 396 restricting a 10% increase for goods, food items or services following the declaration of an emergency and to update the City's App so residents could report gouging and hoarding. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

8. Teleworking/Telecommuting.

Motion by Councilmember Dr. Sanchez, seconded by Councilmember Tercero to allow City Manager Carmona to have the authority to grant permission to City employees to telework/telecommute and reassign part-time employees as he deems is in the best interest of the City during the emergency period giving high priority to those who are: pregnant, age 65 or over, or have a compromised immune system. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

8. Evaluating Long-Term Contractual Obligations.

Motion by Councilmember Salcido, seconded by Councilmember Tercero to allow City Manager Carmona to review and evaluate all long-term contractual obligations for City events and to cancel all future events/programming for summer 2020 until further notice. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

9. Residential and Commercial Eviction Moratorium.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Elias, seconded by Councilmember Tercero to support any moratoriums imposed for residential and commercial tenant evictions caused by the inability for tenants to meet their contractual obligations as a result of the COVID-19 to the extent legally possibly. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

10. Reallocating Resources to Supplement Reduction in Services.

Motion by Councilmember Tercero, seconded by Councilmember Salcido to provide authority to City Manager Carmona to reallocate resources to supplement any reduction in services and that any action previously taken by the City Manager is hereby approved. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Camacho adjourned the City Council meeting at 6:18 p.m. There being no objection it was so ordered.

AYES: Elias, Salcido, Sanchez, Tercero, Camacho
NOES: None

Gustavo V. Camacho, Mayor

ATTEST:

Anna M. Jerome, City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct report of the proceedings of the City Council regular meeting dated March 16, 2020 and approved by the City Council on March 24, 2020.

Anna M. Jerome, City Clerk