



Tuesday, March 9, 2021

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

Mayor Elias called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. on behalf of the City Council.

**PRESENT:** Camacho, Lara, Lutz, Sanchez, Elias

**ABSENT:** None

**INVOCATION:** Delivered by Councilmember Lutz

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Councilmember Camacho

Mayor Elias inquired about ~~judiciary~~ fiduciary responsibility for the City. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman stated that City Council, City Attorney, City staff, and all those who are under Oath with the City of Pico Rivera have a ~~judiciary~~ fiduciary responsibility to the City and its constituents.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

- Chandler Asset Management

A presentation was provided by Chandler Asset Management representatives, Mia Corral and Christopher McCarry highlighting the firm's overview and partnerships, the investment objectives, portfolio characteristics, and the compliance with state law and the City of Pico Rivera's investment policy.

City Council discussed the City's investment policy, investment rate of returns, investment priority protocol, the use of River City Bank, the City's threshold with Chandler Asset Management, investment program options, Chandler Asset Management portfolio recommendations and concerns regarding rising interest rates.

Councilmember Lara inquired about looking into refinancing the City's bonds to take advantage of the current low interest rates with City Manager Carmona stating that items will be brought before City Council in the near future.

City Manager Carmona noted for the record an amendment to the recommendations in the staff report for Item No. 6 Fiscal Year 2020-21 City of Pico Rivera Mid-Year Budget Report as of December 31, 2020.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Jose Sanchez:

- Addressed the City Council regarding Rosemead Boulevard southbound lanes trench botched repair.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

City Council:

1. **Minutes:**
  - Approved City Council meeting of February 23, 2021
2. **Approved 12<sup>th</sup> Warrant Register of the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year.** (700)  
Check Numbers: 286863-286900; 286901-286936  
Special Check Numbers: None
3. **Budget Calendar – Two Year Budget Fiscal Year 2021-22 and Fiscal Year 2022-23.** (700)

This item was pulled from the Consent Calendar for further clarification and discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Camacho, seconded by Councilmember Lara to approve Consent Calendar Items No. 1 and 2. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Camacho, Lara, Lutz, Sanchez, Elias

**NOES:** None

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS PULLED FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION:**

3. **Budget Calendar – Two Year Budget Fiscal Year 2021-22 and Fiscal Year 2022-23.** (700)

Councilmember Lara inquired about the pros and cons of a two year budget. City Manager Carmona stated that by transitioning to a bi-annual budget would allow staff to better assess the needs of the City in a two year span, create efficiencies within the City and budget revenue assumptions. Finance Director Garcia added that the budget will continue to come before City Council every year as appropriations are done one year at a time with a preview of the second year and with the ability to bring the second year budget to City Council for adjustments if needed. She further stated that in approving the second year plan it will assist in moving the City's current five year Capital Improvement Plan into a potential 10-15 year plan.

Motion by Councilmember Lara, seconded by Councilmember Dr. Sanchez to receive and file the fiscal year (FY) 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 Budget Development Calendar. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Camacho, Lara, Lutz, Sanchez, Elias  
**NOES:** None

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

City Council:

**4. COVID-19 Business Grant Review. (700)**

Community and Economic Director Garcia provided a presentation on the Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 Small Business Grant Program that highlighted the grant criteria and processes, CDBG-CV funds, CDBG-CV eligible and ineligible fund uses, federal criteria, eligible and ineligible businesses, vulnerability index, eligible areas, the application review process and point system, and an amendment to fiscal year 2019-20 CDBG Action Plan.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez suggested allowing businesses that have been operating for a minimum of six (6) months the opportunity to apply for funds and to prioritize the applications by those who have not yet received government assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

City Council expressed their gratitude for the continual work on the policy and bringing the item back before City Council for approval.

Motion by Councilmember Lara, seconded by Councilmember Camacho to authorize staff to amend the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) fiscal year (FY) 2019-20 Action Plan at the March 23, 2021 City Council meeting to formally adopt the creation of the COVID-19 Business Grant Program. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Camacho, Lara, Lutz, Sanchez, Elias  
**NOES:** None

**5. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020 and Fiscal Year 2019-20 General Fund Year-End Results. (700)**

Finance Director Garcia provided a brief presentation on the Comprehensive Annual Financial report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 that included the City's fiscal year 2019-20 accomplishments, general fund year-end revenues and expenditures, budgeted versus actuals, and the general fund year-end results. She mentioned available surplus funds being allocated to Critical Overtime for fiscal year 2020-21, Information Technology Assessment and Citywide Facility Condition Assessment.

Mayor Elias and Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez inquired about the loss of revenue at the Pico Rivera Golf Course and Pico Rivera Sports Arena. City Manager Carmona stated that the City is currently requesting mitigation funds from the federal government.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez inquired about “other revenues.” Finance Director Garcia stated that the other revenues included intergovernmental revenues, Senate Bill 90 revenue, and any small grants the City received all of which are listed in the City’s operating budget.

Councilmember Camacho commented on the City’s vision, mission statement, reserves, and strategic plan.

Councilmember Lara expressed his support of the allocation of funds to the Citywide Facility Condition Assessment and inquired if the Pico Rivera Sports Arena will be included in the assessment. City Manager Carmona stated that it is not included at this time due to the pending projects.

Motion by Councilmember Camacho, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez to: 1) Receive and file the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, fiscal year ending June 30, 2020; and 2) Approve a Budget Adjustment allocating the fiscal year (FY) 2019-20 General Fund operating surplus of \$471,244. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Camacho, Lara, Lutz, Sanchez, Elias  
**NOES:** None

**6. Fiscal Year 2020-21 City of Pico Rivera Mid-Year Budget Report as of December 31, 2020. (700)**

Finance Director Garcia provided a PowerPoint presentation on the fiscal year (FY) 2020-2021 Mid-Year Financial Review encompassing the general fund mid-year revenues and expenditures, FY 2019-20 expenditures versus FY 2020-21, Utility Users tax, additional appropriations, and mid-year adjustment recommendations to the general and special funds such as the Emergency Preparedness (EOC), Workers Compensation, and General Liability Claims.

Mayor Elias inquired about the process of how online sales taxes are collected by the City of Pico Rivera and the initial projected deficit. Finance Director Garcia stated that the initial projected deficit was presented at eight million dollars. In regard to the online sales tax process, she stated that sales tax generated by online transactions are allocated and distributed to all of the agencies based on a prorated share.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez inquired about any effects to the business license fees due to COVID-19 with Finance Director Garcia stating that there was a decline in business license fee revenue, but that tax breaks will be offered by the State.

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez and Councilmember Lara inquired about the workers compensation deficit and the credit card surcharge. Finance Director Garcia stated that the deficit due to the City’s insurance coverage at that time did not include a self-insured deductible. In regard to the credit card surcharge she stated that the 3.5 percent fee is assessed by the credit card merchant at the time of the transaction and does not touch the City’s accounts.

Finance Director Garcia stated that the staff report recommendation was amended to add item No. 2) Approve a Budget Adjustment amending the fiscal year 2020-21 Adopted Budget for the General Fund and Special Funds as outlined in Enclosure 1 of the report.

Motion by Councilmember Camacho, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez to: 1) Receive and file the Mid-Year Budget Report ending December 31, 2020, which represents the balances and activity for the first and second quarters (July through December) of the 2020-21 fiscal year and 2) Approve a Budget Adjustment amending the fiscal year 2020-21 Adopted Budget for the General Fund and Special Funds as outlined in Enclosure 1 of the report. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Camacho, Lara, Lutz, Sanchez, Elias  
**NOES:** None

**7. Mid-Year Adjustments for Capital Improvement Program – Fiscal Year 2020-21. (700)**

Motion by Councilmember Camacho, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez to: 1) Approve fiscal year (FY) 2020-21 Budget Adjustments to existing and ongoing Capital Improvement Projects; 2) Amend the FY 2020-21 adopted budget by appropriating \$50,000 in Prop C (Fund 206), \$100,000 in Measure R (Fund 207) and \$40,000 in Measure M (Fund 208) for ongoing and new projects that will fund street related improvements; and 3) Amend the FY 2020-21 adopted budget by appropriating \$1,000,000 in COP funds (Fund 305) for the design of the residential resurfacing projects. Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Camacho, Lara, Lutz, Sanchez, Elias  
**NOES:** None

**CITY MANAGER/STAFF REPORTS:**

City Manager Carmona and Parks and Recreation Interim Director Yugar provided an update on the re-opening of park facilities and a brief presentation on the Youth and Adult Recreation Sport Leagues outdoor field re-openings. The presentation included the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's new order, the current tier mandate by the State, examples of what the surrounding communities are doing, and the next steps for the City of Pico Rivera. Parks and Recreation Interim Director Yugar requested to waive the normal summer maintenance field closures due to non-usage of the fields during the COVID-19 restrictions.

City Councilmembers inquired about the current park usage limitations and the status of the pool. Parks and Recreation Interim Director Yugar stated that currently the park facilities are open for outdoor usage with restricted modifications. In regard to the Smith Park pool, she stated that the pool is scheduled to undergo repairs and that the summer 2021 programming and usage is still to be determined.

City Manager Carmona stated that staff is currently working on confirming dates for the City Council Retreat.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER (INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY MEETINGS, AB 1234 REPORTS, NEW BUSINESS, OLD BUSINESS):**

Mayor Pro Tem Dr. Sanchez reported on a mobile vaccine clinic at the Telacu Del Rio Retirement apartments, acknowledged International Women's Day, and stated that she received the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine.

Councilmember Camacho reported on the Los Angeles County Sanitation District wastewater testing, the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors litigation with the County Sanitation District, a call with CalChoice regarding PRIME, Senator Padilla's visit to the Whittier Dam Project area, and the TerraVerde Energy LLC Amendment No. 1 coming before City Council on March 23, 2021.

Councilmember Lutz reported on the commencement of the Safety Ad Hoc Committee meetings and the airing of public service announcements for residents.

Councilmember Lara reported on two ride-along experiences with the Sheriff's Station and the Public Works Maintenance crew. He acknowledged the Sheriff's station deputies for keeping the community safe and the Public Works staff for the upkeep of the park facilities. He expressed his opposition to utilizing contractors within the Public Works Department, acknowledged Parks and Recreation staff for their assistance in facilitating the vaccine appointment process with Beverly Hospital, mentioned the In-N-Out Fundraiser hosted by the Sheriff's Department and the ongoing effort to bring a mobile vaccine site to Pico Rivera. Councilmember Lara acknowledged closing in memory of Lucy Lopez and Deputy Albanese.

Mayor Elias asked City Clerk Jerome to provide a resident with the Ballot Initiative process for mobile home rent control, requested representatives from City Council to participate in the Veterans Advisory Committee, and suggested printing the City *Profile* in both English and Spanish.

**CLOSED SESSION(S):** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Elias adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:24 p.m. in memory of Lucy Lopez and Deputy Thomas J. Albanese. There being no objection it was so ordered.

**AYES:** Camacho, Lara, Lutz, Sanchez, Elias  
**NOES:** None

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Raul Elias, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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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 9, 2021 and approved by the City Council on March 23, 2021.

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Anna M. Jerome, City Clerk