

JOINT MEETING OF THE EL CAJON CITY COUNCIL/HOUSING AUTHORITY/SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE EL CAJON REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY



MINUTES

CITY OF EL CAJON EL CAJON, CALIFORNIA

April 13, 2021

A Regular Joint Meeting of the El Cajon City Council/Housing Authority/ Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency, held Tuesday, April 13, 2021, was called to order by Mayor/Chair Bill Wells at 3:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 200 Civic Center Way, El Cajon, California.

ROLL CALL

Council/Agencymembers present:	Goble, Metschel, and Ortiz
Council/Agencymembers absent:	None
Deputy Mayor/Vice Chair present:	Kendrick
Mayor/Chair present:	Wells
Other Officers present:	Mitchell, City Manager/Executive Director DiMaggio, Assistant City Manager Foley, City Attorney/General Counsel Cortez, City Clerk/Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG led by Mayor Wells and MOMENT OF SILENCE. (The Courts have concluded that sectarian prayer, as part of City Council Meetings, is not permitted under the Constitution).

POSTINGS: The City Clerk posted Orders of Adjournment of the March 23, 2021, meeting and the Agenda of the April 13, 2021, meeting in accordance with State Law and El Cajon City/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency Policy.

PRESENTATIONS: None

AGENDA CHANGES: None

1. Minutes of El Cajon City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency Meetings

Approves Minutes of the March 23, 2021, Meeting of the El Cajon City Council/ Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency.

2. Warrants

Approves payment of Warrants as submitted by the Finance Department.

3. Approval of Reading Ordinances by Title only

Approves the reading by title and waives the reading in full of all Ordinances on the Agenda.

4. Community Event – Dinner and a Concert

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approves the 2021 “Dinner and a Concert” series, subject to conditions.

DISCUSSION

As clarification to a question by Mayor Wells, City Manager Mitchell stated that the Community Event ‘Dinner and a Concert’ is scheduled for July 2021. All events will be subject to COVID-19 guidelines from the health code from the County of San Diego.

5. Community Event in the Right-of-Way – Cajon Classic Cruise

That the City Council approves the use of the public right-of-way for the 2021 “Cajon Classic Cruise” series, subject to conditions.

CONSENT ITEMS: (Continued)

6. Award of Bid No. 018-21 – Neighborhood Street Lights
 1. Adopt Resolution No. 027-21 to approve Plans and Specifications for Neighborhood Street Lights, Bid No. 018-21;
 2. Find the first and fourth low bidders non-responsive for the reason set forth in the agenda report; and
 3. Reject the bids of T&M Electric, Inc., and Asplundh Construction, LLC, as non-responsive, and adopt Resolution No. 028-21 to award the bid to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, Lekos Electric, Inc., in the amount of \$375,730 for the Base Bid and Additive Alternate No. 1.

7. Relaxation of Certain Zoning Code Standards

Adopts Resolution No. 029-21, affirming the Continued Relaxation of Certain Zoning Code Standards, Allowance of Temporary Signs, and a no-fee Temporary Use Permit.

MOTION BY WELLS, SECOND BY ORTIZ, to APPROVE Consent Items 1 to 7.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

8. Appointments to the Public Safety Facility Financing Oversight Committee

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council appoints four applicants to the Public Safety Facility Financing Oversight Committee.

DISCUSSION

City Manager Mitchell provided detailed information of the Item.

No comments were received for the Item.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: (Item 8 – Continued)

MOTION BY KENDRICK, SECOND BY GOBLE, to APPOINT Derrick Cardinale; Patrick Grillot; Stephanie Harper and Hoger Saleh to the Public Safety Facility Financing Oversight Committee.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

City Clerk Cortez administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Committee Member, Stephanie Harper.

9. "Dollar Days" Analysis

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council directs staff on how to proceed with a "Dollar Days" concept, expanding recreational opportunities to the citizens of El Cajon.

DISCUSSION

Director of Parks and Recreation, Frank Carson, provided detailed information of the Item.

No comments were received for the Item.

Discussion ensued among Council and Staff concerning the following:

- Use of American Rescue Act Plan to fund 'Dollar Days';
- Suggestion to provide classes for adults;
- Consider a budget limit; and
- Consider a date to end the program.

No comments were received for the Item.

10. 2020 General Plan Annual Progress Report

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council:

1. Accepts the annual progress report required by the State of California; and
2. Directs staff to forward the report to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: (Item 10 – Continued)

DISCUSSION

Associate Planner, Alfonso Camacho, provided detailed information of the Item.

No comments were received for the Item.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY METSCHEL, to ACCEPT the annual progress report required by the State of California; and Direct staff to forward the report to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

11. Summary of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and Potential Programs Eligible for Funding

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council provides initial direction on projects and programs desired to be implemented through the use of funding provided by the American Rescue Plan Act.

DISCUSSION

Assistant City Manager DiMaggio provided detailed information of the Item.

Discussion ensued among Council and Staff concerning the following:

- Budget to replace lost revenue;
- Consideration to hire a consultant to provide data on what type of services would benefit the El Cajon population;
- Seek community input;
- Solar panels for City buildings;
- Outdoor dining opportunities at the Magnolia; and
- Police enforcement to focus on drug dealers;

Greg Hendricks proposed a scholarship program for local students.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: (Continued)

12. Update on Homeless Programs

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council receives the report and provides feedback and direction on future homeless programming and funding.

DISCUSSION

City Manager Mitchell provided detailed information of the Item.

Discussion ensued among Council and Staff concerning the following:

- Increased Police service calls to Hotels where homeless vouchers are used;
- Request for 'Tiny homes' update; and
- Food insecurity prevention.

The following people spoke, or submitted a comment card, to request continued support for the homeless community:

1. Venonica Abnerica
2. Danielle Wilkerson
3. Alana
4. Cheyenne Palmer
5. Barrett Stowers
6. Akiko Mims
7. BC Garcia
8. Lauren Cazares
9. Nipharat Somsamouth
10. Chelsea Bennington
11. Annette Villarreal
12. Nikisha T.
13. Starla Toto
14. Ashley Burch
15. Nina
16. Melanie Bennett

Lauren Pollick, Deputy Director of Housing - Home Start, Inc., provided information on upcoming programs to help the homeless population.

MOTION BY GOBLE, SECOND BY METSCHEL, to ACCEPTED the report and provided feedback and direction on future homeless programming and funding.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: (Continued)

13. COVID-19 Status Report

RECOMMENDATION: No action required.

DISCUSSION

City Manager Mitchell provided detailed information of the Item.

Councilmember Goble complimented the local business for safely managing serving customers during the pandemic.

No comments were received for the Item.

COMMISSION REPORTS: None

ACTIVITIES REPORTS/COMMENTS OF MAYOR WELLS:

SANDAG (San Diego Association of Governments) Board of Directors; SANDAG – Audit Committee; LAFCO.

14. Council Activities Report/Comments

Report as stated.

DISCUSSION

The following people submitted online comments opposing Sexually Violent Predators (SVP) being placed in the City of El Cajon:

1. David DeRiemer
2. Megan Dunn
3. Rosario Wilke
4. Kelley DeRiemer

Mayor Wells added that the entire City Council has submitted letters to the State of California, opposing the placement of SVP's in the City of El Cajon.

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ACTIVITIES REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS:

15. COUNCILMEMBER STEVE GOBLE
MTS (Metropolitan Transit System Board); East County Advanced Water Purification Joint Powers Authority Board; Chamber of Commerce – Government Affairs Committee; SANDAG – Board of Directors – Alternate; SANDAG Public Safety Committee – Alternate; METRO Commission/Wastewater JPA – Alternate.

Council Activities Report/Comments.

Report as stated.

16. MAYOR PRO TEM GARY KENDRICK
METRO Commission/Wastewater JPA; Heartland Communications; Heartland Fire Training JPA.

Council Activities Report/Comments.

Report as stated.

17. COUNCILMEMBER MICHELLE METSCHEL
Harry Griffen Park Joint Steering Committee; Heartland Communications – Alternate; Heartland Fire Training JPA – Alternate.

Council Activities Report/Comments.

Report as stated.

18. COUNCILMEMBER PHIL ORTIZ
League of California Cities, San Diego Division; East County Economic Development Council; MTS (Metropolitan Transit System Board) – Alternate; East County Advanced Water Purification Joint Powers Authority Board – Alternate; Chamber of Commerce – Government Affairs Committee – Alternate.

Council Activities Report/Comments.

Report as stated.

JOINT COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS: None

GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: None

ORDINANCES: FIRST READING - None

ORDINANCES: SECOND READING AND ADOPTION - None

CLOSED SESSIONS:

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency adjourned Closed Session as follows:

19. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9: Lopez v. City of El Cajon Case No. 20cv533-WQH-BLM

MOTION BY WELLS, SECOND BY ORTIZ, to ADJOURN to Closed Session at 5:44 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION AT 6:05 p.m.

City Attorney Foley reported the following actions:

- Direction given to Legal Counsel

Adjournment: Mayor Wells adjourned the Regular Joint Meeting of the El Cajon City Council/Housing Authority/Successor Agency to the El Cajon Redevelopment Agency held this 13th day of April, 2021, at 6:06 p.m., to Tuesday, April 27, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.

ANGELA L. CORTEZ, CMC
City Clerk/Secretary