

MEETING DATE: November 4, 2010

AGENDA ITEM: (1) Report from the Human Relations Subcommittee; and, (2) Consideration of a Recommendation to the City Council that the City Host a Human Relations Related Event.

ATTACHMENT

Pages

Excerpt of the Approved Meeting Minutes Relating to July 26, 2010 Council Agenda Item A-6. 1 - 6

ATTACHMENT

July 26, 2010

Item A-5
(continued)

Staff read minor corrections to the ordinance into the record and distributed a handout for reference.

Discussion ensued between the City Council and staff regarding the definition of local business; administrative policies; qualifications for local sales tax; and additional clarification.

o0o

Item A-6

1) Discussion of the Roles of City Commissions under the New City Charter; 2) Introduction of an Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Chapter 3.03 of the Culver City Municipal Code (CCMC) Relating to City Commissions and Agencies; 3) Adoption of a Resolution Amending City Council Adopted Policy 2007-01 Entitled "City Commissions," and Repealing Resolution No. 2007-R029; 4) Provide Direction Regarding the Proposal to Designate the Public Works Director as the Person Responsible for Street and Parkway Trees Including the Removal of Trees with an Appeal to the PRCS Commission; 5) Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Section 7.01.230.B.2 of the CCMC Clarifying those Individuals Eligible to Receive Parking Decals Which Exempt their Vehicles from Parking or Standing Provisions; and 6) Adoption of a Resolution Amending City Council Policy Statement Number 3003 Entitled "Issuance of City Parking Decals" and Rescinding Resolution No. 95-R005.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, provided a summary of the material of record.

Mayor Armenta invited public comment.

July 26, 2010

Item A-6
(continued)

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Marta Zaragoza expressed support for the Commissions, changes requiring monthly payments to Commissioners, and the elimination of badges; she discussed the process for modification and the importance of checks and balances; asserted that issues should come before the City Council rather than the City Manager; expressed support for red light cameras; wanted to see the West Los Angeles College expansion done right; and she discussed submission of late speaker cards.

Desmond Burns, President of the Culver City Employees Association, expressed concern with retaining the integrity of the Civil Service Commission; discussed extensive adjustments to the Civil Services rules made in 2006 when the City converted to a Charter; and he questioned the timing of the current changes.

Richard Ochoa, Civil Service Commissioner, asserted that the changes were made in haste; felt the agenda item was premature; asked that the item be postponed; expressed concern that the item had not been properly vetted; and noted that items included were not discussed by the Commission.

Laura Stuart, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commissioner, suggested creating protocol to improve communication with the City Manager; discussed parking decals; and requested a Commission meeting with the new City Manager.

Vicki Daly Redholtz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commissioner, discussed the process; concern with communication; bi-monthly subcommittee meetings to set goals; concern with the possibility of the City Manager canceling meetings without Commission consultation; and parking decals.

July 26, 2010

Item A-6
(continued)

Marianne Kim, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commissioner, expressed concern with the possibility that the Commission might only meet at the discretion of the City Manager; concern with staff reports presented to the City Council that are not consistent with Commission discussion; jurisdiction over trees and music entertainment; and clarification regarding usage of park facilities.

Rick Hudson, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission Chair, noted that the subcommittee had not met during the last year; discussed scheduling of the Park Tour; and he reported that the Senior Center, Skate Park, and Dog Park were running well.

Brian Fitzpatrick, representing the Culver City Police Officers Association, expressed concerns and opposition to the proposed dismantling of the Culver City Civil Service Commission as an independent body with binding authority; listed specific concerns with regard to discipline, employment and promotional decisions, and oversight; expressed concern with the ability of any City Manager to be an impartial arbitrator; discussed Civil Service jurisdiction over the testing process; the vote of no confidence with Police Chief Don Pedersen; the importance of having an independent body; and concern that they had not been able to meet and confer on the meet and confer item.

Wendell Phillips, Attorney for the Culver City Employees Association, asserted that discipline should not be subject to political whim; asserted that those who hear the testimony should make the decisions; and he noted that there were no problems with the current system.

Dan Gallagher, Civil Service Commission Chair, provided background on himself and discussed the importance of independent oversight and risk management.

July 26, 2010

Item A-6
(continued)

Michael Whitaker, Civil Service Commissioner and Charter Review Committee member, felt that the basis for the changes was flawed; discussed the Civil Service system; expressed concern with the ability of City staff to be impartial; he asked that the Civil Service system be maintained; discussed the City Charter; and he asserted that the Charter Review Committee did not discuss elimination of the Civil Service system.

Meghan Sahli Wells asserted that the Civil Service Commission provided important checks and balances; she felt the Commission should continue to report to the City Council; and she asked that its current role, independence and integrity be maintained.

Tony Pappas discussed parking decals; the Civil Service Commission; and concern with changes related to the conversion to a charter form of government.

Alice Prasad, Associate Analyst, read written comments from:

Marla Koosed, Culver City Cultural Affairs Commissioner
Sandy Stivers, Culver City Civil Service Commissioner

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, read a written comment from:

Sharon Zeitlin, Culver City Civil Service Commissioner

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, reported that written comments from Alan Corlin and Sandy Levin had been received and incorporated into the record.

July 26, 2010

Item A-6
(continued)

Discussion ensued between the City Council and staff regarding recommendations in the staff report allegedly not discussed at subcommittee meetings; the critical oversight role of the Civil Service Commission; the general recommendations; meetings on an as-needed basis; the importance of Commission consideration and input; communication and information flow between Directors and Commissions; differences between Commissions and their duties; retention of the Civil Service Commission as final arbiter; power of the City Manager; encouragement to Commissioners to contact Councilmembers with staff communication issues; consecutive terms; badges; parking decals; the process for consideration of trees; justification for the changes; checks and balances; grievance appeals to the City Council; changes to the form of government in the City and the intent of the voters; additional information; adequate notice; and tabling the motion.

Councilmember Weissman suggested a motion to approve the 12 general recommendations as amended, and ratification of the roles and responsibilities of the Planning, Parks, Recreation and Community Services, and Cultural Affairs Commissions, with modifications made to indicate that the Civil Service Commission is the final arbiter.

Further discussion ensued between the City Council and staff regarding having a separate discussion on the role of the Civil Service Commission; actions of other cities; current and proposed language regarding the powers and duties of the Civil Service Commission; parking decals and School Board members; language with regard to requirements to adhere to legal opinions and advice of the City Attorney; and the role of the City Attorney with regard to the Civil Service Commission.

July 26, 2010

Item A-6
(continued)

Discussion continued between the City Council and staff regarding proposed motions made by Councilmember Weissman. These include directing that the City Manager work with the Civil Service Commission to come up with a proposal with regard to any oversight role that the City Council wishes for the Civil Service Commission and to have with Civil Service rules amended to be consistent;, and that staff return with the implementing ordinance and resolutions consistent with modifications discussed for final review and approval.

Heather Baker, Deputy City Attorney, clarified that staff had received policy direction during the City Council discussion and would bring back revised documents but nothing would take affect tonight.

Discussion continued regarding the provision related to City Attorney opinions; standard conditions of approval; direction to staff to incorporate comments; and options available to the City Council.

o0o

Item A-1

Direction Regarding the Use by the Culver City Unified School District Board of Education of the Mike Balkman Council Chambers.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, provided a summary of the material of record, noting that he had received written correspondence from Karlo Silbiger and Steven Gourley, Culver City School Board members.

Mayor Armenta invited public participation.