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UNTIL APPROVED BY THE
CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF CULVER CITY,
CALIFORNIA

April 25, 2011
6:02 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting of the City Council was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present: Christopher Armenta, Mayor
Micheál O'Leary, Vice Mayor
Jeffrey Cooper, Councilmember
D. Scott Malsin, Councilmember
Andrew Weissman, Councilmember

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Closed Session

The City Council adjourned to Closed Session to discuss the following items:

CS-1 Conference with Real Property Negotiators

Re: Washington National TOD - Business - 8926 Venice Boulevard
City/Agency Negotiators: John Nachbar, City Manager/ Executive Director; Sol Blumenfeld, Assistant Executive Director/Community Development Director; Todd Tipton, Deputy Community Development Director/Redevelopment Administrator
Other Parties Negotiators: David Knepprath
Under Negotiation: Price, terms of payment or both, including use restrictions, development obligations and other monetary related considerations
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

CS-2 Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation

Re: Community Health Councils, Inc., City of Culver City, et al., v. County of Los Angeles
Case No. BS118018 (Re County Community Standards District for Oil Drilling Operations)
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a)

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Closed Session
(continued)

CS-3 Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation
Re: Significant Exposure to Litigation - (1 item)
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b) (1)

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Recess

The City Council recessed to Closed Session at 6:03 p.m.

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Reconvene

The City Council reconvened its meeting at 7:05 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

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Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was given by John Nachbar, City Manager, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Wynn.

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Closed Session Report

Mayor Armenta indicated there was nothing to report out from Closed Session.

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Armenta invited public comment.

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Bill Wynn announced a showing of "The Freedom Riders" at the Culver Palms United Methodist Church on May 1, 2011; and reported on a Freedom Riders celebration in Washington D.C.

Lyndon Stambler expressed concern regarding privacy issues with an addition being built by his neighbor; and he requested that all work be halted pending an investigation.

Discussion ensued between the City Council and staff regarding having an agendized discussion of noticing in R-1 zones when accessory structures are built; complexity of the law; noticing policies; modifications to single family residences; adherence to the code; discretionary approvals; opportunities for neighbors to express opinions on modifications; and addressing the issue through a legal non-conforming ordinance.

Terry Silberman asserted that the second story addition to her neighbor's garage added excessive building density to the existing R-1 zoned neighborhood and that the permanent addition to a non-conforming structure violated the letter and spirit of the City codes and ordinances; she questioned why the second dwelling was allowed on the small lot; she requested that the structure be dismantled; she asserted that the addition made the neighborhood less desirable and impaired the ability to collect solar energy; and she asked for an investigation.

Megan Sahli Wells announced "Confident City Cycling" classes at Linwood E. Howe Elementary School on April 30, 2011 and May 7, 2011 sponsored by Transition Culver City and The Culver City Bicycle Coalition.

Mary Lou Cardone thanked the City Council for their support of the Animal Services program.

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Public Comment
(continued)

Burt Bochner expressed concern with the building code; he questioned why the permit was approved for his neighbor's addition; he expressed concern with the decline of his property value as a result of the addition; and he wanted to see the rules investigated.

Elaine Courtney reported that her privacy had been affected by the addition built by her neighbor; expressed dismay that the City could not guarantee the open space that they paid for when they bought their home; and she pointed out that her neighbor now had two homes on their property to the detriment of the neighborhood.

Ela Valladares, Deputy City Clerk, read written comments submitted by:

Victoria Maidment
Joanna Hoffman Clubb

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Adjourn in Memory

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER MALSIN, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER O'LEARY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT WHEN THIS MEETING IS ADJOURNED, IT BE ADJOURNED IN MEMORY OF MARY ROBBINS, MOTHER OF ACTOR/DIRECTOR TIM ROBBINS OF THE ACTORS GANG; LILLIAN PATTACHIA, WIDOW OF DAN PATTACHIA, FORMER MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER; AND MURRAY SILMAN, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE CULVER CITY SENIOR CENTER.

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Consent Calendar

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MALSIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS C-1 AND C-2.

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2011 AND THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 28, 2011 AS SUBMITTED.

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Item C-2

Cash Disbursements

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE CASH DISBURSEMENTS FROM APRIL 2, 2011 - APRIL 15, 2011.

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Joint Items

Item J-1

(1) Election of Mayor and Vice Mayor; and (2) Selection of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Redevelopment Agency.

Shelly Wolfberg, Assistant to the City Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation of City events over the last year.

Mayor Armenta expressed pride in the accomplishments of the City Council. At this time, Mayor Armenta nominated Vice Mayor O'Leary to serve as Mayor and Councilmember Cooper to serve as Vice Mayor.

Councilmember Weissman thanked the Mayor for his service and inquired into the City's policy regarding the Mayoral rotation.

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Item J-1
(continued)

John Nachbar, City Manager, clarified that City policy was that the senior Councilmember who has not yet served as Mayor or Vice Mayor is next in line.

Councilmember Cooper yielded his Vice Mayor nomination to Councilmember Malsin.

Mayor Armenta amended his motion.

At this time, the Councilmembers individually thanked Mayor Armenta for his service.

MOVED BY MAYOR ARMENTA, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. ELECT COUNCILMEMBER O'LEARY AS MAYOR; AND,
2. ELECT COUNCILMEMBER MALSIN AS VICE MAYOR.

At this time, Mayor O'Leary chaired the meeting.

Mayor O'Leary invited public participation.

The following members of the audience addressed the City Council:

Richard Ochoa thanked former Mayor Armenta for his service; he welcomed Mayor O'Leary; and he congratulated Councilmember Malsin on becoming Vice Mayor.

Peter Kelly congratulated Mayor O'Leary.

Meghan Sahli-Wells thanked former Mayor Armenta for his service and for the tone he brought to the City Council; and she welcomed Mayor O'Leary.

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Item J-1
(continued)

At this time, Mayor O'Leary discussed the position of Mayor; the importance of the position to residents; his role as City representative; he expressed appreciation for the support of his family, colleagues and friends; and he discussed Harry Culver and history of the City.

At this time, Mayor O'Leary and Vice Mayor Malsin received their City pins.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda - continued.

Mayor O'Leary invited public participation.

There was no response.

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Receipt of Correspondence

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER WEISSMAN, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR MALSIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

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Items from Staff

No action was taken on this item.

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Items from the City Council

Items Presented by Vice Mayor Malsin:

- Thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:59 p.m., the City Council adjourned its meeting in memory of Mary Robbins, mother of actor/director Tim Robbins of the Actors Gang; Lillian Pattachia, widow of Dan Pattachia, former Mayor and Councilmember; and Murray Silman, past President of the Culver City Senior Center, to a meeting to be held on May 2, 2011.

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Ela Valladares
DEPUTY CITY CLERK of the City of Culver City, California
EX-OFFICIO CLERK of the City Council, City of Culver City,
California

APPROVED _____

MICHEÁL O'LEARY
MAYOR of the City of Culver City, California