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CULVER CITY
SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
CITY OF CULVER CITY,
CALIFORNIA

June 4, 2012
6:30 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting of the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Andrew Weissman, Chair
Jeffrey Cooper, Vice Chair
Jim B. Clarke, Board Member
Micheál O'Leary, Board Member
Meghan Sahli-Wells, Board Member

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Closed Session

The Successor Agency will recess to Closed Session to discuss the following item:

CS-1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Re: City of Palmdale, et al. vs. Ana Matosantos et al.
Case No. 34-2012-80001154
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a)

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Recess

The Successor Agency recessed to Closed Session at 6:30 p.m.

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Reconvene

The Successor Agency reconvened its meeting at 7:04 p.m. with all Board Members present.

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Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The Invocation was given by John Nachbar, Executive Director, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Phyllis Owens.

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Closed Session Report

Chair Weissman indicated that there was nothing to report out of closed session.

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Community Announcements By Board Members/Information Items From Staff

None.

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Joint Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

None.

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Receipt and Filing of Correspondence

None.

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Joint Action Item

Item J-1

JOINT CITY COUNCIL/Housing Authority/Parking Authority/ Successor Agency AGENDA ITEM: Budget Study Session – City Manager's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013: Presentation of the Results of a Ballot Measure Feasibility Study and Presentation of the Proposed Budgets for the City Council, City Manager's Office, City Clerk's Office, City Attorney's Office, Information Technology Department, Human Resources Department, Finance Department, Transportation Department and Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department, Fire Department, Police Department, Community Development [including the Parking Authority, Housing Authority and Successor Agency], and Public Works Department [including Capital Improvement Projects] (Note, the Fire Department, Police Department, Community Development [including the Parking Authority, Housing Authority and Successor Agency], and Public Works Department [including Capital Improvement Projects] are Scheduled for June 5, 2012.)

Chair Weissman introduced the item noting that it was a placeholder budget until issues are resolved with the elimination of redevelopment.

John Nachbar, Executive Director, introduced Rick Sklarz with FM3, a public opinion research firm.

Rick Sklarz, FM3 Research, provided a presentation on a recently conducted survey to assess residents' attitudes toward the City and the budget.

Discussion ensued between the Agency Board and the speaker regarding the tendency for people to feel more supportive of their own community than toward the state; connectedness to the City; the timing of the questioning regarding the potential tax increase; tax fatigue; the sunset clause; Republican support; concern with creating a divisive issue in the community; ethnicities and age breakdown of the survey; the type of survey conducted; proportional representation of the community; tax resistant individuals; accuracy rate; experiences with other clients; successes at the state and local level; the likelihood of success on election day; the position of the City; the opportunity to educate the community; the view of the City's fiscal responsibility; actions of the state; the Culver City Essential City Services Measure; making it very clear that local taxes would not go to Sacramento; the survey as a starting point for the dialogue; strategies and post election surveys; adjusting in an era of shrinking budgets; marketing the measure; focusing on the definite yeses; the number of measures being considered on the ballot; the Governor's measure; when a no campaign materializes; the schedule; whether Board Members can campaign for the measure; education rather than avocation; costs to place the measure on the ballot; the work of the City to place the measure in a good position; concern with conflicting answers in the survey; the availability of a large amount of information but limited retention; timing of the City budget vs. the state budget; irresponsible behavior by the state; hard choices faced by city governments; a proposed bill to affect sales tax that is supposed to go to the City government; the need to create revenue; community meetings; educating the public as to what has already been done; and eliminating or cutting back on services.

Discussion ensued between staff and the Agency Board regarding the upcoming schedule; a community dialogue series on City finances; community outreach; ensuring that adequate information is available on the City website; and clarification regarding the language on local ballot initiatives.

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Recess

The Chair announced the Successor Agency Board would recess to allow the opportunity for the Council Chambers to be readied for Departmental budget presentations. The Successor Agency Board stood in recess at 9:26 p.m.

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Reconvene

The Successor Agency Board reconvened its meeting at 9:34 p.m. with all Board Members present.

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Chair Weissman invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the Agency Board:

Gary Silbiger discussed fiscal responsibility; money spent by the City on attorney expenses; availability of information; monetary priorities; the power to set priorities and enact public policies; consultants; providing information on consultants for each department; the review of City fees; fee recovery; and finding money to spend within the City.

Jeff Muir, Chief Financial Officer, provided a recap of budget information and adjustments.

Discussion ensued between staff and the Agency Board regarding the General Fund appropriation; the Rental Assistance Program; blight buster; farmers market funding; business license fees and penalties; asset seizure; the beverage container recycling grant; county property taxes; elimination of funds; lifetime benefits; non-departmental appropriations; credit card fees; the reverse 911 service; insurance premiums; the increase in the summary of appropriations in general government; the gas tax; TDA3 Bikeways; management of the parking lots; the Parking Authority; the effectiveness of capturing all available revenue; business tax; measures to reduce paper flow in City Hall; a suggestion to create a Public Finance Committee to work on revenue enhancement and expenditure reduction; other contract services; measures to reduce energy and water use; contingencies; retiring medical pre-funding fees; general court fees; red light cameras; special police services; the possibility of selling Fire Station 3; costs to maintain the properties waiting to be sold; consolidating the oversight of retiree benefits; tracking citation payments; expected revenue from citations; land sale proceeds; the City Manager's Work Plan; elimination of the state and Federal lobbying contract; making use of lobbyists from organizations the City belongs to; and the innovation fund.

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

Discussion ensued between staff and the Agency Board regarding contractual services; clarification that the state has contracted with the videographer for the Fracking Workshop; minimizing the use of outside contractors; college interns; appreciation for the foresight of the City Manager to save positions for the redevelopment employees; the recommended increase in regular salary; status of the Housing Authority; concern with the vacant Deputy City Clerk position; the City Clerk work plan; paper reduction goals; the email voter opt-in program; election consolidation; the next scheduled charter review committee; a limited charter review; all mail elections; and whether the school district is interested in consolidating.

Carol Schwab, City Attorney, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and the Agency Board regarding the use of outside contract services; the Los Angeles Times article; whether additional use of contract services could benefit the City; the Armory Lease; the plastic bag and oil drilling ordinances; the Wende Museum; the spike in activity due to the PXP lawsuit; expertise and constantly changing laws; the self-insurance fund; trends that suggest a policy change; cost effectiveness of outside contractors; cost benefit analysis; distinguishing the nature of the attorney fees; pipeline franchise renewals; monitoring of case law; and cell tower sitings.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

None.

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Items from Board Members

None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 11:35 p.m., the Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency adjourned its meeting in memory of Robert Rainey to Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

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Martin R. Cole
SECRETARY of the Successor Agency to the Culver City Redevelopment Agency, California

APPROVED

Andrew Weissman
CHAIR of the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency, City of Culver City, California