

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

March 4, 2026
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Civil Service Commission was called to order at 7:07 P.M. in Mike Balkman Council Chambers at Culver City Hall.

Present: Chair Michele Van Gelderen
Vice Chair Chi Ming Gong
Commissioner Peter Stern

Absent: Commissioner Sal LaPardo

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Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Van Gelderen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment - Items NOT On the Agenda

Chair Van Gelderen invited public comments.

The following members of the public addressed the Commission:

Chad Kroeger discussed being an activist for 10 years; going to Washington D.C.; and he invited everyone to their shows at the Comedy Loft from March 12-14.

J.T. Parr questioned why New York was allowed to serve alcohol until 4:00 A.M., while Culver City stops serving at 2:00 A.M.

Evan (need last name) indicated having a difficult few months; discussed the goal to reconnect; public silliness; winning at bowling; reenacting a scene from The Notebook; the reaction

of people; building community; people joining in and having fun; being human together; renewed zest for life; he proposed finding more ways for the community to get involved and support one another; noted people spent too much time attacking each other online rather than having fun in public; and he noted that joy was alive and the community could use a lot more of it.

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Receipt of Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

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Consent Calendar

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR GONG AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STERN THAT THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION APPROVE ITEMS C-1 AND C-2.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: GONG, STERN, VAN GELDEREN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: LAPARDO

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 4, 2026

THAT THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4, 2026.

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Item C-2

Extension of Eligible Lists: Permit Technician

THAT THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION EXTEND THE ELIGIBLE LIST FOR PERMIT TECHNICIAN.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

**Approval of the New Promotional Recruitment Bulletin:
Firefighter (Paramedic)**

Ofelia Garcia, Human Resources Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding salary ranges; the Salary Ordinance; bonuses; special pay; ensuring that salary levels attract candidates; and costs to send firefighters to paramedic school.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER STERN AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR GONG THAT THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: APPROVE THE NEW PROMOTIONAL RECRUITMENT BULLETIN FOR FIREFIGHTER (PARAMEDIC).

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: GONG, STERN, VAN GELDEREN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: LAPARDO

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Item A-2

Discussion of (1) Reconsideration of a Prior Action Regarding the Commission Hearing an Appeal of a Disciplinary Action; and (2) If applicable, Rescheduling the Closed Appeal Hearing Dates

Amy Webber, Human Resources Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding support for moving forward; communication with Commissioner LaPardo indicating that he also wanted to move forward;

support for having the Commission continue to preside over the hearing rather than assigning it to a hearing officer; rescheduling dates so that the pre-hearing conference is closer to the hearing dates as long as the date is at least 15 days prior to the hearing to be in compliance; anticipated number of hearing days; potential dates; and ensuring the Commission still wants to move forward.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR GONG AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STERN THAT THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: CONDUCT A CLOSED HEARING TO CONSIDER THE APPEAL OF THE DISCIPLINARY ACTION AS STATED IN THE ACTION ITEM.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: GONG, STERN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: LAPARDO
ABSTAIN: VAN GELDEREN

Discussion ensued between staff and Commissioners regarding potential dates; consecutive dates; having the hearings two days on with a break between the next two days; working Wednesdays through Fridays; having November dates available as a backup; re-calendaring the pre-hearing conference; the virtual meeting; previously reserved dates; and agreement to hold the pre-hearing conference on July 27 or July 31 with the hearing dates scheduled for September 21, 23, and 24, October 21, 22, 23, and 26, 28, 29 and November 2, 4, 5, 6.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR GONG AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER STERN THAT THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION: RESCHEDULE DATES FOR A PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE FOR JULY 27 OR JULY 31, 2026 DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY OF COUNSEL AND SCHEDULE HEARING DATES FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 23, AND 24, OCTOBER 21, 22, 23, 26, 28, 29, AND NOVEMBER 2, 4, 5, 6, 2026 WITH TIME ESTABLISHED BY STAFF WHEN APPROPRIATE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: GONG, STERN
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: LAPARDO
ABSTAIN: VAN GELDEREN

Public Comment - Items NOT on the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Van Gelderen invited public comments.

Amy Webber, Human Resources Analyst, indicated that no requests to speak had been received.

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Items from Staff

None.

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Items from Civil Service Commission Members

Vice Chair Gong indicated that he would not be available for the regular June Commission meeting.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 7:44 P.M., the Civil Service Commission adjourned to a meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2026.

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Dana Anderson

Chief Human Resources Officer, Culver City, California

SECRETARY TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Culver City, California

APPROVED _____

Michele Van Gelderen

CHAIR of the Civil Service Commission

Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

Jeremy Bocchino
CITY CLERK

Date