THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE
CITY COUNCIL SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE
CULVER CITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
CULVER CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY
CULVER CITY PARKING AUTHORITY
AND CULVER CITY CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL SUCCESSOR AGENCY
TO THE CULVER CITY REDEVELOPMENT
AGENCY, CULVER CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY,
CULVER CITY PARKING AUTHORITY, AND CITY COUNCIL
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

May 18, 2015
4:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor O'Leary called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Council Chambers at City Hall.

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

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Pledge of Allegiance

Mike Bowden led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Joint Public Comment

Mayor O'Leary invited public comment.

No speakers came forward and no cards were received.

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Joint Action Items

Item J-1

JOINT CITY COUNCIL/HOUSING AUTHORITY/PARKING AUTHORITY/ SUCCESSOR AGENCY AGENDA ITEMS: Consideration of the City Manager's/Executive Director's Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015/2016

Mayor O'Leary invited public comments.

The following member of the audience addressed the City Council:

Ken Mand spoke regarding the McManus Neighborhood and the Syd Kronenthal playground rehabilitation noting that he wanted to ensure that additional funding would be made available for the 2-5 year old playground space during the budget review.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk received clarification from Mr. Mand regarding notice of the June 2, 2015 meeting.

Jeff Muir, Chief Financial Officer, provided a general overview of the proposed overall budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016; noted that the Budget Message was the best tool for summarizing the budget backed by line item detail; indicated that the presentation would be available on the City website; he discussed economic trends and issues; General Fund specifics; he provided an updated forecast; and he outlined the upcoming meeting schedule.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding taking a regional approach for the Urban Runoff; responsibility of the City; potential fines; constraints; what the voters are willing to fund; the fee imposed by Santa Monica; estimated costs; deadlines; the Ballona Creek Basin; the defined use of the water; inherent challenges in the process; polling; timing; community perception of the magnitude of the problem; the importance of significant educational efforts; draft Enhanced Watershed Management Plans; further analysis by City staff; parks and schools; the Transfer Station; Enterprise Fund money; the Costco project; estimates; money from the state or Federal government; motivation; the Hetzler Road

Capital Improvement project; gas taxes; ongoing utilization; vehicle miles travelled; street maintenance; pre-funding costs; differences between revenue and expenditures vs. the overall budget overview; Internal Service Funds; the Rainy Day Fund; Measure Y; increased funding for Long-Term Liabilities; the sunset for Measure Y; timing for the pursuit of the renewal of Measure Y; other taxes and bonds; the perception of Measure Y as connected to the recession; dependency of the City on Measure Y; the initial campaign for Measure Y; the structural deficit; the loss of redevelopment; and scheduling consideration of the item.

Mike Bowden, Assistant Fire Chief, provided a brief overview of the proposed budget for the Fire Department for Fiscal-Year 2015-2016.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding direct charges; additional duties; clarification that there are no additional costs and that City Council proposals were honored; brush removal and water consideration requests raised by Culver Crest; the annual education program regarding brush; mitigating risks posed by living in the area; issues with rescue vehicles; the Equipment Replacement Fund; dispatching issues; the Culver City Ready Coalition; appreciation for the efforts of Christine Para; an update on the replacement of older, more experienced members of the department; accreditation; the training tower upgrade; HazMat inspections; appreciation for the work of staff on the Community Advisory Panel for the Inglewood Oil Fields; and appreciation to everyone in the department for all of their efforts.

Dan Hernandez, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director, presented the proposed Parks, Recreation and Community Services department budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding clarification on carry over funds; concern with moving quickly on the Syd Kronenthal Park project; whether work can be done within the budgeted amount; other upgrades to outdated playgrounds at identified parks; prioritization; surveying playground equipment; the meeting planned for Syd Kronenthal Park on June 2; the process; using companies that have a proven track record with the City; clarification that there is no grant for the additional funds needed to make the improvements at Syd Kronenthal Park; and lessons learned.

Mayor O'Leary moved to support a General Fund expenditure of $65,000 to upgrade the playground equipment for ages 2-5 at Syd Kronenthal Park.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding what the exact project is; costs to fix the issue; a one-time General Fund expenditure; taking a comprehensive approach; differences in new equipment; resistance to change; liability issues; discomfort with approving an amount of money for a project that has yet to be defined; and a suggestion to leave the budget as it and amend it later if need be.

Mayor O'Leary rescinded his motion.

Martin Cole, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, reported four more opportunities coming up to make amendments to the budget.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the June 2 meeting at Syd Kronenthal Park; vendor feedback; community input; providing choices; quantifying the process; when to agendize consideration of changes to the budget to accommodate changes at Syd Kronenthal Park; caution against making a quick decision without comprehensive input; incorporation of Work Plan recommendations by the City Council; the partial reconstruction of the Senior Center Courtyard; changes to the basketball courts at Fox Hills Park; using QR codes for new recreation classes; appreciation to staff for their efforts to support the arts; the Cultural Affairs Foundation Architecture Talks; using Veterans Auditorium as a performance space; the volunteer program; highlighting youth services in the City; auditing youth programs; maximizing resources; creating efficiencies; appreciation for The Plunge repairs; grant opportunities for the Fitness Corridor along Duquesne; afterschool recreation programs; effective use of social media; adding social media information to regular letterheads; the award for Fiesta La Ballona; landscaping in the downtown business district; the Parks Master Plan Goals; funding; the Teen Center; staffing capacity; accommodating water mandates; native plantings; tree replacement in parks; the process for replanting public spaces; drought tolerant vs. native; public input; changes to irrigation methods; the potential for reclaimed water; grant money; improvements to reductions in water use; liabilities associated with outside basketball court use; parking; and appreciation to the department for their efforts.

Michele Williams, Information Technology Director, presented the proposed Information Technology department budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, and highlighted budget enhancements.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the amount of the annual maintenance agreement with the contractor; exit options in the contract; lessons learned from the audio/visual upgrade in Council Chambers; working through current issues; postage; computer desktop replacement; the Open Data Portal; updates; the Interactive Development Map; updates to the schedule; graphic design services; ensuring a unified look in all City materials; maintaining a strong and consistent visual identity; business cards; the value of branding; internet bandwidth for cloud backup; concern with the responsiveness of the providers; adding a disclaimer regarding quality of the broadcast; and appreciation for the efforts of staff.

Serena Wright, Human Resources Director, presented a summary of the proposed budget for the Human Resources department for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, highlighting changes made since the May presentation.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the increase in interest income; best practices of other cities; the availability of showers for employees; encouraging employees to take the stairs rather than the elevator; the Student Work Program; initiatives branded as My Brother's Keeper initiatives; Expenditures and Appropriations; the decrease in certain services; the Uniform Allowance for the Employee Disability Risk Management Fund; and appreciation for creating a positive culture and for contract negotiation efforts.

Jeff Muir, Chief Financial Officer, introduced his team and provided a summary of the proposed Finance Department budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding Purchasing; appreciation for the work on the Finance Advisory Committee; congratulations for the Budget Presentation Award; purchasing recycled content paper; the increase in regular salaries; scheduling; the importance of early input; the level of public participation in the process; scope of work of the FAC; and appreciation and confidence in the work of the Finance Department.

Charles Herbertson, Public Works Director, introduced his staff and provided a summary of the proposed budget for the Public Works department for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the Enhanced Water Management Plan; alley vacation requests; utilization of the Go Request app; staff response; handling water waste issues; parking for Tilden Terrace; meter installations; individual meters vs. parking stations; minimizing jaywalking; pay by mobile; uniformity of pay methods; maintaining multiple meters; street lights; Prop 50 grants; work created for staff by grant money; the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan Update; the Expo Noise Study; the Urban Forest Master Plan; the Bike Share Feasibility Study; offering the bin as an incentive for turf removal; the Sanitation Fund; leveraging a public private partnership with the Costco project; graffiti art; landscaping; liability; use of the contractor to supplement the in-house crew; concern with graffiti in precarious locations; maintaining fencing and gates to limit access; the Edison Streetlight Program; re-set-able meters; installation of sensors; maintenance; the Walker Parking Study; and further study.

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Joint Public Comment – Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Items from Council Members

Council Member Cooper reported that he would have to leave the meeting tomorrow by 5:30 p.m.

Council Member Clarke reported that he would have to attend a Centennial Committee meeting at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:36 p.m., the City Council, Housing Authority, Parking Authority and Successor Agency Board adjourned to May 19, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

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Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California
EX-OFFICIO CLERK of the City Council
Culver City, California

MICHEÁL O'LEARY,
MAYOR of Culver City, California