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UNTIL APPROVED BY THE
CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

June 23, 2012
10:00 a.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The special meeting of the City Council was called to order at 10:10 a.m. at the multi-purpose room of El Rincon Elementary School

Present: Andrew Weissman, Mayor
Jeffrey Cooper, Vice Mayor
Jim B. Clarke, Councilmember
Micheál O'Leary, Councilmember
(Mr. O'Leary joined the meeting at 10:15 a.m.)
Meghan Sahli-Wells, Councilmember

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Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

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

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Community Announcements By City Council Members/Information Items From Staff

None.

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Weissman invited public comment.

No one came forward.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Second of Five Planned Community Dialogues on the City's Finances

Mayor Weissman requested City Manager Nachbar begin the presentation.

City Manager Nachbar mentioned the purpose of this morning's Special Meeting was to provide members of the public to receive a presentation from Chief Financial Officer Jeff Muir regarding the current state of the City's finances and to provide the second (of five) planned opportunities for the City Council to receive input from the community.

Chief Financial Officer Muir began his PowerPoint presentation where he addressed: Mr. Muir began his PowerPoint presentation and noted that a summary of the presentation is available on the City's website and hard copies were available for the audience.

Mr. Muir's presentation focused on the revenues and expenditures in the General Fund. He touched on the major decreases in the revenues in the General Fund. Also, certain areas of expenditures have increased - especially fuel costs, medical costs, and pension costs. The City has taken significant steps to reduce expenditures. There was an overall decrease in staffing of 12%. \$1 million in other costs were reduced. Approximately \$6 million in costs were reduced in the General Fund. These reductions included collaboration with bargaining units to implement cost reductions and implementation of the cafeteria plan with an inflation cap. A second tier of benefits was initiated for new employees.

He continued by mentioning the support of Proposition 22 - which was meant to protect local funds from being raided by the State and thereby maintain service levels to the public.

He commented on the former Culver City Redevelopment Agency and the elimination thereof by the State and the significant impacts this has had on the City.

Mr. Muir further clarified the City had a total number of positions eliminated of 78 over the past 4 years. The elimination of the Culver City Redevelopment Agency wiped out the progress the City had made. \$7 million in reserves have been used to date, with an additional \$5 million proposed to be used in FY 2012/2013.

He presented the projection of the City's general fund over the next 5 years. Unless revenues were increased or expenditures decreased, or some combination of both, the City's emergency reserves will be gone by 2017. The general fund's infrastructure investment is \$500, 000, where \$2 - \$3 million are needed to upkeep infrastructure. He provided a sample of what cuts of \$7 million could look like. He presented suggestions from various departments including: Police, Fire, Parks, Recreation, and Community Services, Community Development, and Administration.

Mr. Muir also discussed various options for raising revenues. He discussed various alternatives and then gave examples of the impacts of a sales tax.

Upon conclusion of the presentation, Mayor Weissman invited those in the audience to share their thoughts with the City Council. Discussion involved the potential amount of any sales tax increase, the rapid response time of the City's Fire Department, the need for additional efficiencies at City Hall and in all City Departments, the idea of a sunset for the proposed tax, need to revisit the City's fee structure, the results of the community survey, the City's emergency reserves, the need to restore the reserves, the actual size of the deficit when unfunded maintenance and repairs were included, any impacts on Culver City of the soon to arrive Metro Line, the plans for a unique development at the Washington/National site, promoting economic growth in the City, clarification that if a sales tax of \$0.05 is approved by voters that this would maintain City services at the current level.

Mayor Weissman thanked all of those who took time on a Saturday to attend this meeting.

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Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda (Continued)

Mayor Weissman invited public input.

No one came forward.

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Items from the City Council

None of the Council Members offered any comments.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 12:13 p.m., the City Council adjourned its meeting to a meeting on Monday, June 25, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. to be held at the Veterans Memorial Building.

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

ANDREW WEISSMAN
MAYOR of the City of Culver City, California