

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE  
CITY OF CULVER CITY FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY OF CULVER CITY  
FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

June 8, 2022  
7:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Chair Lachman called the regular meeting of the City of Culver City Finance Advisory Committee to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Patacchia Conference Room at City Hall.

**Members Present:**        ANDREW LACHMAN, Chair  
                                 DARREL MENTHE, Vice Chair  
                                 MARC BAUER, Member  
                                 ALEC DE MATOS, Member  
                                 ANNE DIGA JACOBSEN, Member  
                                 JOHNNIE GRIFFING, Member  
                                 KEVIN LACHOFF, Member

**Absent:**                     KEITH JONES, Member  
                                 ROBERT QUINN, Member

**Staff Present:**            Lisa Soghor, Chief Financial Officer  
                                 Erica Melton, Financial Systems and Purchasing Manager  
                                 Punit Chokshi, Senior Management Analyst  
                                 Melissa Zak, Associate Analyst

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

Member de Mattos led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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### **Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda**

Chair Lachman invited public comment.

Melissa Zak, Associate Analyst, indicated that no public comment had been received.

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### **Receipt and Filing of Correspondence**

Melissa Zak indicated that no correspondence had been received.

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### **Consent Calendar Items**

#### **Item C-1**

#### **Approval of April 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

MOVED BY MEMBER DIGA JACOBSEN AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR MENTHE THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2022.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:       BAUER, DE MATTOS, DIGA JACOBSEN, GRIFFING, LACHOFF,  
LACHMAN, MENTHE  
NOES:       NONE  
ABSENT:     JONES, QUINN

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#### **Item C-2**

#### **Approval of May 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

MOVED BY MEMBER DIGA JACOBSEN AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR MENTHE THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 11, 2022.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:       BAUER, DE MATTOS, DIGA JACOBSEN, GRIFFING, LACHOFF,  
LACHMAN, MENTHE

NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: JONES, QUINN

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### **Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made.

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### **Action Items**

#### **Item A-1**

#### **FAC – Receive an Update on the Culver City Economic Recovery Task Force**

Member Lachoff indicated nothing to report.

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#### **Item A-2**

#### **FAC - Receive Reports from the Business License Review Ad Hoc Subcommittee**

Chair Lachman indicated that there was nothing to report from the Business License Subcommittee.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the lack of majority on the City Council to move forward; City Council consensus to agendize additional discussion at the June 13 City Council meeting; good ideas discussed; input from outside organizations; and building consensus.

Chair Lachman invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Finance Advisory Committee:

Maria Jacobo, Culver City Chamber of Commerce, provided background on herself; expressed concern about putting the business tax on the ballot in November; she questioned whether the goal was to make the City unfriendly to businesses; expressed concern with businesses operating at a loss that would have to pay the business license tax; discussed money in the City coffers; wanted to know why businesses were being penalized; asserted that businesses were synonymous with the community; and she indicated that businesses were relying

on the FAC to make the right recommendation against putting the measure on the ballot.

Chair Lachman reported reaching out to David Voncannon to have discussions with Governmental Affairs personnel and he noted the importance of communication.

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Item A-3

**FAC - (1) Receive Reports from the Government Efficiency Ad Hoc Subcommittee; (2) Approve the Designated Nominees to City Council for Receipt of the Government Efficiency Awards; (3) Provide Direction to Staff, If Deemed Appropriate**

Member Griffing provided a report on the work of the Government Efficiency Awards Ad Hoc Subcommittee; discussed creation of a grading structure to judge the entries; award categories; plaques; coordination with City staff and the Mayor; the ability to attend on Webex; and he read out the names of awardees.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding an award for someone who is no longer with the City; gift cards; Foundation agreement to act as a facilitator; submissions; the selection process; categories; and appreciation to the departments for their submittals and to the Subcommittee Members for their work.

MOVED BY MEMBER DIGA JACOBSEN AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LACHOFF THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BAUER, DE MATTOS, DIGA JACOBSEN, GRIFFING, LACHOFF, LACHMAN, MENTHE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: JONES, QUINN

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding appreciation to Committee Members for their work; establishing an annual process; coordination with the Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee with their awards; a possible collaboration with the EHRAC next year; potential collaboration with local organizations; awards for individuals vs. for departments; the Los Angeles Innovation Commission; establishment of a morale boosting project; abuse of public employees; saying thank you for hard work; appreciation

to Member Griffing for his leadership throughout the process; establishment of the documented process; and appreciation for coming in under budget.

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**Item A-4**

**FAC – Approval of Measure CC and C Sales Tax Status Reports for Transmittal to City Council; and (2) Approval of Measure RE Status Report for Transmittal to City Council**

Erica Melton, Financial Systems and Purchasing Manager, provided a summary of the material of record for Measure CC.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding appreciation for the graphics used in the report; clarification regarding increases; quarterly meetings with staff; declines in the previous year; pandemic predictions; clarification that the increases would flatten out; economic concerns; comparisons with pre-pandemic numbers; increased costs; trends seen in Culver City as consistent with what is happening across the region, state, and country; gas sales tax; and revenue generated from general consumer goods.

Erica Melton provided a report on Measure C and, responding to inquiry, she clarified that Measure CC and Measure C reports usually track closely.

Lisa Soghor, Chief Financial Officer, provided a report on Measure RE.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the unpredictability of numbers with Measure RE; Westfield; additional funding put toward pension reserves; the current proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023; putting additional funds toward the pension trust fund; final adoption of the budget; the one-time proposal for the monies; establishing a policy moving forward; refinancing One Culver; a suggestion to segregate commercial and residential sales; confidentiality issues; inconsistency of funding; the importance of funding pensions; the structural deficit; changes in the City; the increased desire for services in the City; staff and resources necessary to provide services; increases in residential real estate; trends; ensuring that projects that were intended to be included are part of the process; finding ways to take lessons learned from RE to make adjustments more often to ensure fairness to homeowners; realities of the market; unanticipated circumstances; forecasting; the need for more data; ensuring that the tax meets the goals; who the tax is aimed at; the decision making process; other unfunded liabilities; direction from the City Manager; delayed funding; structural deficits; identifying trends; lack of inventory; increased interest rates; the need for a ballot initiative to revisit the frequency of revisiting RE; learning going forward; the tier and price structure; the recommendation that tax would be waived if more than two additional units were built; encouraging more housing with

an incentive; room for reflection and self improvement; and examining the data further down the road to identify possible improvements in the tax.

MOVED BY MEMBER LACHOFF AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BAUER THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AMEND THE REPORT AS SUGGESTED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BAUER, DE MATTOS, DIGA JACOBSEN, GRIFFING, LACHOFF, LACHMAN, MENTHE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: JONES, QUINN

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Item A-4

**Discussion of July 13, 2022 Agenda**

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding additional consideration of the business license tax after further Council consideration; the potential for a special Committee meeting; concern that the FAC does not have enough time to sufficiently consider items; building appropriate consensus; the feeling that there is not enough time to get the parcel tax on the agenda; further City Council consideration of the business license tax and the parcel tax measure on the June 13 City Council meeting agenda; FAC representation at the City Council meeting; concern with the way the staff report represented the Committee position; the nuanced position taken by the Committee; guidance regarding the process; to what extent the Committee was authorized to make the motion; selection of officers; new Members; providing a review of the awards; examination of the work plan; reconsideration of subcommittees and assignments thereto; and deferring items to the August agenda if need be.

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**Public Comment – Items NOT on the Agenda (Continued)**

Chair Lachman invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

Ana Garcia-Lima provided background on herself and indicated that she hoped to be involved in the Committee.

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**Items from Committee Members/Staff**

Lisa Soghor reported that the meeting was the last meeting for Erica Melton who had been offered a new position. Erica Melton discussed her work with the City; changes over time; and she expressed appreciation for being able to serve.

Commissioner Lachoff noted that he was up for reappointment and he that if it is his last meeting he appreciated the opportunity to serve.

Chair Lachman noted that he was also up for reappointment and he expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve; discussed challenges handled by the Committee; notable people who have served on the Committee; and he expressed appreciation to staff for their efforts.

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## Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:20 p.m., the City of Culver City Finance Advisory Committee adjourned their meeting in honor of Erica Melton to July 13, 2022.

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Melissa Zak  
SECRETARY of the Culver City Finance Advisory Committee  
Culver City, California

APPROVED

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Andrew Lachman  
CHAIR of the Finance Advisory Committee, 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.

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Jeremy Bocchino  
CITY CLERK

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Date