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CITY OF CULVER CITY FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

July 15, 2020
7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Menthe called the special meeting of the City of Culver City Finance Advisory Committee to order at 7:01 p.m. via teleconference.

Members Present: DARREL MENTHE, Vice Chair
 MATT BAUER, Member
 JOSH GOLDSTEIN, Member
 JOHNNIE GRIFFING, Member
 KEITH JONES, Member
 SEAN KEARNEY, Member
 ANDREW LACHMAN, Member
 KEVIN, LACHOFF, Member

BRYAN SUA, Member *Arrived at 7:44 p.m.

Staff Present: Onyx Jones, Chief Finance Officer
 Erica McAdoo, Procurement & Financial Services Manager
 Punit Chokshi, Senior Management Analyst
 John Figueroa, Senior Account Clerk
 Michelle Villongco, Associate Analyst

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Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Menthe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment - Items NOT on the Agenda

Vice Chair Menthe invited public comment.

Michelle Villongco, Associate Analyst, indicated that no public comment had been received for Items Not on the Agenda.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the Adjourned Regular Meeting of June 10, 2020

MOVED BY MEMBER KEARNEY AND SECONDED BY MEMBER JONES THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 10, 2020.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BAUER, GOLDSTEIN GRIFFING, JONES, KEARNEY, LACHMAN, LACHOFF, MENTHE,

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: SUA

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Administration of the Oath of Office to Newly Appointed Committee Members

Marc Bauer, Josh Goldstein, Kevin Lachoff and Johnnie Griffing took the Oath of Office for the Finance Advisory Committee.

Vice Chair Menthe welcomed new Committee Members.

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Item A-2

(1) Selection of Annual Officers (Chair and Vice Chair) to Serve a One-Year Term, Expiring on June 30, 2021

Vice Chair Menthe introduced the item and indicated that he was not inclined to serve as Chair due to his campaign to be a City Council Member.

MOVED BY MEMBER JONES AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR MENTHE THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINT ANDREW LACHMAN TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BAUER, GOLDSTEIN GRIFFING, JONES, KEARNEY, LACHMAN, LACHOFF, MENTHE,
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: SUA

MOVED BY CHAIR LACHMAN AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LACHOFF THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINT DARREL MENTHE TO SERVE AS VICE CHAIR OF THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BAUER, GOLDSTEIN GRIFFING, JONES, KEARNEY, LACHMAN, LACHOFF, MENTHE,
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: SUA

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Item A-3

Receive an Update on the Culver City Economic Recovery Task Force

Chair Lachman introduced the item.

Member Jones reported on the recent meeting of the Economic Recovery Task Force; discussed the focus on the most vulnerable; he indicated that he serves on the Health and Fitness Group; and he announced an upcoming meeting.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding recent closures; efforts of salons to use outside areas in order to continue operations;

street closures; outdoor dining; parklets; involvement of restaurant owners in the process to have outdoor space; the Downtown Business Association (DBA); the Business Improvement District (BID); Temporary Use Permits (TUPs); and ensuring everyone gets as much space as possible.

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New Committee Members introduced themselves and provided background on their experience.

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Item A-4

Receive and Discuss the Interim Financial Report Through May 31, 2020

Onyx Jones, Chief Finance Officer, provided an overview of the Interim Financial Report through May 31, 2020; discussed a commitment made to the City Council to provide regular updates; the dynamic nature of the current economy; the difficulty of forecasting; fund balance to help the transition; and the potential need to make additional cuts.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding revenue estimates; falling short of the City budget; sales tax; the long-term forecast; long-term sustainability; the need to generate additional revenue or make additional cuts; the potential for a real estate transfer tax; outreach; the time frame for moving forward to place a tax on the ballot; proposed reductions; length of time for the economy to rebound; examining a broad set of options to generate income; revisions to business license fees; the process to get a tax on the ballot; timing; holding a special election; decreased Utility Users Tax (UUT) year over year; shifting of costs from business users to residential users; debate to find out whether rebates should be included with UUT calculations; savings realized by the Police Department by not filling vacant positions; participation by the FAC in consideration of the Police Department budget; property taxes; Prop 13; the need to place a measure on the ballot in order to receive more property taxes; legislative action required in order to change the percentage of allocation; creating a specific property tax to fund a specific item; pass through monies that go to the county; CalPERS; reserves; the self-insurance fund; large increases to premiums and deductibles for the same level of service; concerns with liability claims; the difficulty of obtaining competitive bids since Culver City has their own Police and Fire Departments; aid; grant funds; the CARES Act; FEMA monies; the proposed transfer tax; and information gathered from other agencies.

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Item A-5

(1) Discuss Finance Advisory Committee Bylaws; (and, if necessary) (2) Recommend Proposed Amendments for Transmittal to City Council

Erica McAdoo, Procurement & Financial Services Manager, provided a summary of record noting that staff had not provided recommendations.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding clarification that the bylaws had been adjusted in 2019; length of time for the discussion of the bylaws; creation of a subcommittee; FAC recommendations to the City Council; concern with having an all-male Committee and a suggestion that the bylaws provide for one-third of the Committee to be female; triggering a conversation across the community; ensuring diverse representation; current workplan items; adding elements to the workplan including reviewing bylaws from a diversity and equity standpoint, highlighting City efforts to improve government efficiency, and language to include other financial challenges affecting the City including but not limited to the COVID-19 crisis; the narrow mandate currently in place; adding flexibility; positive interactions with the City Council; acting as a resource for the City Council; practices of other cities; revenue challenges during the COVID crisis; and next steps in the process.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR MENTHE AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BAUER THAT THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REVIEW THE FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE BYLAWS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BAUER, GOLDSTEIN, GRIFFING, JONES, KEARNEY, LACHMAN, LACHOFF, MENTHE, SUA
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

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Item A-6

(1) Discussion of Approved Workplan; (2) Discussion of the Creation of Subcommittees; (3) If Desired) Creation of Subcommittees; (4) (If Desired) Appointment of Members to Such Subcommittees; and (5) Receive Reports from Subcommittees

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the potential revenue measure; creating a subcommittee to gather information to present to the FAC; the Bylaws Subcommittee; the Government Efficiency Subcommittee; and Members indicated willingness and availability to serve.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR MENTHE AND SECONDED BY MEMBER GRIFFING
THAT THE FAC:

1. CREATE THE FAC BYLAWS SUBCOMMITTEE AND APPOINT CHAIR LACHMAN, VICE CHAIR MENTHE, AND MEMBER LACHOFF TO SERVE; AND,
2. CREATE THE GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY SUBCOMMITTEE AND APPOINT MEMBERS GOLDSTEIN AND GRIFFING TO SERVE; AND,
3. CREATE THE INFORMATION GATHERING SUBCOMMITTEE AND APPOINT CHAIR LACHMAN AND MEMBERS BAUER AND LACHOFF TO SERVE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BAUER, GOLDSTEIN GRIFFING, JONES, KEARNEY, LACHMAN,
LACHOFF, MENTHE, SUA
NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

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Item A-5

Discussion of August Agenda

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding scheduling a special meeting; police reform; education; bringing a fact-based focus to the Committee mandate; the Measure CC sales tax related to personal safety and the implications of proposed cuts to public service and essential services; beneficiaries of the cuts; and subcommittee reports.

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Public Comment – Items NOT on the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Lachman invited public comment.

Michelle Villongco, Associate Analyst, reported that no public comment had been received.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Michelle Villongco, Associate Analyst, indicated that no additional correspondence had been received.

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Items from Committee Members/Staff

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding continued Webex meetings after COVID is over; cost savings; and adapting to the current reality.

Chair Lachman thanked the Committee for the opportunity to serve as Chair and he expressed gratitude to former FAC Chair Jane Leonard for her work on the Committee.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:03 p.m., the Finance Advisory Committee adjourned its meeting to Wednesday, July 29, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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Michelle Villongco
SECRETARY of the Culver City Finance Advisory Committee
Culver City, California

APPROVED

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.

Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK

Date