SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

March 4, 2019
3:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Small called the special budget meeting of the City Council to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall with all Council Members present.

Present: Thomas Small, Mayor
Meghan Sahli-Wells, Vice Mayor
Göran Eriksson, Council Member
Alex Fisch, Council Member
Daniel Lee, Council Member

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jesse Mays, Assistant to the City Manager.

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Community Announcements by City Council Members/Information Items from Staff

Vice Mayor Sahli-Wells discussed the success of Ciclavia.

Mayor Small echoed comments regarding Ciclavia.

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Joint Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Small invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Receipt and Filing of Correspondence

MOVED BY VICE MAYOR SAHLI-WELLS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LEE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL RECEIVE AND FILE CORRESPONDENCE.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

CC:HA:PA:SA - (1) Presentation and Consideration of Current and Proposed Work Plans for City Departments; and (2) (If Desired) Direction to the City Manager as Deemed Appropriate

Scott Bixby, Police Chief, introduced members of the Police Department present to answer questions; provided a status report on the 2018-2019 Police Department Work Plan, and he discussed the proposed Work Plan for 2019-2020.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding support for the idea of a Chief's Youth Advisory Committee; loss of the Homeless Outreach Street Teams Grant; trends in drug use; the opioid crisis; Nasal Narcan; appreciation for peer support and assistance; Everbridge; notification; public safety infrastructure grants; Ballona Creek; lighting; coordination with Public Works; support for expanding and enhancing mental health services training; Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in patrol cars; national crime trends vs. Culver City statistics; comparisons with LA county; property crime; increased DUI arrests; the decrease in calls for service; response time; increased traffic volume in the City; decreased collisions; resources; and the request for an additional bike patrol.

Mayor Small invited public input.

The following member of the audience addressed the City Council:

Mark Lipman acknowledged the good work of the Police Department; asserted that poverty is the largest driver of crime and noted the need for change; expressed concern that the Police Department is funded before other services; questioned the large line item under the category "Other" and the lack of detail; pointed out the large amount of money put into Public Relations; noted monthly requests for additional funding; questioned Police Department participation in multiple community activities; and he expressed concern with the Explorer Program as he felt it provided training to go to war.

Scott Bixby, Police Chief, expressed support for community outreach and celebrating success; discussed the need for public relations to combat negative public perception; the many things that the Police Department is called to address; and he asserted that Explorers were not being trained to go to war.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding outsourcing emergency calls; fiscal responsibility; additional requests for money; the community outreach program; the national narrative; polarization between the police and residents and the importance of friendly relations; public relations vs. community outreach; social media; the spread of misinformation; community engagement; best practices; responsiveness; decreasing points of conflict; addressing underlying issues; the Youth Diversion Program; protocol for event listings; information sharing between the Police Department and those with autism; police officer engagement in more extensive mental health training; analyzing resources involved; vacant positions; efficiency; the Los Angeles Department of Probation Officers; concern with hiring a police officer dedicated solely to mental health; hiring a hybrid position; the number of mental health related calls; appreciation for the existing program and ways to expand it within existing constraints; appreciation to the Police Department for working the Sanctuary Policy into the manual; outreach protocol for agendized items; mental health; allocation of resources; reducing the amount of time Police Officers dedicate to coyotes; growth; and cross training.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding scheduling.

Corey Lakin, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, presented a status report on the 2018-2019 Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Work Plan; discussed the proposed Work Plan for 2019-2020; and he provided updates on current operating grants and grant opportunities.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding funding the Tellefson Park project; afterschool programs; The Teen Center; need; opportunity; expanding capacity; Middle School and High School usage; additional programming; funding allocations; tracking the success of the Culver City Living brochure; consistent registration numbers; educating currently enrolled and brand new residents as to what is available; outreach during the Spring Egg Hunt; Ciclavia; appreciation for the enhanced Tower Lighting; clarification that the 4th of July event does not involve Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS); the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration and Day of Service program; enhanced mental health services at the Senior Center and the High School; fee structure; prioritization of residents for programs and services; LA Works; professional volunteers; mural painting; activating Fox Hills Park; outdoor screenings; sponsorship; Measure Y funding; grant updates; annual allocation for Capital Improvement Projects (CIP); aging infrastructure; maintenance; one-time funding; ongoing funding for additional programming; activation of all parks; establishing community centers at each park; addressing a loss of funding; the Human Relations Committee; optimizing existing resources; responding to community needs and desires; aquatics; equity priorities; maximizing opportunities for gender neutral bathrooms; creation of a written policy regarding invasive plants; turf consultants; storm water opportunities; teen transportation workshops; Culver Currents; involvement in the General Plan Update; employee participation in implicit bias training; kitchen renovation; cooking classes; Prop 68; examination of open space that is not part of a park system; landscaping policies; synthetic turf; use of organic alternatives to Round Up; the Human Relations Committee; fliers and brochures; email blasts; and involvement in the General Plan Update.

Mayor Small invited public input.

The following member of the audience addressed the City Council:

Mark Lipman pointed out that the City did not have a weather activated shelter; expressed concern with health issues related to people being outside in the rain; suggested using Veterans Memorial as a safe space that is open and dry; expressed support for community centers; discussed arts and community services; expanding programs offered to the community; and he suggested a small press book festival in Culver City.

Mayor Small suggested that the Culver Arts Foundation might be interested in the small press festival.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding preserving programs at the Senior Center; The Teen Center; support for unprogrammed time; staff interaction with the unhoused population; food vouchers; regulars who visit the Senior Center and Vets; available services; reducing food waste; and partnership with the Westside Center for Independent Living.

Art Ida, Transportation Director, provided a presentation on the 2019-2020 proposed Work Plan for the Transportation Department.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding support for different TAP Card programs; providing loaded TAP cards to the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD); support for additional free fare days to encourage people to take the bus more often; internal advertising; electrification; grants; loan programs; other cities that have redesigned their bus systems; raising employer awareness of the parking cash-out program; changing habits; providing commuter assistance; the peak hour dedicated busway on Lincoln Boulevard in Santa Monica; the required three year operational analysis; microtransit; understanding data; ensuring that transit is no more than a ten minute walk away for anyone; changes to the City and to employment centers; traffic issues; Rapid Aerial Transit; ensuring that bus signs are two-sided; making the bus stops more obvious; bus stop name signage; free TAP cards for seniors over 75 years old; fare revenue challenges; grant formulas; fare units; base fares; total fare collected; improving methodology for county distribution of money; night service; the 91st anniversary of Culver City Bus; the need for more bus shelters; integrating bike share into the transit system; increasing City solar arrays and storage to meet the need; access; choices; branding; communication; climate change; shifting the culture; implementation of

Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Visioning; increasing ridership; data driven level of service; work with the Westside Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG); regional boards; huge changes taking place; the need for collaboration; and ensuring that recruitment efforts for a new Director take clean energy into consideration.

Dave White, Fire Chief, introduced members of the Fire Department present to answer questions; provided a status report on the 2018-2019 Fire Department Work Plan; presented a video on the Regional Training Group (RTG); and discussed the proposed Work Plan for 2019-2020.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding wellness for firefighters; stress; drones; non-emergency applications for bicycles; alternative transportation for fire personnel; delivery of AEDs with drones; mapping public access to AEDs; outreach to encourage businesses to install AEDs; use of tourniquets; public messaging; pre-recorded messages; the switch to Everbridge; Integrated Public Alert Wireless System (IPAWS); the Woolsey Fire; costs for a new paramedic vehicle; ongoing costs; frequency of Inglewood Oil Field inspections; the General Plan Update; cell phone issues; infrared cameras on power lines in fire prone areas; 911 texting capacity; ensuring that large companies in the City have good emergency procedures in place; the disaster preparedness discussion in May; data throttling; the switch to FirstNet; continuity plans; earthquake monitoring; connecting alerts with infrastructure; and resilience.

Michelle Williams, Chief Information Officer, discussed highlights of the 2018-2019 Information Technology Department Work Plan, and she provided an overview of the proposed Work Plan for 2019-2020.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding proposals from Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and other network operators; other cities that offer public wifi; current deployment to City facilities; streaming City Council meetings; GIS deployment; the bus scheduling system; public records requests; ease of use; data available in LA county; Culver Connect; the parking garage system; migrating City operations to new infrastructure; major enterprise users in the community; privately funded laterals; integration of data; connecting the buses with wifi; the open data portal; the shared webpage with CCUSD; the PRCS volunteer page; the liaison committee; privacy concerns with automated license

plate readers; the technology component in the General Plan; the shared resource webpage; and cyber security training.

Carol Schwab, City Attorney, provided a presentation on the 2018-2019 City Attorney's Office Work Plan, and the proposed Work Plan for 2019-2020.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding the contract and purchasing ordinance policy update; ethical and green considerations; inclusion of e-cigarettes in the smoking ordinance; seizure of assets comparable to the crime asset forfeiture funds; banning flavors of e-cigarettes; involvement in the General Plan process; overlap with different departments and subcommittees; and reducing liability.

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Small invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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Items from Council Members

None.

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Council Member Requests to Agendize Future Items

None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:15 p.m., the City Council continued the meeting to March 5, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

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Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California
EX-OFFICIO CLERK of the City Council
Culver City, California

THOMAS SMALL
MAYOR of Culver City