

OFFICIAL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

June 15, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Eriksson called the special meeting of the City Council to order at 7:08 p.m. in the Mike Balkman Chambers at City Hall via teleconference.

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

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Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Eriksson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Community Announcements by City Council Members/Information
Items from Staff**

Vice Mayor Fisch invited everyone to view mini-presentations at pictureculvercity.com to see what the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) is up to, and he reported that the next GPAC meeting would be held remotely on June 30 due to the pandemic with an update provided at the next City Council meeting.

Council Member Lee announced a meeting of the Equity Subcommittee on June 19.

Council Member Sahli-Wells noted that the Equity Subcommittee meeting held on June 19 would recognize Juneteenth and include ongoing discussion about the need to make major changes to address structural racism.

Mayor Eriksson reported that he would be serving on a virtual panel on June 18 organized by the Chamber of Commerce to discuss issues including defunding the police.

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Joint Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Eriksson invited public comment.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, read public comment submitted by:

Mark Lipman: wanted to continue conversation around the housing situation in Culver City; discussed the irony of nurses and healthcare workers being under pressure due to rent hikes while being praised as heroes during the pandemic; expressed how unfair it is that people we depend on to care for us in emergencies can't afford to live in the communities they serve; noted that Los Angeles County had announced a 13% spike in homelessness this year prior to the pandemic; discussed developer profit; enacting a Major Corporations Tax; suggested land banking and buying houses on the market to create group homes and house more people at a lower cost than building new units, while preserving the character of neighborhoods and generating income for the City; suggested rapidly expanding Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) and shared housing programs as a way to help homeowners keep their homes while opening up more housing for people with lower incomes; he emphasized the need to build housing solutions from the bottom up, serving those who are most in-need first; and he urged the Council to implement these solutions by putting funding in the budget.

Dr. Janet Hoult: discussed a 2017 community alert bulletin concerning a robbery at Culver City High School (CCHS) from the Culver City Police Department (CCPD); noted that CCPD Chief Bixby had provided photos of suspects, calling on the community to be vigilant and call with any information; felt the community bulletin underscored the importance of the community working together with the CCPD; read a poem expressing gratitude for CCPD; and supported making changes in the department to be in accord with the My Brother's Keeper

Alliance, noting that CCPD takes care of all brothers and sisters in the Culver City community.

Selam Alem: emphasized how important local leadership is; felt that citizen complaints should be addressed in a timely manner; expressed concern with unfair treatment; and expressed gratitude for the Housing Authority, Code Enforcement and several staff members.

The following member of the public addressed the City Council:

Michelle Weiner felt that holding separate conversations on policing by the City Council and another by the Chamber of Commerce would be divisive; she wanted to see a discussion that the Chamber, the School Board, and everyone could participate in; and she noted that there would likely be additional opportunities for separate conversations and the City Council should not start out on a note of divisiveness.

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Receipt and Filing of Correspondence

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, indicated receipt of hundreds of written comments, predominantly for Action Item A-2, with three for Items Not on the Agenda, and one received for Action Item A-1.

MOVED BY VICE MAYOR FISCH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMALL 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 - Adoption of a Resolution Terminating the Local Emergency Due to Civil Unrest and Violence after the Tragic Death of

**George Floyd, Proclaimed on May 30, 2020 by the Director of
Emergency Services of the City of Culver City, California**

Jesse Mays, City Manager's Office, provided a summary of the material of record.

Mayor Eriksson invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the City Council:

Victoria Neuberger indicated that the staff report had answered her question.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, read public comment submitted by:

Kelli Estes: wrote to see if the online public comment system was working.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAHLI-WELLS, SECONDED BY VICE MAYOR FISCH AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION TERMINATING THE LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO CIVIL UNREST AND VIOLENCE AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF GEORGE FLOYD, PROCLAIMED ON MAY 30TH, 2020 BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY.

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Item A-2

CC - (1) Authorization for the Mayor to Sign the My Brother's Keeper Alliance Mayor's Pledge on Police Use of Force on Behalf of the City; (2) Direction to the City Manager and/or Chief of Police to Complete Four Steps Listed in the Mayor's Pledge, Including Policy Review and Reform, and Community Engagement and Feedback; and (3) Discussion of Police Department Policies and Budget; and (4) Additional Direction to the City Manager and/or Chief of Police as Deemed Appropriate

Mayor Eriksson suggested that discussion be split up into two parts, beginning with a discussion of adopting the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Pledge and moving on to the rest only if the decision is made to sign the Pledge.

Jesse Mays, City Manager's Office, provided a summary of the material of record.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, read public comment submitted by:

Celeste Ward: strongly urged the Mayor to sign the MBK Pledge; felt Culver City should lead by example and enact real reform so that no more Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) lives are lost at the hands of police; felt that police should not be protected from being held accountable; discussed fear-mongering; and suggested diverting funds to education, social workers, and after school programs to benefit the whole community instead of a privileged few.

Jason Frand: expressed strong support for the acceptance and implementation of the MBK Pledge; noted the time of historic social awareness; discussed the importance of assuring that Culver City is committed to welcoming all residents; positive interactions with CCPD; and expressed support for examining CCPD and making it the best it could be.

Rich Kissel: provided background on himself; expressed pride in CCPD; reported that the department was ahead of the curve in terms of suggested reforms in the MBK Pledge; claimed that CCPD had stepped up long ago without being asked; felt that the Council should express gratitude for the outstanding work done by the CCPD; discussed diversity in CCPD; CCPD support for the Black Lives Matter movement both in theory and in practice; diversity training, education and outreach; implementation of fair police training and practices; and he urged the Council not to embark on a journey that would reduce CCPD's ability to deliver the highest possible quality of protection and care currently being provided.

Darrel Menthe: felt that the discussion of racial injustice and policing was long overdue, but should not be divisive; emphasized that the Black Lives Matter movement is not an attack on CCPD; expressed support for challenging problematic police policies and tactics and calling out systematic issues; acknowledged different experiences with law enforcement depending on the color of your skin; discussed use of force training and tactics; City Council responsibility; hundreds of thousands of Americans taking to the streets to demand justice; and he expressed support for an open process with engagement from CCPD, and investment in training, social work, mental health care, and support for the MBK Pledge.

Kimberly Wu: discussed re-examining the budget for police services in light of the MBK Pledge; policy review; financial investment; identification of alternate ways to promote safety; funding to address deficiencies in existing social structures; investing in community services and agencies;

allowing for greater collaboration; use of trained community mediators; conflict resolution; restorative justice; work that does not fall into the purview of police officers but may be crucial to support the community; unprecedented times; and she warned that if issues are left unaddressed it could lead to more compounded and serious outcomes.

Erik Mar: expressed support on behalf of himself and his family for the Mayor to sign the MBK Pledge as well as for reducing police budgets and reallocating funds to areas like education, public health, housing, and youth services.

Mariah Fontijn: expressed support for signing the MBK Pledge; asserted that Culver City should not be compared to the status quo; discussed disproportionate arrests of BIPOC in Culver City; did not want to see the City fall back into the same pattern of failed reform that CCPD has adopted in the past; asked that the City divest from CCPD and invest in services to directly benefit vulnerable residents and provide complete transparency of the CCPD budget, policy, incident reporting, and disciplinary action; requested access to civilian complaints and for civilian oversight and accountability within Culver City; referenced the inspiring moment at the recent Los Angeles City Council meeting in which the People's Budget LA was presented; and urged the City Council to take swift action toward a better Culver City to create a model of safety that benefits all members of the community and their guests.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding support for signing the MBK Pledge and ensuring the community knows how seriously the City takes matters of racial injustice and police reform.

MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMALL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SAHLI-WELLS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL PROVIDE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE MY BROTHER'S KEEPER ALLIANCE MAYOR'S PLEDGE ON POLICE USE OF FORCE ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding options for how to proceed once the Mayor's Pledge has been signed; the need for additional community discussion; scheduling; and next steps in the process to meet the four guidelines set in the MBK Pledge.

Jesse Mays, City Manager's Office, provided a summary of the material of record; discussed the demonstrations around the

world in response to the tragic death of George Floyd on May 25th; the call for an end to systemic and institutional racism, changes in policies, and a reduction of the budget of police departments; and the City Council request for a special meeting to hear from the community and discuss whether changes should be made to the CCPD budget and/or policies.

Manny Cid, Acting Police Chief, spoke on behalf of himself and the members of CCPD to express disappointment and anger over the killing of George Floyd and others, and condemning the decisions and actions of complicit and/or responsible police officers; stated CCPD worked to protect and provide empathetic and inclusive service; discussed abuse of force; efforts of CCPD to establish trust with the community; support for protestors and activists seeking justice; noted that CCPD would continue to hold all its members to the highest standard of accountability and transparency; acknowledged unfair treatment in the past based of race, gender, or religious beliefs; noted that CCPD had dramatically evolved in recent years; discussed ensuring that history does not repeat itself; strides taken by CCPD to ensure transparency in investigation of reports of abuse of force and in communication between the department and the community; diversification of the department; improvements made to the training and education of officers; proactive adjustments to Use of Force and De-escalation policies to be compliant with the 8 Can't Wait demands; he acknowledged additional room for progress and improvements; working to foster and improve relationships with people in the community; he asked that the City Council consider the impact of significant departmental budget cuts to service levels and to response times; recent challenges faced by the City; concern that budget cuts would be a devastating blow to CCPD and directly affect the officers who are dedicated to serving the community; and he reiterated that CCPD would continue to strive to provide the highest quality of protection and service to the community.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding procedures for making public comment; the order in which public comment would be heard; and acknowledgement of a group of CCHS students who wished to speak on Item A-2.

Mayor Eriksson invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the City Council:

Bitania Benyam, Kiana Roman, Isabella Garcia, and Ana Gonzalez, Black Lives Matter March Organizers, discussed the need to postpone the protest scheduled for June 16; a potential counter protest led by Culver City adults; threats to the safety of the movement; miscommunication about the peaceful demonstration; precautionary measures to ensure safety and a peaceful event; POC (People of Color) for Change; asserted that they are tired of being told to accept injustice and not affiliated with the defund the police protest; expressed support for a more fair reallocation of the budget to provide more for education; discussed over-funding the police; and noted that youth are the future of the City and should be taken into consideration when evaluating budget allocations.

Sabahat Nitaya, CCHS student, provided background on herself; discussed a racist incident she experienced; being defined by choices and actions rather than by appearances; the need for change; and the counter-protest organized against them.

Brianna Moyt, former CCHS student, discussed Juneteenth; people who talk about equity and justice for young Black lives lost; bracing herself and her siblings from police brutality; questioned what she should tell her brothers to preserve their lives; discussed hatred, fear and abuse; she questioned where justice was; and she announced a protest on Friday, June 19, Juneteenth with the same intention.

Jane Leonard reported that the Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) had voted unanimously to support the City Council in evaluating the fiscal and policy impacts of proposals to allocate budget resources to a greater community oriented public safety model with respect to Item A-2, sections 2, 3 and 4.

Lillian Weiland expressed support for the police; concern with potential defunding of CCPD: reported increased crime in the area; discussed criminals; the homeless; officers killed in the line of duty; asserted that all lives matter; discussed continuing police reforms; bad timing; concern with the potential for anarchy if funding is taken away; and recent events in the City.

Gerald Weiner, Culver City Action Network (CCAN), discussed their request that \$7.65 million be taken out of the CCPD budget and allocated toward different functions and that a

public safety committee be put in place to oversee CCPD; reported that Albuquerque, New Mexico had unveiled plans to use social workers to respond to certain 911 calls rather than the police and created a Civilian Public Safety department noting that was what CCAN was advocating for Culver City; he pointed out that that police officers were being asked to fulfill functions that they had not been trained for; and he discussed the 7.4% overall reduction to the City budget and the request for a further reduction of \$2 million for CCPD beyond that, which would still allow CCPD to have 31% of the overall City budget.

Mariana Quintanilla provided background on herself; discussed the temptation of a quick fix; identifying and addressing the root cause of problems; the history of racism in Culver City and continued racism; the need for reconciliation; acknowledgement of the pain caused to Black residents and visitors caused by City founders and leaders; discussed reducing the scope of policing and reallocating support to social workers; stopping any training or equipment purchases that foster the militarization of CCPD; disproportionate hurt to Black people; and the need for radical change.

Lindsey Eichenberger provided background on herself; demanded CCPD be defunded rather than reformed; reported witnessing racist and abhorrent behavior by CCPD officers; discussed compliance; valuing property over people; harassment of Black people; diversity; the nickname "Little Mississippi"; racial covenants; the history of racism in CCPD; public relations talking points for CCPD; the Mayor's Pledge; failed police reform; assuming that police officers follow the rules; questioned allocating more money to CCPD to arrest homeless people when that money could be invested into addressing homelessness; advocated divesting from policing and punishment and investing in schools, affordable housing and mental health; and asserted that City leadership was necessary to value people over property.

Victoria Neuberger discussed the City budget and amounts allocated to different departments; the need to reorganize and reallocate CCPD funding with more put into community development and services, mental health training, de-escalation, and employing social workers into non-violent situations rather than police officers; and she clarified that defunding the police did not mean dismantling them but rather reevaluating, reallocating and reinvesting.

Stephen Jones spoke in support of defunding the police; discussed repeated, ineffective attempts at reform; the need to cut the CCPD budget in half and reduce the police force by 50%; ceding the discretion of violence to individuals; felt that for most tasks, CCPD did not need the discretion to use violence against people; discussed the need for more investment in community health and housing; suspending paid administrative leave for officers under investigation; withholding pension and not rehiring officers who have used excessive force; holding officers accountable for their behavior; withdrawing participation in police militarization programs and ceasing overtime pay for military exercises; saving the City money; and the need to make budget cuts at the current time.

Michael Schirtzer discussed the amount allocated for policing in the City budget vs. for the Fire Department; hiring practices; effectiveness of CCPD; people who support CCPD regardless of their track record; he proposed that allocating more money to CCPD did not reduce crime, but rather crime was reduced when people had adequate resources; felt that police officers were paid too much and there were too many of them relative to how their salary would benefit social services and community investments; discussed the size and population of the City; and the salary of the Police Chief in Culver City vs. in New York City.

Jeff Schwartz expressed support for CCAN's demand for reallocation of funds for social services and civilian oversight of public safety; discussed the video released by the Culver City's Firefighter's Union; salaries for social workers vs. salaries for police officers; supplements and benefits; advantages to minimizing the scope of policing; CCPD as the most expensive and least accountable public service employees; social workers as governed by strong code and personal ethics; exemptions from public records laws; accountability; costs related to the lawsuit involving CCPD Officer Louis Martinez and the death of an unarmed Black man; and the continued service of Officer Martinez in CCPD.

Keith Jones provided background on himself; expressed support for CCPD and outrage over despicable conduct of other police departments; he discussed threats of looting and major property damage; other cities that suffered losses; the proactive nature of CCPD; he asked that the number of sworn officers dedicated to crime and crime suppression not be reduced; proposed adding funding for more non-sworn personnel

for homeless outreach and mental health intervention; discussed CCPD budget reductions; and he expressed confidence that if the budget is not reduced further, CCPD will continue to be able to provide excellent service.

Shelly Rosekelly provided background on herself; discussed the current status quo of targeting minority neighbors; cited a viral Disney+ video where employees name Culver City while recounting racist encounters; discussed racism ingrained in police departments; recognizing the racist past and present of CCPD; the Black man shot while his hands were up by CCPD Officer Louis Martinez in 2010; costs of defending Officer Martinez in the lawsuit; the power of CCPD; the fact that CCPD has more staff per capita than LAPD; reputation of the City; and the need to redirect funding to community based programs rather than funding the creation of crime by targeting minority neighbors.

Ben Fliegel provided background on himself; discussed his experience in law enforcement; expressed support for Black Lives Matter; and discussed allocation of resources.

Latonya Baldwin Clark provided background on herself; discussed her efforts to shield her three Black children from anything that puts them in harm's way, including the police; increased fear as her child grows older; she expressed support for the proposal to defund to decrease interaction between her children and the police which means moving police officers from places they do not need to be; discussed services better provided by other organizations, both public and private; effective use of funding; giving the community control of interaction with neighbors; how disputes are settled and how people are kept safe; she noted the need for bold change and funding reallocation rather than reform; and she expressed support for the CCAN proposal to defund CCPD and restore community control.

Emily Glick discussed her positive interactions with CCPD; expressed appreciation for diversity in CCPD; acknowledged unconscious bias and the need to actively pursue anti-racist policies; discussed police reform; the ranking of CCPD by Campaign Zero; and she expressed support for CCAN demands.

Kelly Kent, Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) School Board, reported that some work had already been done by a diverse group of community stakeholders; discussed the MBK Challenge; clear choices to act upon immediately; adoption of

the MBK Plan developed with CCUSD in January; approval of the CCUSD resolution in February; items included in the Action Plan; the need for additional conversation about what peace-keeping infrastructure looks like; and she asked the City Council to entertain reallocating the CCPD budget before ratifying the June 22 budget.

Leah Pressmen spoke in support for CCAN's demands to divert CCPD funding to social services, increase civilian oversight, and make reimagining public safety a central part of the General Plan Update; she cited a letter from Ed Berkowitz regarding defunding noting that just because CCPD are the first responders does not mean that they are the right responders; she suggested that CCPD look into the CAHOOTS Program in Eugene, Oregon noting savings achieved; discussed force of law in the context where other skills are needed; and she expressed support for increasing the budget for other agencies and reducing the budget for CCPD.

Andrea Stephanie Olivera provided background on herself; expressed support for structural change in the functions and governance of policing in Culver City; reported negative experiences by people of color with CCPD for generations; discussed shared experiences of marginalized people in the community; racial profiling; false arrests; repeated patterns of targeting people of color; the importance of combating the lingering legacy of racism in Culver City; she stated that saying Black Lives Matter while continuing to deny the experiences of people of color and supporting CCPD do not go hand in hand; noted that claims of diversity within CCPD do not make the system of policing impermeable to structural racism; and she asked that the City stand with BIPOC and reduce an additional \$7.65 million from the currently proposed CCPD budget with reallocation to community needs outside of CCPD control.

Carol Iskiwitch expressed support for the CCAN demands; discussed the need for external oversight and transparency; police officers as public servants empowered to use deadly force; documented abuses within police departments; shuffling abusive police officers to different police departments; family violence in law enforcement communities; and officers that report abuses and are met with retaliation.

Jasmine Delgado provided background on herself; advocated for defunding CCPD; discussed the People's Budget LA; she felt the MBK proposal did not go far enough; urged the City to make

cuts to the CCPD budget; discussed the excessive salary for the Police Chief; asserted that 40% of the City budget should not be going to CCPD when the community is experiencing economic struggle due to the pandemic; noted the need to fund housing, health care and jobs and help students in CCUSD experiencing difficulties due to the pandemic; discussed austerity cuts; skepticism regarding independent investigations of CCPD; and the failure of Jackie Lacey to prosecute police officers.

Jonathan Glater expressed support for CCAN demands; discussed expertise; decreasing crime; increased mental health calls; issues worsened in a time of crisis; the need for transparency and additional information; hardship created by COVID-19; and other areas of increasing need.

Cicely Bingener expressed support for those officers who approach their work guided by fairness, integrity and respect for every human being; discussed organizing annual delivery of treat baskets to CCPD as a show of gratitude for their work; incidences of kindness and help as well as racial profiling and bias; requiring immediate compliance with the Racial Identity and Profiling Act (RIPA); earning trust and restoring good faith of all civilians; transparent policing; erosion of dwindling trust; COVID-19; funding for CCPD vs. for other police departments in the state; Police Chief compensation in Culver City vs. in Los Angeles; and the need to right-size the CCPD budget as a fiscal necessity and reallocate funding for services for youth, the disabled and senior citizens.

Karlo Silbiger discussed the first City Council meeting he attended where there was deliberation on whether to hire Timothy Wind to CCPD; the message sent to the Black community when that officer who beat Rodney King was hired; the loss of a lawsuit in 2000 when a CCPD Officer hogtied a member of the community; blame put on the victim; the message sent to people about those killed in custody of CCPD; he acknowledged that he had never had anything but positive interactions with CCPD; and he questioned the message being sent.

Albert Vera expressed pride in the ability of the City to come together in times of crisis; discussed working collaboratively to address issues; noted that CCPD had been a leader in reform working to address ever-changing responsibilities; acknowledged room for improvement; discussed working together to identify areas and create sought-after changes; continued dialogue to unite the City rather than divide it; and he noted

the importance of respecting all opinions to work toward lasting and meaningful change.

Ivan Hernandez, Culver City Police Officers' Association, publicly recognized concern that communities of color had been underserved for too long; lack of resources to break cycles of poverty, substance abuse and incarceration; asserted that police officers were not the architects of societal failure, but are called upon to address them; acknowledged that there is no place for excessive use of force by any law enforcement officers; he indicated that Association Members were saddened by the characterization that the organization is racist and complicit in enforcing the "Sundowner Town" agenda; discussed unfair accusations of racism; progress made; diversity of members; training; education; implemented improvements; the complaint process; community outreach; he asserted that the organization would continue to grow; discussed defunding CCPD as a response to hysteria; and he insisted that any budget cuts would negatively impact their ability to provide services.

Michelle Weiner noted the need to carefully reexamine policing in Culver City; discussed transitioning from over-reliance on excessive and discriminatory policing, to right-sized, reorganized and de-militarized safety strategies; innovation to better serve the needs of the community without creating massive gaps in service; outdated current forms of policing; the need to reinvent and reinvest in the shared vision of community safety infrastructure that does not rely on the police; proposed reforms; prohibition of military gear and weaponry as well as surveillance technology; denying continued benefits paid to officers under investigation for excessive use of force; reducing police presence in schools; repealing laws that enable police violence and misconduct to be hidden, enabled or excused; and she discussed efforts in Chicago to redirect police funding toward the community.

Joshua Michael Edra provided background on himself; discussed his observations of crime in the City; organizations that want revolution rather than reform; he expressed concern that there would be lawlessness if people were not held accountable; concern with undertaking a City-wide experiment in response to the death of George Floyd; and he discussed different ethnic groups and violence.

Dominique Djedje discussed money allocated to CCPD in the proposed budget; payroll and overtime claims; expressed

support for defunding the police and reallocating funds to education; and she expressed her appreciation for the CCHS students who spoke.

Jameson Bartlett provided background on himself; discussed hearing about and witnessing countless incidents of people of color being harassed by CCPD; he echoed the demands of CCAN; and he wanted to see reallocation of funds toward education, community relations and other critical services to keep the community and, Black citizens in particular, safe.

Sebastian Hernandez expressed support for CCAN's demands to defund the police, allocate funds to social services, and provide oversight; he noted that diversity in CCPD does nothing to combat who they are trained to fear, and tactics used; discussed addressing structural racism at all levels; people who continue to speak on behalf of Timothy Wind; response times; concern for his sons who have darker skin; he discussed incidents of racial profiling that he has witnessed; and he felt it was time to face up to who we are, change, and start with policing.

Gary Silbiger provided background on himself; discussed recent articles by former Council Members who want to maintain the status quo of the CCPD; he discussed their failure to recognize and address racism and violence in CCPD when they were in power; asserted that elected officials must work tirelessly for a City of equality, non-violence, positive programming and unlimited public participation; he pointed out that the City budget included no money for schools, the library, rental assistance, immigration support, or for medical and psychological services; discussed the pandemic of racial violence in the United States for centuries; the need to completely revise the system; past practices of CCPD; and changes made over the years.

Yasmine-Imani McMorris provided background on herself; recognized the difficulty of reexamining norms and privilege; trauma during this time; empathy, compassion and the urgency to put action behind sentiment; complexities of criminal justice; the traditional role of the police and safety; taking the opportunity to transform the system by challenging and questioning it; effectiveness of the system when people of color think twice before any interactions with the police; she expressed support for the CCAN proposal to reduce funding and reallocate for social services in addition to creating a community oversight board; she hoped that CCPD would rise to

the challenge and implement accountability structures, anti-racist policies, anti-bias training and bans on chokeholds as a start; and she clarified that the call to protect everyone is not an attack on anyone.

Kennedy Wilson, CCHS student, expressed support for defunding CCPD; discussed participation in a peaceful demonstration in front of Culver City Hall and dismay that the Police Chief could not be bothered to stay to listen to others speak; and stated that those who assert that "all lives matter" only serve to undermine Black Lives Matter.

Donna Kent expressed support for defunding the police, reallocating funding to social services. and establishing oversight; discussed training by police officers to fear people, anticipate threats and sometimes respond before a threat happens; the amount of training provided for de-escalation vs. the amount of training for weapons and fighting; stated that diversity in the police department would not change anything; and noted the need to change ingrained thought processes from the last 400 years.

Grace Hirai thanked the City Council for holding the discussions; reiterated previous calls to defund the police, reduce the budget, and establish strong community control; discussed the need to allocate more funding for people of color; asserted that changing things from within a corrupt system did not work; stated that defunding should not be seen as a threat to public safety, but rather an opportunity to create a society that does not rely on police and prisons to solve problems; asserted that reactionary policing would not bring about a better world; pointed out that diversity did not mean the City is not racist; discussed improved effectiveness with having trained professionals deal with mental health issues; addressing causes of crime; upholding systems of oppression; racial disparity permeating the community; language used that disproportionately targets people of color; and she asked the City Council to take the opportunity to make real change.

Marc Weigensberg provided background on himself; urged the City Council to reallocate police funding to social services and to establish civilian oversight of public safety; discussed the experiences of his godson with racial profiling by CCPD while attending West LA College; unwillingness of CCPD to provide badge numbers; failure to use body cameras; systemic racism; creating anxiety, fear and anger; the fear

experienced by Black parents; he asserted that the police did not keep his son safe; indicated that he had never been pulled over by police; discussed white privilege; deeply ingrained institutional racism; and development of new paradigms for public safety that do not perpetuate the violent, racist hell that has poisoned the country for 400 years.

William Flick agreed with comments made by Albert Vera to work collaboratively to seek solutions; indicated that Black Lives Matter and all lives matter; discussed fear expressed by Black speakers about keeping their loved ones safe; response times; expressed support a responsible review of police tactics and training; indicated that no one wanted to see what happened in Minneapolis, Georgia or countless other places; he expressed fear with defunding CCPD and mistrust of how the current City Council allocates monies; asserted that the City had never been in a worse financial state; felt that other than the Mayor, the Council would not responsibility allocate funds; discussed mental health facilities shuttered by President Reagan and the burden that put on police departments; expressed support for a small amount of defunding; and he felt that the federal government should put money into rebuilding mental health facilities which would help with the homeless problem.

Caitlin Bartlett provided background on herself; discussed assertions about the specialness and quality of CCPD vs. other police departments; the legacy of being a "Sundown Town"; the current reality that Culver City is not safe for BIPOC; failure to acknowledge the legacy of racism; difficulty trusting CCPD when they have targeted, criminalized, and harassed Black youth while protecting racist officers; unwillingness to hold their own officers accountable; Neighborhood Watch and meetings where people are encouraged to voice their often racist and classist concerns; the NextDoor app; she asserted that a discussion about CCPD policies and budgets was not enough; money should be invested in education and real community programming; and she urged the defunding of CCPD, asking that all police officers listen to citizens and reevaluate their decision to be a police officer and question who they are protecting.

Ron Bassilian, Protect Culver City, discussed CCAN; notification; issues considered by the City Council; proposed cuts to the CCPD budget; speakers in support of defunding; outside agitators; he indicated that he had filed his concerns with the District Attorney; and he reported receiving

correspondence from people who are angry at calls to defund CCPD.

Ashley Romans discussed those who have shared their experiences and fear at being racially profiled, harassed and targeted by CCPD and people like the previous speaker who express support for that behavior noting that is white supremacy; expressed disappointment if that is the legacy that will continue in Culver City; reported 65 civilian complaints of police misconduct with only one in every three ruled in favor of the civilian; she asserted that the meeting was not rigged and the call to defund the police was not radical, but rather a logical and well-thought out proposal; discussed reallocating funds from CCPD into unarmed first responders, housing, mental health and other services that benefit people of color who have been terrorized and discriminated against; and she indicated that reallocation would free officers from many duties that they would rather not do.

Mark Minch-DeLeon observed that past reforms had not been effective and instead resulted in increased surveillance abilities, increased levels of force, militarization, and the sense that a racialized public is hostile and needs to be pacified; he discussed an instance when CCPD was called on children for being too loud while playing tag; the perception that people of color commit more crime and the idea that over-policing them is justified; the job of the police to criminalize all disorderly behavior; the system designed to maintain and exacerbate racial inequality; the history of slave patrols in the south, control of laborers and the poor, enforcement of racial discrimination at the border, and the cycle of disproportionate violence for minor property violations; historical and ongoing conditions; and exacerbating and reproducing conditions by relying on the police force.

Kira Grimes, CCHS, expressed support for defunding CCPD; discussed the long history of racism and harassment; white supremacy that weaves through every inch of the City; continued lack of attention to the experiences of people of color; strategic defunding of CCPD; reallocation of funds toward community based models of safety, support and prevention; ineffectiveness of reform; and she asserted that it was unrealistic to expect the police to respond to every crisis and funding would be better allocated for people equipped to deal with crises or to avoid them altogether.

Kerri Payne expressed opposition to the defunding and drastic reduction of the CCPD budget due to resulting reductions in the community engagement aspect of CCPD; she discussed outreach; the Citizen's Police Academy; grade school outreach; mental health evaluation teams; response times; and reduced responsiveness of LAPD.

Gayle Haberman thanked the youth leaders; expressed support for the CCAN proposal; discussed repurposing 911; concern with the treatment of people of color; structural racism; differential and harmful treatment; experiences in New Jersey rebuilding the Camden Police Department; and she indicated the need to intentionally re-build CCPD to ensure that they are not harming people of color.

Jenny Chermoniti discussed her experience with CCPD not being able to help with certain issues; the need to provide another avenue to address mental health issues and homeless individuals; allocation of funds into the community; support for mental health professionals to help; support for the Black Lives Matter movement; and she expressed support for youth engagement.

Randy Santiago reported being racially profiled by CCPD; asserted that BIPOC all know to avoid Culver City because of CCPD; discussed profiling people of color assuming they are doing drugs; and he asked that CCPD be defunded.

Kevin Lachoff acknowledged the sense of urgency to defund CCPD; asked that the City take a measured approach to enact change; discussed budget allocations; taking the time to be smart with the newly formed Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee; involving the Finance Advisory Committee and the Civil Service Commission; moving forward with purpose and collaboration; ensuring meaningful study before shifting funds; he felt that the budget should proceed as planned; expressed support for CCPD staff who work hard and are caught in the middle; and he expressed support for taking time to make changes properly.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding speakers waiting to be heard and written comment submitted.

Tavleen Tarrant expressed support for CCAN's demands; discussed the portion of the budget allocated to CCPD vs. portions allocated to other departments; the rating of CCPD; the percentage of Black people living in the City vs. the

number of Black people arrested; arrests for misdemeanors rather than for violent crime; stories of CCPD harassment from people of color; the reputation of Culver City; the youtube video where an attorney shares experiences being racially profiled by CCPD; and Yelp reviews of CCPD.

Elizaney Montic could not be heard.

Julissa Gutierrez provided background on herself; asserted that she had worked to encourage formation of the EHRA Committee; noted the importance of defunding the police; valuing people over profits and property; she asserted the police endanger public safety; and she did not believe that her comments would be heard or taken into consideration.

Karen Montoya, Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney, reported that her husband is a CCPD officer; discussed changes necessary to ensure a just society for all; asked everyone not to forget the countless victims of crime who have been helped by CCPD; discussed her work to prosecute felonies coming out of Culver City; work to be done by everyone to provide equal justice under the law; the need to consider significant contributions made by CCPD; providing a voice for victims; and compassion and kindness shown by CCPD officers.

Beth Lane discussed filing a consumer complaint regarding a recent experience with a CCPD officer; she referenced a Wall Street Journal article dated June 15, 2020 about Obama-era policing proposals; the Task Force on 21st Century Policing; training in the budget; and the need for CCPD training on how to mitigate perceptions.

Reverend Dr. Frances Rosenau provided background on herself; noted the unique chance to make change; discussed the actions of other countries; the importance of listening to the experiences of people of color and not gaslighting them; she proposed that Culver City could be known as the anti-racist city in the southland; expressed support for reducing the police budget, establishing civilian oversight and for providing a living wage for all City workers; she discussed providing more options beyond armed enforcement for every infraction; proposed funding for prevention; felt that everything should not be placed on the shoulders of law enforcement; and she expressed support for decreasing the over-militarization of CCPD.

Teresa Mammana acknowledged pain and experiences being expressed; discussed increased criminal behavior with increased homelessness; rape and drug use; children that cannot walk on certain streets; social worker safety; dangerous situations in domestic disputes; noise complaints; community outreach; and allowing social workers to support police officers.

Katia Santos thanked the City Council for their work; provided background on herself; expressed appreciation for CCPD; discussed community engagement; response time; safety; salaries and compensation; and risks officers take to keep the City safe.

Eduardo Basso acknowledged negative experiences with CCPD; proposed learning from history to move forward; increased business in the City; the importance of looking at the situation holistically; and he expressed support for a civilian oversight committee to apply changes to CCPD.

Mischa Burton expressed support for defunding CCPD and focusing on public safety through other resources; discussed racial profiling; support for investing in other resources to relieve the burden of providing services that has fallen on CCPD; asserted that the police do not make communities safer, resources do; and she proposed reimagining public safety to provide safety for all, not just a select few.

Freddy Puza expressed support for CCAN demands; acknowledged the fear created by proposing changes; discussed racial and societal issues; listening to people of color; preserving safety and law enforcement; changing over-reliance on policing; strategizing appropriately designated, right-sized and de-militarized police; changes made across the country; investing in the resources that the community needs; and quality of life.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding written public comment provided to the City Council before 4:00 p.m.; comment received since that time; length of time to hear all public comment; clarification regarding the cut-off time to submit public comment; and agreement to deliberate on the matter first and then return to public comment with the final decision made at the end of the meeting.

Council Member Lee recounted his experiences with racial profiling by a Black CCPD officer and also by two white CCPD

officers, noting that racial profiling does occur in the City; discussed the importance of not gas-lighting community members to say that their experiences did not happen as they do happen and continue to happen; discussed his opposition to the curfew and deployment of the National Guard after the death of George Floyd; proposed reforms; 8 Can't Wait; public comment expressing that more needs to be done; he reported meeting with the Chief of Police shortly after being elected to the City Council to see about forming an alliance with the UCLA School of Social Work to bring more social workers into CCPD since over 50% of calls are mental health or mental health related; discussed insufficient resources to address mental health issues; the limited number of CCPD officers trained to deploy with the social worker; success of the pilot program with Special Services for Groups (SSG) to try to bring in more social workers; adding a mobile component; the reduction of funding allocated for the program; increased need for the program due to the pandemic; partnerships with SSG and LAPD; expanding SSG in Culver City; the potential for trained social workers and emergency response teams that could deploy by themselves or with CCPD and the Culver City Fire Department (CCFD) depending on the nature of the incident; assistance by the UCLA School of Social Welfare to help flesh out the partnership; New Earth; preventing fatal incidents or incidents where people could be harmed by police by deploying more non-violent teams; assistance in analyzing police policy by the Ralph Bunche Center; not limiting the policy to use of force; CCAN demands; support for a longer conversation in the context of the General Plan process to reimagine public safety in Culver City; the potential partnership with SSG as a short term solution while intensive community work is done to re-envision policing in Culver City; the Civilian-led Oversight Committee; the Chief's Advisory Committee as a good idea for a different time; the need to empower citizens; and he expressed support for expanding the relationship with SSG for non-lethal, compassionate emergency response.

Council Member Small discussed reasons for the special Town Hall meeting; the Police Liaison Subcommittee; criticism of police throughout the country; the system of injustice; demand for immediate change; Black Lives Matter; restoring confidence; comments regarding public notice; size of the CCPD budget; the fact that as recently as a few years ago, discussion of a Police Commission was unmentionable; the community of color in Culver City; attempts to help people who experience racial profiling; trauma caused by racial profiling; systemic problems; adjudicated incidents; the

inevitability of change; the need to address systematically engineered trauma; providing severe cuts to each department while avoiding layoffs; working to ensure that the organization is not damaged; voluntary cuts by CCPD; clarification that personnel is most of the CCPD budget; support for the work done by Council Member Lee; improving efficiency; issues that the police do not want and are not trained for; identifying efforts that can be led by others outside of CCPD with the ability for backup when needed; retraining to only send armed officers if there is a true risk of someone getting hurt; the need for truth and reconciliation; the need for the past to inform the future; support for the creation of a Public Safety Commission, a civilian body representing the entire community focusing on policy, structure, budget and oversight of public services including investigation; those who do not feel safe in the City; setting a timetable to complete work; being held accountable; and investing in the ability of communities of color to shape the laws that govern and shape how money is spent.

Council Member Sahli-Wells thanked residents who have been reaching out to the City for weeks; acknowledged the context of the meeting; she noted that Culver City is not immune from the national conversation on racism; discussed the historic moment; the fact that privileged white people need to listen and stop thinking that their own personal experiences are more important, true, valuable or valid than the experiences of BIPOC in Culver City; she thanked the Subcommittee for requesting the meeting; discussed her interest in reforming CCPD during her tenure; expressed support for progress made and for including the Sanctuary City Policy in the CCPD manual; discussed the opportunity and responsibility to reflect on policies, budget priorities, the arrest rate and demographic information; calls for service; outcome for people of color in Culver City; her participation in protests; appreciation that the most egregious police responses to protests did not happen in Culver City; acknowledging harm done to people of color by CCPD; the need to acknowledge and apologize for the racist past of CCPD; the shameful, unanimous vote of the City Council in 1994 to hire Timothy Wind as a Community Services Officer after he was acquitted in the brutal beating of Rodney King; taking an honest and public look at arrest records; addressing past and present disparities; the need to bring the good and the bad history forward to heal and be whole; the need to examine policing policies and practices as part of the General Plan; essential

oversight as presented by CCAN; the important General Plan community process to look at roles, best practices and budget priorities; the need for meaningful oversight and to make real changes as soon as possible; the Chief's Advisory Panel; examining models and returning with concrete, actionable steps to create an oversight body; context from CCPD; concern with a failure to take complaints more seriously; people who are repeatedly pulled over; reform done by the Minneapolis Police Department; death by incrementalism; acknowledgement that just because things are allowed under the Police Policy Manual does not mean they should be done; the feeling that defunding of social services with those jobs put on CCPD is wrong and harming people every day; investing in the community; acknowledgement that when a gun is brought into the conversation the whole dynamic changes; support for the request from Council Member Lee to fund a mobile component of social workers for the SSG Program; the request from the Committee on Homelessness for \$1 million to house people experiencing homelessness; restoration of social service funding under Parks and Recreation; rerouting 911 calls using national models that already exist to provide alternate forms of response other than guns; she clarified that the Ballistic Engineered Armored Response Counter Attack Truck (BEARCAT) is not in the budget and she would not support it if it came before the Council; she expressed agreement with establishing a Public Safety Commission for oversight; directed staff to consult with the Culver City School Board and staff to see if they want to continue with School Resource Officers on campus; discussed the MBK Action Plan; fear caused by alarmist emails; email sent by former colleagues who do not support the equity initiatives; she felt it was not fair to ask people to wait; discussed the size of the CCPD budget; the high officer to resident ratio; level of sworn officers to Culver City residents compared to neighboring and comparable communities; she asked staff to provide a comparison of Police Chief salaries; discussed better serving the community and providing equity; the need to commit to change; and the feeling that if the opportunity is not taken, blood will be on their hands.

Vice Mayor Fisch expressed appreciation for reflections on CCPD history by Acting Police Chief Manny Cid; acknowledged the work of CCPD to insulate more secure people against the consequences of social failure; discussed poverty, mental illness and housing austerity; the importance of working with CCPD to acknowledge the past; validating and recognizing experiences; publicly auditing compliance with reforms; civilian oversight; the Racial and Identity Profiling Act;

identifying what is happening with data and addressing how to avoid racial profiling; white people committing crimes that are not policed; confusion and fear with calls to defund CCPD; support for the budget as is, with augmentation; the aim to avoid layoffs during the pandemic; investment in staff; including reform in the General Plan process; evidence-based changes with community input; the Community Oversight Committee; ensuring a community guided process with best practices; acknowledgement that process can kill good projects; and he proposed that a Task Force be established to work on the project.

Mayor Eriksson expressed appreciation for the public engagement; discussed the MBK Pledge; the process for moving forward; evaluation of CCPD; the need for data; examining different aspects of CCPD; balancing where resources are allocated; different types of crime; taking into account that Culver City is surrounded by the City of Los Angeles; reallocation of monies to education; the division of responsibilities in the state; the County Mental Health Department; the School Board; county monies from Proposition H to address homelessness; City responsibilities; the unique situation in that Culver City hires the Police Chief; other cities with a different organization chart; civilian oversight of the police by the City Council; the collaborative relationship between the City Council and CCPD; he discussed recent protests; addressing safety issues created by demonstrators blocking traffic at Culver and Overland; the need for staff input; understanding unintended consequences; mitigation; response time; concern by seniors who have issues accessing and providing public comment for the meetings; fear; and community discussions.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding meeting access and participation; the belief that use of social workers would decrease response times; freeing up time for police officers to investigate crime; support for defunding CCPD during the current budget cycle; restoring and expanding funds for SSG; support for making a public apology for the history of racism; envisioning future public safety in Culver City in an honest way; support for making changes in the current budget cycle; direction to staff to return with a modest budget proposal to direct police funding to social services; the final hearing scheduled for June 22, 2020 to adopt the budget; the intent to achieve maximum savings without firing anyone; the process; layoffs; anticipated retirements and changes; redirection of naturally occurring

budget reductions; the importance of coordination with the School District; the School Resource Officer; concern with changes that are not well-thought through or analyzed by staff; additional monies for SSG; concern with trying to re-negotiate the Chief's salary; options to reallocate funds during this budget cycle to acknowledge public concern; the need to take action; the long-term process to re-envision public safety; Unfunded Liabilities; Other Contractual Services; concern with budgeting on expected retirements; operational needs; the need to have a vision before making cuts; utilizing SSG beyond the Senior Center; making decisions based on actual calls; the need for additional detail; the Salary Initiative Ordinance; collective bargaining agreements; ensuring that proper training is being done; concern with being penny-wise and pound-foolish; the need to spend down the deficit; concern with making changes to the budget the week before adoption; allowing CCPD and the City Manager to identify funding; support for doubling or tripling funding for SSG; value for money spent; demonstrating seriousness; having a mobile unit deploy with CCPD support for exploring options and returning to the public; allowing a responsible first step toward reimagining public safety with cost-effective intervention while figuring out a community driven evidence based process for redefining public safety; need; economic impacts; making a difference in people's lives; empowering staff to come up with potential proposals; staff direction; and Council Member consensus to hear one hour of public comment with the balance made part of the public record.

Mimi Ferrel, City Clerk Specialist, read public comment submitted by:

Angela Waller: expressed concern with lack of opportunity for resident input on the issue of defunding CCPD and urged the City Council not to make any decisions without allowing for community review and comment.

Marta Ruvalcalba: asked the City Council to address data regarding police shootings in the country; questioned statistics for CCPD; and wanted to ensure that all voices were heard in a discussion of ways to improve CCPD.

Jason Squiers: wrote in support of defunding CCPD.

Mal Stivers: expressed opposition to defunding CCPD; felt the City was bending to the requests of protestors and rioters;

and asserted that he would vote against any Council Member who advocates for defunding CCPD.

Helen Seid: asked that CCPD not be defunded; indicated that she chose to live in Culver City because of CCPD: and she reported being pleased with their service when she has needed to call upon them.

Eliza Harris: demanded restructuring to prioritize more social services and drastically reduce spending on CCPD; wanted to see funds reallocated to those in need; felt signing the MBK Pledge was not enough; reported that Review Boards only end up allocating more funds toward police budgets; discussed failed reform; reform as a system of self-policing; the importance of defunding the police and diverting money to social services; and the ability to transform transportation and social services with only a fraction of the CCPD budget.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, read public comment submitted by:

Bryan Sanders: wanted to see an inclusive community approach to discussing the CCPD budget; he did not support taking action driven by a small group of people before full consideration would occur; expressed concern that the item had been fast-tracked; and he felt that more could have been done to involve residents.

Zeve Akerling: asserted that a "fake discussion" was being held about defunding CCPD and he indicated that Council Members would be voted out of office in November to undo failed schemes.

Hilary Graham: expressed support for the Mayor signing the MBK Pledge; wanted to see CCPD Use of Force policies reformed; discussed the amount of the City budget allocated to CCPD; reallocation of monies toward affordable housing, food and education; noted the difficulty of making large change; expressed appreciation to CCPD; and she cited a New York Times piece that noted, a safe world is not one that keeps Black and other marginalized people in check.

Debi Lee: questioned why CCPD funding would be cut; asked whether everyone would need to go out and buy guns; and she proposed funding strict psychological testing for new recruits.

Colin Diaz, Chamber of Commerce President and CEO: expressed support for the process and transparency; discussed desirability of the City; the unprecedented time; opportunity for dialogue; and concern that the details of the special meeting were not shared publicly.

Wendy and Leane Asato: expressed support for CCPD; asserted that the Mental Health Unit was a model for Los Angeles county; felt that cutting funding would jeopardize citizen safety; and asked that all funding for CCPD be preserved.

Bradley McAfee: expressed opposition to any attempt to defund CCPD; noted praise previously showered on CCPD; discussed criminals released as a result of the pandemic; the recidivism rate; felt that defunding was unwarranted given the high potential for more crime; asserted that CCPD was not responsible for the death of George Floyd; and indicated that review and modification of Use of Force policies was appropriate.

Deborah Weinrach: provided background on herself; indicated that in the face of a crisis, it was important to think rationally, not emotionally and to always rely on facts; noted the need to remember that racism, law abuse, and murder were not law enforcement; discussed differences in police departments; changes over time; use of the word "defund"; ensuring complete equality for all; and she asserted that there would be a rise in crime if CCPD were not given the resources to do their jobs properly.

Yulia McAfee: expressed opposition to defunding CCPD; stated that CCPD was essential to keeping people safe; discussed the release of criminals due to COVID-19; reacting without offering an effective solution; support for review of Use of Force policies, but not for defunding CCPD; CCPD response to prevent rioting and looting such as what was taking place in Santa Monica and Beverly Hills; and felt that funding should be maintained to prevent increased crime.

Lisa Kaaionni: questioned how defunding CCPD would help the community; asserted that defunding was a reaction to current unjust situations taking place in the community; felt that a rash community statement should not be made, but instead, all community voices should be invited to the table to transform every aspect of the City; discussed the focus of CCPD on community; exceptional service provided to the City; loss of community programs offered by CCPD; where funding would be

moved to; support for using a portion of funding to reform CCPD; and indicated the need to invite public comment.

Peter Stern: expressed support for CCPD; discussed the policy manual; poor judgement used in the Floyd case; CCPD support of peaceful protestors and prevention of rioting; proposed use of a national database for police officers; sensitivity training; and he did not want to see the budget reduced for CCPD.

Patricia Siever and Luther Henderson: provided background on themselves; expressed support for improvement made within CCPD; asserted that the actions of police in Minneapolis did not justify defunding CCPD and felt that anyone who supported that should step down; and noted that the pandemic restricted the ability to meet in-person to discuss important matters.

Joy Kecken: provided background on herself; expressed support for CCAN's demands; encouraged the City to embrace the historical tide and implement CCAN recommendations; noted the difficulty of being viewed as a threat just for walking out her front door; discussed different experiences based on the color of one's skin; entrenched racism in Culver City; and what it means for any Black person to drive through Culver City.

Howard Cogan: discussed Measure Y; demoralizing and punishing CCPD for the acts of another police department; prejudice; holding CCPD accountable for their actions; proactive prevention vs. simply responding to 911 calls; crime surges in the area; policing strategies that have kept residents safe for years; ensuring that CCPD can adequately protect its citizens and officers; and the need to present evidence specifically related to CCPD.

Fernando Rios: stated that if police brutality exists in Culver City, the focus should be on City Council representatives for allowing it and they should resign; noted that his son is a police officer; discussed irrationally giving into demands from anarchists to defund the police; increased robberies, assaults and burglaries; stated that defunding the police did not guarantee the right to lawfully assemble; felt that Council Members needed to condemn lawlessness and indicate that it would not be tolerated; and asserted that reallocating funding from CCPD would not change how law enforcement is perceived.

Mimi Ferrel, City Clerk Specialist, read public comment submitted by:

Reverend Doris Davis: discussed concern with public outreach for the virtual meeting; felt the phrase "defund the police" was incendiary; reported positive contact with CCPD; acknowledged the experiences of others; felt that public discussion was necessary; discussed allocation of funding to other programs; and she expressed gratitude for work to make Culver City and outstanding place to live.

Nick Colima; expressed support for reductions to the CCPD budget; discussed reallocation of funds toward community support; helping people without sending an armed response; holding CCPD to the highest standard; placing a focus on de-escalating situations; support for signing the MBK Pledge; reducing the militarization of CCPD and changing training to not view people as enemies; the importance reducing the number of officers; and asserted that to fix the nation as a whole, changes should begin at home.

Robert Zirgulis: discussed maligning the majority of CCPD officers for the actions of a few; the slogan and the group, Black Lives Matter; demands made; and progressive activists leading protestors.

Jozelle Smith: provided background on herself; discussed urgent items considered by the City; wanted the City to take the time to hear from the community before deciding on any changes to CCPD; and expressed support for expanding CCPD in a positive way.

Carolyn DeVinny: referenced a letter written by Andrew Weissman; expressed concern with potential defunding of CCPD; felt the item should be fully publicized and that a quick decision should not be made; expressed support for a thorough review of CCPD and support for the department; discussed her positive interactions with CCPD; and she acknowledged issues but felt that protection and safety should not be lost.

Susan Arnold: wanted to see the City set an example of how to revamp the police force; expressed support for taking steps to make the community feel safe and welcoming for everyone; and noted the need to analyze CCPD duties.

Alan Kuhn: expressed support for CCPD; questioned the ability to retain high quality personnel with reduced funding; did not

want a social worker or paramedic to come to his aide when a police officer is needed; and he expressed opposition to defunding.

Disa Lindgren: asserted that it was time to listen to Black leaders around the country and in the community; discussed the need for bold action to address institutional racism; demonstrations calling for meaningful change in Culver City; youth participation; the need to change status quo; complicity; and she urged the City Council to support CCAN's demands.

Sara Kuperstein: expressed support for following the actions of San Francisco to separate police response to dangerous and criminal acts from responses to other types of calls which could be directed to social workers or other trained community members; felt that uniformed officers carrying guns impeded the ability of law enforcement to make a strong connection with the community due to inciting fear; discussed the further separation of emergency response into fire, ambulance and police; avoiding escalation; and providing a more specialized and effective response.

Bronwyn Jamrok: discussed recognition that a healthy and fair police department is an essential part of a community; ensuring accountability; amount of the City budget allocated to CCPD; and expressed support for a 17% reduction beyond the current proposed budget with funding reallocated to meet other urgent needs.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, read public comment submitted by:

Dottie Neilson: expressed opposition to cutting the police budget; support for holding police accountable; concern with public safety; she discussed developers; rent control; concern with turning Culver City into an enclave for the wealthy; questioned Council Members who side with big money against the average person; and discussed consideration of the recall process to make Culver City affordable for all.

Abby Wood: discussed the fact that no one can be free until everyone is free; expressed support for CCAN's demands, acknowledging the City's racist past, and bringing the City budget in line with values; and felt it absurd to have no community control of a group that gets such a large portion of the City budget.

Monique Bowman: provided background on herself; wrote in defense of CCPD officers; and felt the issue should be considered rationally;.

Lorri Horn: expressed opposition to the item being considered as an Action Item instead of a Discussion Item and she requested due process.

Emily Smith-Greenaway: expressed support for CCAN's demands; discussed the ballooning police division; staffing ratios for CCPD vs. LAPD; asserted that the community would not be safe without ongoing, meaningful civilian oversight of CCPD; and she stated that it would be telling if CCPD rejected oversight, and a failure of leadership if the City allows departments to continue to operate without meaningful oversight.

Brendan Greenaway: provided background on himself; discussed negative effects of over-policing in the country and community; expressed support for budget reduction and restructuring of CCPD; discussed the ratio of officers to residents; wanted to see reallocation of funding to mental health professionals as front line responders; noted incidences of the mentally ill being killed or mistreated by the police; and the need for a separate set of front line responders to do that work.

Cris Ferrier: felt that CCPD deserved much of the credit for the City's success; discussed people and large companies that move into the City because of strong City services, excellent schools and property values; and the collaborative effort by the City government.

Concerned Officer: expressed opposition to defunding CCPD; discussed the oath taken to serve the City; the strict code of ethics; asserted that the actions of a few should not tarnish everyone; indicated that officers are enraged by injustice and hurt by loss of life just like everyone else; and discussed leaving for work each day, not knowing whether they will return to their families.

Chelsey Preston: discussed the difficult year; service of CCPD during the pandemic; the collective idea that all police are racist due to the death of George Floyd; and concern with other police departments that practice unsafe techniques.

Rhonda Lilly: provided background on herself expressed support for CCPD; questioned the unwarranted calls to defund CCPD; and the proposed defunding the City Council that is led by protestors not facts.

Michael Barbosa: felt that defunding CCPD was not the answer; discussed the killing of George Floyd and the resulting protests; the need for a logical explanation of how to keep the community safe; and he discussed crime statistics noting the need for officers to protect residents.

Audrey Richter: discussed findings that minority civilians are not more likely to be killed by white cops; studies indicating zero evidence of racial disparity in lethal use of force; acknowledgement that there are bad cops; concern that all cops are being treated as though they are bad; and deaths caused by medical errors. vs. by police errors.

Mimi Ferrel, City Clerk Specialist, read public comment submitted by:

Julian Espitia: discussed hardships endured during 2020; the death of George Floyd; perceptions that all police officers are bad; the proposal to defund CCPD; negative effects of defunding; Chief Bixby's Mission Statement; response time; and the unique nature of CCPD.

Andrea Shimono: provided background on herself; expressed support for CCPD; discussed calls from people to dispatch who want to express their gratitude to police officers; efforts to restructure police services; negative interactions by a few police officers; and she asserted that residents would no longer be satisfied with services if the CCPD were to be defunded.

Jeff Park: expressed support for CCPD and asked that it not be defunded.

Prisca Gloor: wrote in support of CCAN's demands; provided background on the origins of policing and the racist origins of Culver City; discussed systemic problems; inequality in the country; the need to reallocate police funding to community efforts; and helping people who fall through the cracks.

Jennifer Carter: provided background on herself; expressed support for quick implementation of the changes outlined by CCAN, and noted it was a chance for Culver City to be a leader

in social justice and for people of color to feel welcome and safe in the City.

Jeff Zerbey: expressed disappointment that defunding CCPD was being considered; discussed the incident in Minneapolis; professionalism and diversity in CCPD; crime rates in Culver City compared with neighboring jurisdictions; response time; the decision of large corporations to do business in the City; and hindering the ability to provide such a high level of service.

Doug Felts: discussed the number of sworn officers vs. residents; daytime population; contracting with Highway Patrol or the County Sheriff; asserted that the proposal would bring lawlessness and vigilantism to the City; felt the City was not over-policed, but rather over-governed; proposed cleaning house on the City Council; and asserted that the City was not looking out for its citizens.

Lloyd Thompson: expressed opposition to immediately reducing funding to CCPD; the decision by LAPD to reduce their budget; Police Use of Force practices and policies; recent violence and looting; the critical need for the police force; and the need for discussion rather than for taking action to show solidarity with a national movement.

Alejandro Arroyo: expressed support for the process of defunding and providing community oversight; discussed officers who harass, wrongfully stop, attack people, and get off with no punishment; asserted that CCPD should not be the focal point of the budget, rather education, jobs and housing should be prioritized in the face of gentrification; and he demanded a say in how the money is spent on the police force.

Susan Deen: provided background on herself; expressed concern that the City Council would rush to judgement; confidence that instances of inappropriate use of force by CCPD is less than that for other police departments of a similar size; and she discussed issues faced by Culver City.

Elizabeth Wolf: expressed support for structural changes in CCPD; discussed budget reductions for CCPD with resources allocated to community-based services not under the control of CCPD; felt that a 20% cut would provide the best start to ensure that alternate services are adequately funded; discussed better serving residents with human, non-violent intervention; the ratio of police officers to the population

in Culver City vs. the national average; re-training; she asserted there was no need for such a large police presence; and she felt that CCPD should be subject to civilian oversight that has the ability to take action when needed.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, read public comment submitted by:

Mark Lipman: discussed the quality of CCPD; addressing well-documented racism; inadequate steps toward reform; the white experience; protecting the status quo; and the need for a trust and reconciliation process led by the newly formed Equity and Human Relations Committee to identify proper reform.

Sam Adair: wanted to see CCPD defunded and discussed the need to emphasize social services.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, indicated that the letter from Sam Adair appeared to be intended for the County Board of Supervisors.

Brandon Simon: urged the City Council to reconsider their intent to defund CCPD noting that would only lead to a subpar level of service, slower response times and a spike in crime, and he expressed concern with a detrimental effect to the City as a whole.

Ed Henneberque: urged the City Council to stop considering defunding CCPD as he felt it would hurt residents; he asserted that Police, Fire and Schools were what attracted people to the City; and he proposed training to address problems that need to be fixed.

Discussion ensued between staff and Council Members regarding access to all public comment submitted and encouragement for those interested to sign up for City Council notifications.

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Public Comment - Items Not on the Agenda

Mayor Eriksson invited public comment.

Jeremy Green, City Clerk, indicated that no additional public comment had been received.

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Items from Council Members

Council Member Lee reiterated City Council consensus about the possibility of reallocating the CCPD budget in the future and providing civilian oversight.

Mayor Eriksson noted that things always seem impossible until they are done.

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Council Member Requests to Agendize Future Items

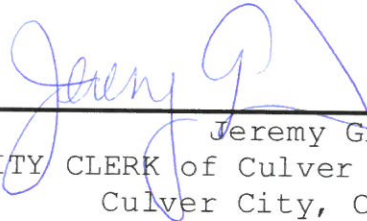
None.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 1:15 a.m., Tuesday, June 16, the City Council adjourned to a regular meeting on June 22, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK of Culver City, California
Culver City, California



GÖRAN ERIKSSON
MAYOR of Culver City, California

Approval Date: July 13, 2020