CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020, 1 P.M.
VIRTUAL/IN PERSON MEETING
PUBLIC COMMENT IN PERSON/TELEPHONE
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER
3900 MAIN STREET

PRESENT: Mayor Bailey and Councilmembers Edwards, Melendrez, Fierro, Conder, Perry, and Hemenway and Councilwoman Plascencia

ABSENT: None

Mayor Bailey called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Rich Gardner spoke regarding the St. Michael's project, public comment, rent control and evictions, Pension Obligation Bonds, employee unions, and Bob Stockton. Scott Andrews spoke regarding the Arlanza community garden, sale of City-owned properties, pensions, and an employee salary freeze. Patrick Mahoney spoke regarding sale of City-owned properties. Jason Hunter spoke regarding the City Attorney and the audit of Riverside Public Utilities. Leticia Pepper spoke regarding waiver of the Sunshine Ordinance, sale of City-owned properties, and the former City Attorney. Raychele Sterling spoke regarding the sale of City-owned properties, fiscal responsibility, and homelessness. John Krick spoke regarding the sale of City-owned properties.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Bailey left the meeting during the following item and Mayor Pro Tem Edwards presided.

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

Following discussion, it was moved by Councilwoman Plascencia and seconded by Councilmember Edwards to (1) receive and order filed the review of the Proclamation of Local Emergency regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) proclaimed on March 13, 2020, and ratified by the City Council on March 17, 2020; (2) continue the Local Emergency declaration; and (3) direct the City Manager to return to the City Council in thirty days with a further review of the Local Emergency. The motion carried with Councilmembers Edwards, Melendrez, Fierro, Perry, and Hemenway and Councilwoman Plascencia voting aye and Councilmember Conder voting no.

DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES MINIMUM STAFFING ORDER
Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Melendrez and seconded by Councilmember Edwards to (1) receive and order filed the review of the Order of the Director of Emergency Services to provide for minimum staffing in order to slow down the spread of COVID-19 among City staff; (2) continue the Minimum Staffing Order; (3) return to City Council in thirty days with a further review of minimum staffing; and (4) provide regular updates to City Council on staffing. The motion carried with Councilmembers Edwards, Melendrez, Fierro, Perry, and Hemenway and Councilwoman Plascencia voting aye and Councilmember Conder voting no.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/PLANNING REFERRALS AND APPEALS

2019-20 HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AMENDMENT FOR USE OF CORONAVIRUS, AID, RELIEF AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT FUNDING - SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION
Hearing was called to consider the 2019-2020 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Annual Action Plan Amendment for use of Coronavirus, Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act funding for a combined amount of $3,318,707 for Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS programs. Four people spoke on the matter. The public hearing was officially closed. Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Fierro and seconded by Councilwoman Plascencia to (1) approve an amendment to the 2019-2020 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development Annual Action Plan for use of Coronavirus, Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act funding in the combined total amount of $3,318,707 for the Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS programs; (2) authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development grant agreements for the Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS programs; (3) authorize preparation of the standard Community Development Block Grant and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program Agreements with the City's grantees as identified in the amended 2019-2020 HUD Annual Action Plan, and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program Agreement with the organization selected from the recent Notice of Funding Availability process and authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to execute these agreements including making minor non-substantive changes; and

(4) upon grant award, authorize an increase in revenue in the amount of funds awarded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to the corresponding grant fund and appropriate funds into project accounts identified in the staff report. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

REVIEW OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES FOR DECLARATION AS SURPLUS TO GENERATE SALE REVENUE
This item was removed from the agenda.

TEMPORARY MORATORIUM EXTENSION - EVICTION FOR NON-PAYMENT OF RENT FOR RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL TENANTS - RESOLUTION
Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Fierro and seconded by Councilwoman Plascencia to adopt a resolution amending Resolution No. 23558 extending the temporary moratorium on residential and commercial tenant evictions until June 30, 2020. The motion carried with Councilmembers Edwards, Melendrez, Fierro, Perry, and Hemenway and Councilwoman Plascencia voting aye and Councilmember Conder voting no.

Whereupon, the title having been read and further reading waived, Resolution No. 23579 of the City Council of the City of Riverside, California, Amending Resolution No. 23558 Extending the Temporary Moratorium on the Eviction for Non-Payment of Rent for Residential and Commercial Tenants During the Declared Local Emergency to June 30, 2020, was presented and adopted.

WAIVE SUNSHINE ORDINANCE - FOURTH OF JULY 2020 ALTERNATIVE CELEBRATION OPTIONS
Following discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Fierro and seconded by Councilmember Conder to (1) waive notice provisions of the Sunshine Ordinance pursuant to Riverside Municipal Code Section 4.05.050(D)(1)(a) in that there is a need to take immediate action and hear the report on alternative options for the 2020 Fourth of July event, which alternatives came to the attention of the local body after the agenda was posted. The motion carried unanimously.

Following further discussion, it was moved by Councilmember Fierro and seconded by Councilmember Conder to (1) request a reconsideration of the fireworks show be agendized for the City Council meeting on June 2, 2020; (2) direct staff to move forward exploring a contract for one fireworks show at a centralized location keeping the cost at no more than $60,000; and (3) not move forward with any Fourth of July celebration options presented.

Following further discussion, a substitute motion was made by Councilwoman Plascencia and seconded by Councilmember Melendrez to implement Option B, the Patriotic City celebration week. The motion carried with Councilmembers Edwards, Melendrez, Fierro, and Hemenway and Councilwoman Plascencia voting aye and Councilmembers Conder and Perry voting no.

CLOSED SESSIONS

The Mayor and City Council adjourned to closed session pursuant to Government Code (1) §54957.6 to review the City Council's position and instruct designated representatives regarding salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of all Executive Management employees including the City Attorney and City Clerk, all Management and Confidential employees as defined by PERS, Fire Management Unit, Riverside City Firefighters Association, Riverside Police Officers Association (Police and Police Supervisory Units), Service Employees International Union #721, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers #47, and Riverside Police Administrators Association; (2) §54957(b) to consider appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline, or dismissal of the City Attorney; and (3) §54957 for performance evaluation of the City Manager.

COMMUNICATIONS

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT ON CLOSED SESSIONS

City Attorney Geuss announced there were no reportable actions on closed sessions.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Councilmember Conder congratulated Elizabeth Bailey on her high school graduation.

City of Arts & Innovation

CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020, 1 P.M.
VIRTUAL/IN PERSON MEETING
PUBLIC COMMENT IN PERSON/TELEPHONE
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER
3900 MAIN STREET

The City Council adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

COLLEEN J. NICOL
City Clerk