

**VALLEJO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
VIA TELECONFERENCE**

FEBRUARY 23, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor McConnell, Vice Mayor Verder-Aliga, Councilmembers Arriola, Brown, Dew, Diaz, and Miessner

Absent: None

Staff present: City Manager Nyhoff, City Attorney Nebb and City Clerk Abrahamson

City Attorney Nebb reported that Council provided direction to staff on Closed Session Items A, B, and C as reflected on the Special Council meeting agenda.

4. PRESENTATIONS AND COMMENDATIONS

Action: Mayor McConnell read the proclamation.

**A. PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2021
AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

5. FIRST COMMUNITY FORUM

Speakers: Matthew Finkelstein, Dante Quick, Melissa Swift, Gretchen Zimmermann, and Anne Carr.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

Speakers: None.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Action: Moved by Vice Mayor Verder-Aliga and carried unanimously, unless otherwise noted, approval of the Agenda and the Consent Calendar with the removal of Item 6C from the Consent Calendar making it Item 7.1.

A. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Recommendation: Approve minutes for the special meeting of February 1, 2021 and the special and regular meetings of February 9, 2021

Contact: Dawn G. Abrahamson, City Clerk (707) 648-4528

Dawn.Abrahamson@cityofvallejo.net

Action: Approved minutes.

B. **CITY TREASURER'S INVESTMENT REPORT**

Recommendation: Accept the City Treasurer's Investment Report for the quarter ended December 31, 2020.

Contact: Rekha Nayar, Finance Director, (707) 648-4592

Rekha.Nayar@cityofvallejo.net

Action: Accepted Treasurer's Investment Report for quarter ended December 31, 2020.

C. **ADOPT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE HOMELESS NAVIGATION CENTER FUND FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET TO RECOGNIZE REVENUE FROM GRANT FUNDING AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,150,000 AND AUTHORIZE THE CARRYOVER OF FUNDS TO FISCAL YEAR 2021-22**

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution to amend the Navigation Center Fund #191 Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 budget to recognize the grant funding and appropriate funds in the amount of \$5,150,000 to pay for expenditures associated with the Homeless Navigation Center project.

Contact: Judy Shepard-Hall, Housing & Community Development Program Manager (707) 648-4408

judy.shepard-hall@cityofvallejo.net

Action: item was removed from the Consent Calendar at the request of a member of the public.

Speaker: Anne Carr

Staff responded to questions and comments from the speaker and from Councilmembers. Councilmembers provided comment.

Action: Moved by Vice Mayor Verder-Aliga and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 21-019 N.C.

D. **AMENDMENT TO PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR FIRST RESPONDER EMERGENCY SERVICES AMONG MEMBER CITIES**

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution authorizing the execution of the First Amendment to the Public-Private Partnership Agreement for Advanced Life Support (ALS) First Responder Emergency Services

Contact: Daryl Arbuthnott, Fire Chief, (707) 648-4420

Daryl.Arbuthnott@cityofvallejo.net

Courtney Schreiner Lee, Administrative Analyst (707) 648-4420

Courtney.Schreiner@cityofvallejo.net

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 21-020 N.C.

E. **ACCEPT THE LEAP GRANT AND AMEND THE CAPITAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTION FUND BUDGET (1ST OF 2 STEP PROCESS)**

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution accepting the 2020 Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) grant award totaling \$500,000 and provide a notice of intent to amend the FY 2020-21 Planning & Development Services Department Capital Grants and Contribution Fund budget to recognize the revenue in the amount of \$500,000 and authorize expenditures.

Contact: Gillian Hayes, Interim Deputy City Manager, (707) 648-4163

gillian.hayes@cityofvallejo.net

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 21-021 N.C.

8. **ACTION CALENDAR**

A. **AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE SACRAMENTO STREET BRIDGE (23C-0152) REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution approving the project plans and specifications for the Sacramento Street Bridge (23C-0152) Replacement Project, Federal Aid Project NO.: STPLZ-5030(056), and authorize the City Manager to award a construction contract in the amount of \$8,315,710 to Gordon N. Ball, Inc., of Alamo, California, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications.

Contact: Terrance Davis, Public Works Director, (707) 648-4301

Terrance.Davis@cityofvallejo.net

Melissa Tigbao, Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer (707) 648-4085

Melissa.Tigbao@cityofvallejo.net

Public Works Director Davis provided introductory comments.

Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Tigbao provided an overview of the project and outlined the recommendation.

Speakers: Ken Szutu

Staff responded to questions from the speaker. Councilmembers provided comment.

Action: Moved by Vice Mayor Verder-Aliga and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 21-022 N.C.

B. **NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 BUDGET, MID-YEAR (STEP 1 OF 2)**

Recommendation: Provide notice of intent to amend the City's Fiscal Year 2020-21 Adopted Budget and amend the City's Salary Plan.

Contact: Rekha Nayar, Finance Director (707) 648-4592

Rekha.Nayar@CityofVallejo.net

Finance Director Nayar introduced the mid-year budget process, provided a recap of Fiscal Year 2020-21 adopted revenue and expenditures, midyear update, which included information related to revenue and expenditure changes, other fund changes and proposed FTE changes, and concluded the presentation with closing comments.

Police Chief Williams discussed the need for an increase in investigative costs and also discussed Body Worn Cameras and the Taser contract.

Staff responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Speakers: Ken Szutu, Anne Carr, Pam Minor, and an unidentified member of the public.

Another question and answer period followed. Councilmembers provided comment.

Action: None.

The meeting recessed at 9:30 p.m. and reconvened at 9:40 p.m.

C. **REVIEW PROPOSAL FOR CITYWIDE EQUITY STUDY AND PROVIDE DIRECTION TO STAFF**

Recommendation: Direct staff to proceed with an equity study utilizing the proposed scope of work from Management Partners.

Contact: Anne Cardwell, Assistant City Manager (707) 648-4579

anne.cardwell@cityofvallejo.net

Human Resources Director Ruiz provided an overview of the staff report and outlined the recommendation.

Staff responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Speakers: Joey Porter, Liat Meitzenheimer and Cristal Little.

Another question and answer period followed. Councilmembers provided comment.

Action: Council provided direction to staff to include a council survey on the discretionary funding, discussion at the Council's upcoming goal setting session, and to agendize the combination of the formation of 3-member Council Equity Study ad-hoc committee and allocation of discretionary funding at the March 23 City Council meeting.

D. **INTERIM POLICE AUDITOR SCOPE OF WORK**

Recommendation: Staff requests that the City Council Review review the proposed scope of work for the Interim Independent Police Auditor (IPA) and direct staff to proceed with executing and approve an agreement with the OIR Group. Staff further requests that the City Council decide whether the IPA reports directly to the City Manager or to the City Council. Staff recommends that the IPA report directly to the City Council in order to maintain complete independence from the Police Department. In addition, staff recommends that the IPA coordinate all reports through the City Attorney's Office to ensure compliance with applicable laws.

Contact: Anne Cardwell, Assistant City Manager (707) 648-4579

anne.cardwell@cityofvallejo.net

Assistant City Manager Cardwell provided an overview of the staff report and outlined the recommendations.

Staff responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Speakers: Susan George, John Baptiste and Ken Szutu.

Another question and answer period followed. Councilmembers provided comment.

Action: Moved by Mayor McConnell and carried unanimously to: 1) accept the scope of work, 2) direct staff to proceed with executing and approving an agreement with the OIR Group, 3) direct the IPA report directly to the City Council, 4) direct the IPA to coordinate all reports through the City Attorney's Office to ensure compliance with applicable laws, 5) further reports on progress of the recommendation be provided to Council not less than every 60 days, 6) if permissible by law, OIR Group is designated as an additional recipient for citizen complaints, and 7) continue to work with all outside groups, especially the community, in trying to find ways to receive input other than through Tuesday evening council meetings.

9. INFORMATION CALENDAR – None.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Nyhoff reported on upcoming council meetings and addressed public comment related to the process and transparency for the new Zoning Code.

11. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

City Attorney Nebb responded to public comment raised on the Neighborhood Law Program.

12. COMMUNITY FORUM

Speakers: Brad Beltane, Susan George, Kathleen Diohep, Anna Bergman, Ken Szutu, Jameelah H., Brandon Johnson, and an unidentified member of the public.

13. REPORT OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilmembers reported on community and constituent matters and events attended.

14. **CLOSED SESSION** – None.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:23 a.m.

DocuSigned by:

ROBERT H. MCCONNELL

ROBERT H. MCCONNELL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Dawn G. Abrahamson

DAWN G. ABRAHAMSON
CITY CLERK