APPROVED: 01/04/2022



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

November 30, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mora called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present: Councilmembers/Directors: Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair Rodriguez and Mayor/Chair Mora.

Members absent: None

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following persons spoke during Public Comments: Lang Cottrell in person, Annie Lozano and Richard via Zoom.

CITY COUNCIL

4. STUDY SESSION

Capital Improvement Plan – Review of Needs Assessment (Public Works)

Recommendation:

Provide direction on which projects to include as part of the Capital Improvement Plan for years 2022 to 2024.

Director of Public Works, Noe Negrete provided an introduction to Item No. 4. He began by stating that a priority of projects must be agreed on, which means some projects must be chosen over others. Staff needs direction from Council to identify which projects to work on. He also stated that there needs to be a differentiation between wants and needs, and the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Subcommittee already made an effort to reduce the projects from 158 projects to 96 projects with an estimated cost of \$80 million. Director Negrete spoke about the Capital Improvements Project Process and different types of funding. He stated that the City has \$26 million total funds, but recommends that the City only utilize \$20 million for the 96 projects. He started explaining the current Utility Users Tax (UUT) project list.

Councilmember Sarno made a comment about the splash pads project at the wading pools being ADA compliant.

Director Negrete then spoke about the Redevelopment Funded Capital Improvement Projects. Councilmember Sarno asked about the projects regarding the Snake Fountain and Native American Pond areas. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez asked about the Fire Station Roof Improvements. Director Negrete stated that repairs have been made that will keep, and recommends that other roofs be prioritized as they are in greater need of repair. Council agreed to deprioritize the yellow items on the list.

2.8 million dollars is what the City puts away each year. City Manager Raymond R. Cruz stated that there is need of over \$97 million for road repairs only, and staff is currently working on ways to produce revenue that will be able to bridge the gap in funding.

Director Negrete explained that staff identified Core/Essential and Priority Projects, which include Public Works Facilities, Streets, and Street Lights. He emphasized the shortfall of funds and the need for Council to prioritize certain projects. Councilmember Trujillo inquired about the work needed to be done at the Town Center Plaza, whether it was aesthetic or functional repairs needed. Director Negrete stated that it was aesthetic. Council agreed to remove that project as a priority.

Director Negrete continued to speak about the Public Works Street projects. Council asked why it has taken so long for Caltrans to release funds in relation to the I-5 Caltrans Florence Street Mitigation Project. Director Negrete stated that Caltrans has not "closed out" the Carmenita Road section of the project, and as a result the City is unable to receive any surplus funds until they have done so. He stated that they have attempted to do so for the past three years, and recommends Council move forward with the design phase of the project only until Caltrans releases funds to avoid losing out on monies during the construction phase.

Director Negrete continued to address the Public Works Traffic Signals/Street Lights projects. He provided benefits of upgrading to new lighting systems as current lighting systems have become antiquated. City Manager Ray Cruz mentioned that moving forward with the design phase of the lighting systems would be beneficial so that reimbursement could be considered later. Councilmember Trujillo asked if there is staff available who can assist with grant writing in order to obtain funds for these projects. City Manager Ray Cruz responded that the City does not currently have someone on staff who can accomplish that, but that the City has been in communication with consultants who assist neighboring cities to get that work completed. He added that he has been in communication with state and federal representatives on available grants and will forward a finalized list of projects to initiate those talks with them.

Director Negrete gave Council "homework" to identify the top ten projects on the remaining projects that correspond to Community Services, City Hall, Police Services and Fire-Rescue Department. He also requested they rank each projects in terms of priority.

Council asked about incoming revenue from pool usage. Parks and Recreation Manager, Gustavo Hernandez stated that on a "good year" the Aquatic Center generates about \$70,000 and they recover close to 35% of costs. Council asked for the totals from the last four years of how much was earned along with attendance. Council also requested the cost and comparisons of removing wading pools from City parks to only have one at the Aquatic Center.

City Manager Ray Cruz asked if Council agreed to not request a credit, but rather a recapture of \$10 million spent on commercial street maintenance by having all maintenance covered under a potential truck tax. Council agreed.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mora adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

John M. Mora

Mayor

ATTEST:

Janet Martinez

City Clerk