

IRWINDALE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
5050 N. IRWINDALE AVENUE
IRWINDALE, CALIFORNIA 91706

AUGUST 11, 2021
WEDNESDAY
6:33 P.M.

The Irwindale **CITY COUNCIL** met in regular session, beginning at the above time and place.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Albert F. Ambriz, Mark A. Breceda, Manuel R. Garcia; Mayor Pro Tem Larry G. Burrola; Mayor H. Manuel Ortiz

Present: William Tam, City Manager; Theresa Olivares, Assistant City Manager; Adrian Guerra, City Attorney; Ty Henshaw, Chief of Police; Arsanious Hanna, Director of Engineering / Building Official; Eva Carreon, Finance Director / City Treasurer; Marilyn Simpson, Community Development Director; Mary Hull, Human Resources Manager, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Public Services Director; Jeff Wagner, Information Technology Manager; Iris Espino, Assistant to the City Manager; and Laura Nieto, Chief Deputy City Clerk

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

COUNCILMEMBER TRAVEL REPORTS

None.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

MAYOR PRO TEM BURROLA

Mayor Pro Tem Burrola requested that staff look into a matter concerning Las Casitas resident Maggie Guzman and requested that she be relocated while repairs to her unit are conducted, and requested that an arborist inspect ficus trees that are damaging sidewalks.

COUNCILMEMBER BRECEDA

Councilmember Breceda advised that he has already reached out to City Manager Tam regarding Mrs. Guzman's situation and that staff is already addressing the matter.

CITY MANAGER TAM

City Manager Tam provided brief background information on the damage and repairs to Mrs. Guzman's apartment. He advised that staff will continue to monitor the matter.

COUNCILMEMBER AMBRIZ

Councilmember Ambriz thanked Mayor Pro Tem Burrola for his concern and stated that staff is handling the matter.

MAYOR ORTIZ

Mayor Ortiz thanked City Manager Tam and Public Services Director Rodriguez for their efforts to arrange for the cleanup at the Irwindale Business Center with the site's management company, and expressed his hope that the sidewalk at this site and along the wash's pathway between Nora and Irwindale Avenue will be repaired. He also commended the Recreation team for its summer programming.

**INTRODUCTION OF
NEW EMPLOYEES /
PROMOTIONS**

PUBLIC SERVICES
MAINTENANCE AIDES

PUBLIC SERVICES MAINTENANCE AIDES FRANK ZEPEDA,
SAMUEL MARTINEZ, JUAN ESPINO, AND GARY STROBEHN

The introductions were made.

SENIOR RECREATION
LEADERS

SENIOR RECREATION LEADERS ADAM QUINONES, SAMANTHA
ROSALES, AND DELICIA PONCE

The introductions were made.

**PROCLAMATIONS /
PRESENTATIONS /
COMMENDATIONS**

JOINT PRESENTATION
BY VALLEY COUNTY
WATER DISTRICT
AND UPPER SAN
GABRIEL VALLEY
WATER DISTRICT

JOINT PRESENTATION BY VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
AND UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WATER DISTRICT ON
CURRENT DROUGHT CONDITIONS, WATER SUPPLY, AND
CONSERVATION EFFORTS

The presentation was made.

**SPONTANEOUS
COMMUNICATIONS**

DENA ZEPEDA

Dena Zepeda thanked the Police Officers for patrolling the streets, congratulated the new full-time employees, questioned the City Manager's and City Attorney's qualifications, asked whether residents would be informed about job openings in the city, complained about the city's hiring processes, alleged that millions of dollars are missing from housing funds, requested "stimulus checks" for residents, and stated her opinion that city staff is working against residents.

CARMEN ROMAN

Carmen Roman congratulated Public Services staff, alleged that the Council does not care for seniors, spoke in support of Dena Zepeda's claim, requested for Maggie Guzman to be temporarily relocated from her apartment, asked about jobs available, and asked about Conflict of Interest rules.

FRED BARBOSA

Fred Barbosa spoke on the difficulties he experienced in commenting during a recent Planning Commission meeting, and requested more than three minutes to discuss his concerns regarding the project on Vincent.

PRISCILLA ZEPEDA Priscilla Zepeda thanked the Council and Parks and Recreation Commission for the Music in the Park concert when former Commission Chair Dan Diaz was presented with a gift. She also advised that a "drive-by" parade honoring Mr. Diaz will take place on Sept. 2, noted that July was "Parks Make Life Better" Month, and thanked the Recreation and Aquatics teams for their amazing work.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION A motion was made by Councilmember Breceda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Burrola to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was unanimously approved.

ITEM NO. 1A **MINUTES**

MINUTES

The following minutes were approved:

- 1) Regular meeting held June 23, 2021

ITEM NO. 1B **WARRANTS** **/ DEMANDS** **/ PAYROLL**

WARRANTS / DEMANDS / PAYROLL

The warrants / demands / payroll were approved.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 2A **APPROVAL TO** **ESTABLISH A CA** **EMPLOYERS'** **PENSION PREFUNDING** **TRUST (CEPPT)**

APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A CALIFORNIA EMPLOYERS' PENSION PREFUNDING TRUST (CEPPT)

DIRECTOR CARREON Director Carreon presented the staff report.

MAYOR PRO TEM
BURROLA Replying to questions by Mayor Pro Tem Burrola, Director Carreon advised that this matter will be a part of the budget process where staff will propose a recommended contribution amount depending on the state of the budget. She noted that, although a yearly contribution would not be required, it is in the city's best interest to contribute annually in order for the trust's interest amounts to grow, which would help pay for future unfunded actuarial liabilities and pension expenditures.

MAYOR ORTIZ In response to a question by Mayor Ortiz, Director Carreon indicated that the city currently has a lot of development activities and staff hopes to utilize some of this funding to contribute toward this fund.

SUZANNE GOMEZ

Suzanne Gomez asked a clarifying question regarding expenditures from this fund, to which Director Carreon indicated that any contributions to the trust would need to be budgeted as part of the budget process. Staff recommends utilizing one-time monies from development projects, for example, to fund it. She repeated that yearly contributions, though not necessary, would be beneficial in order for the trust's interest to grow.

Suzanne Gomez noted that this trust may be a good opportunity to save funds for rainy days.

MOTION

A motion was made by Councilmember Ambriz, seconded by Councilmember Breceda, to adopt **Resolution No. 2021-67-3279**, entitled:

RESOLUTION NO.
2021-67-3279

"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRWINDALE APPROVING THE AGREEMENT AND ELECTION TO PREFUND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO A DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN THROUGH THE CALIFORNIA EMPLOYERS' PENSION PREFUNDING TRUST FUND (CEPPT)" and:

RESOLUTION NO.
2021-68-3280

Resolution No. 2021-68-3280, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRWINDALE APPROVING THE DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO REQUEST DISBURSEMENTS FROM THE CALIFORNIA EMPLOYERS' PENSION PREFUNDING TRUST FUND (CEPPT)".

MAYOR PRO TEM
BURROLA

Mayor Pro Tem Burrola asked whether city employees have any retirement supplements, to which Director Carreon advised that Police Department staff only participate in CalPERS, and staff hired before 2011 has CalPERS and CalPARS.

Mayor Pro Tem Burrola expressed concern that the city would not be able to use this fund for General Fund expenditures, to which Director Carreon indicated that the funds can be withdrawn at any time and without limit. The only stipulation is that the withdrawals would need to be used to pay for regular PERS expenses, but doing so would free up the General Fund budget to use on whatever else may be necessary. She indicated that this trust is essentially a savings account that will earn a higher interest than what the city is currently able to earn due to restrictions on the regular reserves. She added that there are no penalties on withdrawals.

ROLL CALL

The above-mentioned motion was unanimously approved at roll call.

ITEM NO. 2B
NORTH SAN GABRIEL
RIVER WORKING

NORTH SAN GABRIEL RIVER WORKING GROUP UPDATE

GROUP UPDATE

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER OLIVARES	Assistant City Manager Olivares presented the staff report.
MAYOR ORTIZ	Mayor Ortiz noted that the riverbed cleanup started on August 3, where individuals were moved from the area to another location between the 210 Freeway and Foothill Avenue. He noted that staff has not located a site within the city to set up a temporary shelter, and there are no hotels in the city that could be used to provide individuals with vouchers for temporary stays. He stated that efforts in identifying a site must continue.
COUNCILMEMBER AMBRIZ	Replying to a question by Councilmember Ambriz, Assistant City Manager Olivares advised that the city does not own any sites for the purpose of setting up a temporary homeless shelter.
COUNCILMEMBER BRECEDA	Councilmember Breceda expressed concern that neighboring cities are moving the homeless out of their cities and into Irwindale areas, and noted the problems, such as fires, that have come up from their stay at areas near Santa Fe Dam. He stated that the goal of the County may conflict with the goal of the City, and noted that many homeless individuals appear to prefer being homeless over being housed.
MAYOR PRO TEM BURROLA	Mayor Pro Tem Burrola suggested continue researching the matter, and requested to table this subject while the City Manager and staff work on it.
COUNCILMEMBER AMBRIZ	Councilmember Ambriz stated that the homeless outreach programs that the city participates in should be publicly identified.
COUNCILMEMBER GARCIA	Councilmember Garcia asked whether any federal assistance is available, and whether hotel vouchers for hotels in neighboring cities can be made available. He also asked if there were grants available to help pay for medical and/or psychiatric care.
MAYOR ORTIZ	Mayor Ortiz concurred with Councilmember Garcia and suggested that efforts to identify a temporary homeless shelter location continue.
COUNCILMEMBER GARCIA	Councilmember Garcia expressed his expectation that, should Irwindale pay a certain amount for hotel vouchers, that other cities be expected to pay the same amount.
MAYOR ORTIZ	Responding to a question by Mayor Ortiz, Assistant City Manager Olivares indicated that the City of Irwindale participates in the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust Fund, which provides for a hotel voucher program of which the City of Irwindale can draw a limited amount. She also briefly mentioned some of the other programs offered as part of the Trust.

ITEM NO. 2C
EXTENSION OF
AQUATICS
PROGRAMMING

EXTENSION OF AQUATICS PROGRAMMING

DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez presented the staff report.

TERESA ORTIZ Teresa Ortiz spoke on the health benefits of swimming and supported the proposed extension.

FRED BARBOSA Fred Barbosa supported the extension and requested for the Council to determine a way to keep the pool open even on days when the Air Quality Management District suggests it be closed due to poor air quality.

RESOLUTION NO.
2021-69-3281
ADOPTED

Resolution No. 2021-69-3281, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRWINDALE APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE AQUATICS PROGRAMMING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS," was passed, approved, and adopted, on the motion of Councilmember Ambriz, seconded by Councilmember Breceda, and unanimously approved.

RECESS At 8:14 p.m., the Council took a short recess.

RECONVENE At 8:19 p.m., the Council reconvened with all members present.

**CITY MANAGER'S
REPORT**

DIRECTOR RODRIGUEZ Director Rodriguez invited the Council to the Senior Center's Grand Reopening scheduled for August 14.

ASSISTANT CITY
MANAGER OLIVARES Assistant City Manager Olivares provided updates on Library activities and programs, as well as on the upcoming Irwindale Brew Yard cutting ceremony.

**AGENDA ITEMS
REQUESTED BY
COUNCILMEMBERS**

COUNCILMEMBER
AMBRIZ Councilmember Ambriz requested for staff to look into the waiver of fees for certain Senior Center programs and activities, and requested for staff to look into the feasibility of offering retirement medical benefits to all City Commissioners.

CITY MANAGER TAM City Manager Tam advised that Finance staff is working on an update for the City's fee schedule, and that the Senior Center fees mentioned by Councilmember Ambriz can be analyzed further. He also requested clarification from Councilmember Ambriz regarding his

request for retirement medical benefits for commissioners. He advised that the City has a resolution establishing a timeline requirement to provide benefits to City Councilmembers, which can be forwarded to the Council along with a report providing additional details.

MOTION

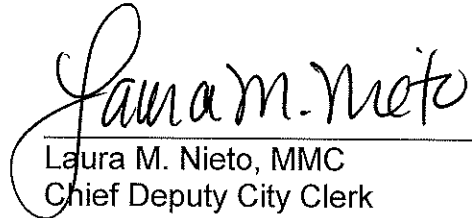
A motion was made by Councilmember Ambriz, seconded by Councilmember Breceda, to direct staff to prepare an agenda report with details on the benefits being offered to City Councilmembers and whether benefits could also be extended to City Commissioners. The motion was unanimously approved.

MAYOR ORTIZ

Mayor Ortiz asked to place an item on the next agenda to discuss the potential of the installation of a left turn signal at the intersection of Vincent and Arrow Highway.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.



Laura M. Nieto, MMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk

Approved as submitted at the meeting held October 27, 2021.