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**LANCASTER  
CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/  
FINANCING/POWER/  
CALIFORNIA CHOICE ENERGY AUTHORITY  
MINUTES  
May 26, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Parris called the meeting of the Lancaster City Council/Successor Agency/Financing/Power/California Choice Energy Authority to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: City Council Members /Agency Directors /Authority Members: Dorris, Malhi, Mann; Vice Mayor/Vice Chair Crist; Mayor/Chair Parris.

**ROLL CALL**

Housing Authority Members: Harvey, Malhi, Mann; Vice Chair Crist; Chair Szeto

**STAFF MEMBERS:**

City Manager/Executive Director; Assistant City Manager/Assistant Executive Director; City Attorney/Agency/Authority Counsel; City Clerk/Agency/Authority Secretary; Assistant to the City Manager, Parks, Recreation and Arts Director; Development Services Director; Finance Director; Housing Director; Chief of Police/Public Safety Director

**INVOCATION**

Mayor R. Rex Parris

**PRESENTATION**

1. Presentation on "Turn Your Tassel" Campaign  
Presenter: Jason Caudle and Alexis Merino

**HA NB 1. DISPOSITION STRATEGY FOR PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE LANCASTER HOUSING AUTHORITY**

The Housing Authority unanimously waived the staff report on this item.

Emailed comments on this item:

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Fran Sereseres – “What happens after forty-five years? What happens if you pay before forty-five years?”

On a motion by Housing Authority Member Mann and seconded by Housing Authority Member Malhi, the Lancaster Housing Authority APPROVED the disposition strategy for property acquired by the Lancaster Housing Authority, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Harvey, Malhi, Mann, Crist, Szeto; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

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City Clerk announced no emailed comments on the Minutes.

On a motion Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Malhi, the City Council/Successor Agency/Financing/Power/California Choice Energy Authority approved the City Council/Successor Agency/Financing/Power/California Choice Energy Authority Regular Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2020 and the Amended Minutes of April 28, 2020, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Item CC 5 and Item CC 8 were removed for separate discussion.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council APPROVED the Consent Calendar, with the exception of Item No. CC 5 and Item No. CC 8, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist; Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

City Clerk read public comments received on Item No. CC 5:

Fran Sereseres- “I thought the roundabout was already built. Why are we spending money on it?”

City Clerk read public comments received on Item No. CC 8:

Fran Sereseres: “Why are we paying for new equipment at the Sgt. Owens Memorial Park when Equipment was purchased when it was opened?”

On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist, and seconded by Council Member Malhi, the City Council APPROVED Item No. CC 5 and Item No. CC 8, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0:

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AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist; Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

**CC 1. ORDINANCE WAIVER**

Waived further reading of any proposed ordinances. (This permits reading the title only in lieu of reciting the entire text.)

**CC 2. CHECK REGISTERS**

Approved the Check and Wire Registers April 19, 2020 through May 02, 2020 in the amount of \$8,316,735.38.

**CC 3. RESOLUTION NO. 20-16**

Adopted **Resolution No. 20-16**, authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to apply for \$8,057,160 of funds available to the City of Lancaster from Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA).

**CC 4. PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION PROJECT NO. 20-004,**

Awarded Public Works Construction Project No. 20-004, 2020 Thermoplastic Striping Refresh Program to Cal Stripe Inc., of Colton, California, in the amount of \$275,999.00 plus additive alternate locations in the amount of \$62,168.65 and a 20% contingency, to refresh fading, long line striping along various roadway segments throughout the City (totaling about 30 roadway miles). Authorized the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents.

**CC 5. PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION PROJECT NO. 17-007**

1. Approved Change Orders 1-3, and increased the total amount of the contract with R.C. Becker and Son, Inc., of Santa Clarita, California, for Public Works Construction Project 17-007 REBID, Lancaster Boulevard and 15<sup>th</sup> Street East Roundabout, HSIPL-5419(042), by \$120,364.53 for a total revised contract amount of \$1,732,533.69 plus a 10% contingency.
2. Accepted the work constructed by R.C. Becker and Son, Inc., for Public Works Construction Project No. 17-007 REBID, Lancaster Boulevard and 15<sup>th</sup> Street East Roundabout, HSIPL-5419(042), and directed the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion for the project. Retention on this project shall be disbursed in accordance with California Public Contract Code.

**CC 6. RESOLUTION NO. 20-17**

Adopted **Resolution No. 20-17**, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, confirming the continued existence of a local emergency in the City of Lancaster, California.

**CC 7. RESOLUTION NO. 20- 18**

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Adopted **Resolution No. 20-18**, Re-Adopting Certain Regulatory and Procedural Measures Related to the COVID-19 Local Emergency.

**CC 8. PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND FLOORING AT SGT. STEVE OWEN MEMORIAL PARK**

- a. Awarded purchase and installation of playground equipment and flooring at Sgt. Steve Owen Memorial Park to Dave Bang Associates Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$900,000.
- b. Approved addition of Capital Improvement Project (CIP) 361-11ZZ007-924, ADA Compliant Playground & Flooring Improvements at Sgt. Steve Owen Memorial Park to the City's Five-Year Capital Improvement Program in the amount of \$900,000; \$700,000 will come from funding in FY 2019-2020 & \$200,000 in FY 2020-2021
- c. Authorized the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents.

**PH 1. SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE 2019 - 2020 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) ACTION PLAN**

Mayor Parris opened the public hearing.

City Clerk announced no emailed comments on this item.

Director of Administrative and Community Services presented the staff report regarding this item.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council (a) approved the Substantial Amendment to the 2019 - 2020 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan (b) appropriated \$874,303 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES Act) CDBG-CV Entitlement Funds and (c) authorized the City Manager or designee to execute all contracts and associated documents, including sub recipient agreements, subject to City Attorney approval, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

**NB 1. Stand Strong Reopening Assistance Program**

The Assistant to the City Manager presented the staff report on this item.

Discussion among the City Council included timeline from the County and being able to proceed with phase 3 of reopening; next steps to reopen and working with the County and State; reopening of religious organizations and need to review proposals for reopening; compliance of protocols for reopening; discussion of effectiveness of wearing mask and when it is necessary to wear the masks; reopening of barbers and salons if allowed to push on to phase 3 of reopening; effects of COVID-19 on patients.

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City Clerk announced that there are no emailed comments on NB 1.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council (a) Approved the Stand Strong Reopening Assistance Program, designed to provide businesses with the items they need to safely reopen under the guidelines issued by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and the State of California. (b) Appropriated \$750,000 from Account No. 101-4431-770, Stand Strong Business Recovery Loan Program to Account No. 101-4240-355, Special Programs to fund the Stand Strong Reopening Assistance Program, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

**NB 2. GROCERY WORKERS APPRECIATION PROGRAM**

The Assistant to the City Manager presented the staff report on this item.

City Clerk read emailed comments received on this item:

Fran Sereseres- “What happens to the rest of workers? Will they get appreciation if they haven’t participated in the Choice Energy program? “

On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council (a) Approved the Grocery Workers Appreciation Program, which will provide grocery workers who have served during the pandemic with a bill credit of up to \$50 on their Lancaster Choice Energy bills. (b) Approved the dismissal of up to \$50,000 in Lancaster Choice Energy charges for qualifying grocery workers under the Grocery Workers Appreciation Program, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

**CR 1. REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND ISSUES DISCUSSED AT THE APRIL REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY (AVTA).**

Vice Mayor Crist presented a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the April regular Board of Directors meeting of the Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA), which included discussion of balanced budget of \$97 million dollars and numbers are going back to normal.

**CR 2. COUNCIL REPORTS**

Vice Mayor Crist discussed the Sanitation District moving the scheduled increased and creation of rebate program for any restaurant that was non-essential or shut down. Vice Mayor also discussed the AVAQMD Balanced budget.

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Mayor Parris discussed presenting Hero award, naming of roundabouts, and nomination of new deputy mayors at next council meeting; also discussed starting Antelope Valley Hero Awards.

Council Member Dorris discussed food drive with the Boy Scouts of America.

**CALIFORNIA CHOICE ENERGY AUTHORITY**

No action required at this time.

**LANCASTER FINANCING AUTHORITY**

No action required at this time.

**LANCASTER POWER AUTHORITY**

No action required at this time.

**LANCASTER SUCCESSOR AGENCY**

No action required at this time.

**CITY MANAGER / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The City Manager discussed upcoming budget presentation and commended the Capital team and various road pavements underway.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS- NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS**

City Clerk read emailed public comments at this time:

Madelyn Kelly- "I passed Rex Perris law office, and I noticed it was open. It had about 30 cars in the parking lot. My question is why are there other businesses shut down and the mayor isn't complying with the law."

Tammy Mueller- "I wanted to show that there are many salons that are trying to put things in place to be able to reopen. My salon has been completely disinfected. I also have five hospital grade air purifiers in my salon of which 99% of salons do not have. I am staffed fully with extremely clean women that know the rules as they have been in this business for many years. Our girls have all taken a barbecide class of which we are certified in disinfecting but of course We have already gone through state board and we are well aware of how to disinfect. We hope that we can be treated as adults and be let back to work. I am 100% positive that when I have visited grocery stores and Home Depot or Lowe's my salon Will be above the standards in which people are exposed to in those facilities. If you wish to come photo my salon it is completely ready and you are more than welcome to use it as an example."

Tim Lee- "Hello, I am emailing this question on the recommendation of Darrell Dorris for tonight's City Council meeting. I hope I am not too late. As a local pastor working to plan our roadmap back to on-

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campus gatherings I have reviewed the WHO recommendation for wearing facemasks as well as the Cal-OSHA guidelines released by Governor Newsom on Monday. The WHO clearly recommends that masks should only be worn by healthy people if they are caring for patients with COVID-19, and otherwise should only be worn by those with a cough, sneeze, or trouble breathing. They do not recommend that healthy people wear masks in their day to day activities. The Cal-OSHA guidelines for places of worship "suggest" masks be worn during indoor church services, and say that masks do not need to be worn if worship services can be held outdoors. With that in mind I would like to submit two topics for your consideration: 1) Can the council offer clarification on the local mask ordinance; particularly requiring masks to be worn by everyone when outside. What is the scientific reasoning behind maintaining an ordinance the WHO has recommended against as of April 6th and Cal-OSHA has moved away from as of this week? 2) Consideration by the City Council to lift the outdoor public mask wearing ordinance; particularly during outdoor church services where healthy people gather and practice responsible distancing and hygiene. If this ordinance will not be lifted this week, it would be appreciated if the council can articulate the timeline for this ordinance, considering that the Cal-OSHA guidelines are recommendations for a 21-day period and the Lancaster facemask ordinance has not yet been given an end-date, to the public's knowledge. Thank you for your time and God Bless you all.”

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

No comments at this time.

**CLOSED SESSION**

1. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation: significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d) (2) - two potential cases.
2. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation: consideration of initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d) (4) - two potential cases.
3. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation - Government Code Section 54956.9(d) (1)
4. Desert-Candle, LP v. Frontier Homes, LLC, LASC Case No. 20STCV05178
5. Kappler v. Lancaster, LASC 18STCVO4990
6. Better Neighborhoods v. Lancaster, LASC BS175020
7. Antelope Valley Groundwater Cases  
Included Actions:  
Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co.

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Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. BC325201;  
Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 v. Diamond Farming Co.  
Superior Court of California, County of Kern, Case No. S-1500-CV-254-348  
Wm. Bolthouse Farms, Inc. v. City of Lancaster, Diamond Farming Co. v. City of  
Lancaster, Diamond Farming Co. v. Palmdale Water District  
Superior Court of California County of Riverside, consolidated actions;  
Case Nos. RIC 353 840, RIC 344 436, RIC 344 668

- 8. Ramos v Patino, LASC Case No. MC027974
- 9. Lozoya v. City of Lancaster, LASC Case No. 19AVCV00714
- 10. Johnson v. City of Lancaster, LASC Case No. 19AVCV00824
- 11. Rahier v. City of Lancaster, LASC Case No. 19AVCV00163
- 12. Brisa Mahoney, et al. v. City of Lancaster, et al., LASC Case No. 20STCV02556

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Mayor Crist adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and stated the next City Council/Successor Agency/Financing/Power/California Choice Energy Authority meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Malhi, Mann, Crist, Parris

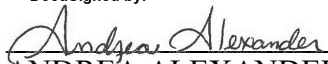
NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Dorris

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:  
  
 ANDREA ALEXANDER  
 CITY CLERK

DocuSigned by:  
  
 R. REX PARRIS  
 MAYOR/CHAIR



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STATE OF CALIFORNIA                    }  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES            }ss  
CITY OF LANCASTER                    }

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/FINANCING/HOUSING/POWER/CALIFORNIA  
CHOICE ENERGY AUTHORITY

I, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ of the City of Lancaster,  
CA, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original City Council/Successor  
Agency/Financing/Housing/Power/California Choice Energy Authority Minutes, for which the  
original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CA on this  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

(seal)

\_\_\_\_\_