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**LANCASTER
CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY/
FINANCING/POWER/
CALIFORNIA CHOICE ENERGY AUTHORITY
MINUTES
May 12, 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 5:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

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

Council Member Darrell Dorris

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEM ADDED

Pursuant to Government Code section 54954.2(b), Vice-Mayor Crist moved to add agenda item NB 3 to the Agenda as the item came to the Council’s attention after the posting of the agenda and it required urgent action: NB3 Adopt a resolution opposing and stating exceptions to the County’s proposed extension of the stay-at-home order. The motion to add item NB3 to the Agenda was seconded by Councilmember Mann and passed unanimously, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

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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 April 28, 2020, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

CONSENT CALENDAR

City Clerk announced no emailed comments on the Consent Calendar.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Malhi, the City Council approved the Consent Calendar as comprised, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; 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 for April 5, 2020 through April 18, 2020 in the amount of \$9,947,696.24

CC 3. TDA ARTICLE 8 FUNDS CLAIM

Approved and accepted the TDA Article 8 funds claim as submitted.

CC 4. PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION PROJECT NO. 20-009,

Awarded Public Works Construction Project No. 20-009, Prime Desert Woodland Preserve Gap Closure, (Avenue K-4), to R.C. Becker and Sons, Inc., of Santa Clarita, California, in the amount of \$435,829.23 plus a 10% contingency, to construct pedestrian gap closure improvements on the south side of Avenue K-4. Authorized the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents.

CC 5. PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION PROJECT NO. 16-004

Awarded Public Works Construction Project No. 16-004, 10th Street West Road Diet and Bikeway Improvements, ATPL-5419(049), LACMTA CFP ID# F5509, to C.A. Rasmussen, Inc., of Valencia, California, in the amount of \$2,728,350 plus a 10% contingency, to install a complete street by reducing vehicular lanes, adding bike lanes, and improving pedestrian facilities. Authorized the City Manager, or his designee, to sign all documents.

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CC 6. DOWNTOWN LANCASTER PROPERTY AND BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (PBID) REPORT

Received annual Report Approve the Downtown Lancaster Property and Business Improvement District (PBID) Annual Report for 2018 and 2019, submitted by The BLVD Association.

PH 1. RESOLUTION 20-14 AMENDING LANCASTER CHOICE ENERGY CUSTOMER POWER GENERATION RATE SCHEDULE.

Mayor Parris opened the Public Hearing.

City Clerk announced no emailed comments on this item.

The City Manager presented the staff report regarding this item.

City Clerk gave instructions for opening phone lines for public comments on this item.

Addressing the council on this item:

Fran Sereseres-discussed being thankful for not increasing our choice energy rates.

Mayor Parris closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion among the council included Vice Mayor thanking the Mayor for leading the rate change.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council adopted **Resolution No. 20-14**, amending the Lancaster Choice Energy customer power generation rate schedule by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

NB 1. OPERATION JUMP START

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

Discussion among the City Council included the amount of appropriations and confirming logistics for redeeming or obtaining the gift card after their purchase including the start date of the program.

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

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On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Malhi, the City Council approved Operation Jump Start vehicle rebate program and authorized the City Manager or his designee to execute all related documents and appropriate \$1,500,000 from General Fund account 101-2900-000, Fund Balance to account 101-4240-355, Special Programs, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

NB 2. COST SHARING AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF LANCASTER AND ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY (AVTA), A JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (JPA)

City Clerk announced there are no emailed comments on NB 2.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Crist and seconded by Council Member Dorris, the City Council approved the Public Safety Programming and Cost-Sharing Agreement between the City of Lancaster and the Antelope Valley Transit Authority for Public Safety Programming and Deputy services and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement and all necessary documents, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None

NB 3. RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE COUNTY'S PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE STAY-AT-HOME ORDER.

Item NB 3 was added to the agenda pursuant to Government Code section 54954.2(b). Mayor Parris moved to (a) adopt a resolution opposing the County's proposed extension of the stay-at-home order, (b) direct staff to bring back a plan within 7 days to address reopening the City with strict monitoring standards for reinstating the stay at home order if identified benchmarks are met, and (c) thereafter approach the County and State to secure their recognition that one size does not fit all with regard to reopening. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mann and passed unanimously, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Dorris, Malhi Mann Crist, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

CA 1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-15, TO TREAT RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS THE SAME AS OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS REOPENING IN STAGE TWO OF CALIFORNIA'S REOPENING PLAN IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19.

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Council Member Dorris recused himself at this time.

Emailed comments on this item:

Jean Youngquist- Even though the Lancaster United Methodist Church is on the front page of the May 10, 2020 AV Press and attached to the article concerning opening churches, we are not ready to be open for services. I am unable to tune in to tonight's City Council meeting; however, I want you to know that we can easily hold on for two more months since we are recipients of the SBA PPP loan. We have been able to rehire the 10 workers we furloughed. The majority of our members are post 65 high risk. We miss each other, and we are continuing to check on everyone by phone. We are doing a virtual Sunday service on Facebook and our website. It may not be wise for us to open and expose this population to the Covid-19 virus. So far our funding is holding up because these members of our congregation are on fixed incomes. Meanwhile our preschool is open and caring for essential workers' children. We are strictly following guidelines for sanitizing, spacing and exposure. We are also continuing to feed the homeless on Mondays and Thursdays by distributing carry-out meals. We are holding committee and small group meetings on Zoom. Other churches may be in a different place, but it is good with our souls. We can prayerfully wait to open when it is safer for our congregation.

Discussion among Council included: the ability of churches being able to comply as other entities; necessary for the mental health of individuals; churches who choose to be conservative is within their choice; the ability to move forward with services; developing a team that can make a plan for churches to reopen.

Mayor Parris moved to adopt Resolution 20-15 and Vice Mayor Crist seconded to treat religious organizations the same as other establishments reopening in Stage Two of California's reopening plan in response to COVID-19, by the following vote: 4-0-1-0; AYES: Mann, Malhi, Crist, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: Dorris; ABSENT: None

Council Member Dorris rejoined the meeting at this time.

CR 1. REPORT FROM COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Vice Mayor Crist presented a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the April 9, 2020, District No. 14 Board of Directors adjourned regular meeting of the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (District), which included discussion of working to get Sanitation District to rebate a portion of taxes based upon the flow of water for those businesses have been inoperable since COVID-19

City Clerk announced no emailed comments on CR 1.

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Discussion among Council included: testing the sewer for COVID-19 in the water in which City Manager discussed the city working toward this goal.

CR 2. REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE ANTELOPE VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Received report on the Activities of the Board of Directors for the Antelope Valley Transit Authority. Vice Mayor Crist discussed AVTA being one hundred percent electric; received \$48 million from CARES ACT but was blocked by METRO and supported by SCAG representative; letter was rescinded so AVTA will be receiving the money.

Discussion among Council included: who the beneficiaries are of the money received through the CARES act; discussing how representatives from Antelope Valley have been fighting for share and measures taken to receive portion.

City Clerk announced no emailed comments on CR 2.

CR 3. COUNCIL REPORTS

Vice Mayor Crist discussed the AVQMD meeting and its decision, due to COVID-19, to allocate \$75,000 to the fairgrounds to buy recording equipment for individuals in the community to use.

Mayor Parris discussed if graduations for high school seniors to use; assigned Council Member Mann to reach out to schools.

Council Member Mann discussed initiatives made to allow students to ride public transits for free.

Council Member Dorris discussed reestablishing the Youth Commission.

CALIFORNIA CHOICE ENERGY AUTHORITY

No action required at this time.

LANCASTER HOUSING AUTHORITY

No action required at this time.

LANCASTER FINANCING AUTHORITY

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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 staff working towards businesses reopening and researching the State and County guidelines for those businesses being allowed to reopen; partnership with schools; construction going forward; moving forward as a City and health of staff.

Mayor Parris excused at this time.

Vice Mayor Crist conducted remainder of meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS- NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

City Clerk read emailed public comments at this time:

Bruce Hammill- "Your Honors, After living in this city during most of my adult life; It came as a great shock to me-- during our last election, to suddenly learn that my Lancaster household had become a voting member of Kern County's 23rd Congressional District. It was also stunning to me, to learn that the County of Los Angeles had failed to notify me of these electoral changes-- that first became approved by our courts in the year 2012! Sidebar: Until our most recent election, all prior ballots offered to me listed only "CD 25" Candidates. (So I've now filed a "Freedom of Information Act" request--with Los Angeles County's own City Clerk's office; Seeking further information). Therefore, please accept this as my request that the City of Lancaster take an immediate interest in establishing itself as an "Interested Party", within our state's newest "2020 Citizens Redistricting Commission" project. With an ultimate goal of helping to keep our local residents more informed about possible changes that may become made to their own Voting Stature-- than they have been, to this point."

Fran Sereseres- "I would like to congratulate Ken Mann, Darrell Dorris, and Mayor Parris for winning in the election."

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.

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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.
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 6:26 p.m. and stated the next City Council/Successor Agency/Financing/Power/California Choice Energy Authority meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

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PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 26th day of May, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Dorris, Malhi, Mann, Crist, Parris

NOES: None


ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:


ANDREA ALEXANDER
CITY CLERK

DocuSigned by:


REX PARRIS
MAYOR/CHAIRMAN

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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)
