



**CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014**

A regular meeting of the La Quinta City Council was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Mayor Adolph.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Evans, Franklin, Henderson, Osborne, Mayor Adolph
ABSENT: None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA – None

CLOSED SESSION

1. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION:
SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2)
OF SUBDIVISION (d) OF GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9.
(Number of potential cases: 1)**

COUNCIL RECESSED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 3:32 P.M.

MAYOR ADOLPH RECONVENED THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 4:01 P.M. WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. NO ACTIONS WERE TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION THAT REQUIRES REPORTING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.1 (BROWN ACT).

Mayor Adolph led the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

PUBLIC SPEAKER: Philip Bettencourt, La Quinta – Mr. Bettencourt invited Councilmembers to the *World Affairs Council of the Desert* event on October 26, 2014 at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort to hear speaker Karen Ross, Secretary of the State Food and Agriculture Department, addressing the topic “Agriculture: National Security and Global Trade Policy.” He also invited residents to an event at the Rancho Mirage High School on November 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., showing and discussing “Not My Life,” a film about human trafficking.

CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Councilmember Henderson requested that Consent Calendar Item No. 4 be moved to Business Session No. 1 for discussion and separate vote. **Council concurred.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2014**
2. **APPROVE DEMAND REGISTERS DATED OCTOBER 3 AND 10, 2014**
3. **RECEIVE AND FILE TREASURER'S REPORT DATED AUGUST 31, 2014**
4. *pulled by Councilmember Henderson and moved to the Business Session section for discussion and separate vote >>>* **APPROVE A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR SPACE AT CITY HALL**
5. **DENIAL OF CLAIM FOR DAMAGES FILED BY: PHILLIP PETTIBONE; DATE OF LOSS – MARCH 10, 2014**
6. **RECEIVE AND FILE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE REPORTS DATED JULY 31, AUGUST 31 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2014**

MOTION – A motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Evans/Franklin to approve the Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1-3 and 5-6 as recommended. Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS SESSION

1. *Consent Calendar Item No. 4 pulled for discussion and separate vote:* **APPROVE A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR SPACE AT CITY HALL**

Councilmember Henderson requested clarification of Exhibit A to the agreement because the map provided did not delineate the office space to be leased. Community Services Director Hylton explained the location of the space to be leased and also explained that the Chamber events would include its monthly Board meetings and any other event applied for and approved by the City Manager or his designee. Ms. Henderson said the Chamber seems to want to fill the role of visitor center but it should be an advocate for the business community to City officials and feels there is a conflict of interest when the Chamber accepts funds and leases space from the City. For these reasons, Ms. Henderson said she is opposed to the Chamber moving into city hall.

Councilmembers Osborne, Franklin, Evans and Mayor Adolph agreed to support the lease because it will improve the connection with city staff and their joint cooperation and coordination on economic development matters. Members also noted that the Chamber's current space in the library is needed to expand popular, well-attended library programs. They added that a dynamic center for visitors such as an electronic kiosk should be used because stacks of flyers, brochures and business cards will not be permitted in the city hall lobby.

MOTION – A motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Evans/Franklin to approve a lease agreement with the Chamber of Commerce for office space at city hall. Motion passed: ayes 4, noes 1 (Henderson voted against the motion)

STUDY SESSION

1. DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES FOR THE LA QUINTA VILLAGE

Community Development Director Johnson presented the staff report, which is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Councilmembers discussed the village boundaries; the Specific Plan of 1988; the length and width of proposed north-south and east-west pedestrian access ways; ownership of Frances Hack Park; support for creating a walking community; the need to contain costs for additional parking and traffic studies by using information from past studies or doing addendums to past studies; in-lieu parking fees; possible location for a future parking structure; support for completing the necessary environmental studies in advance (depending on cost) as a tool and incentive for attracting developers; the need to slow traffic on Calle Tampico for pedestrian safety, to encourage crossing by hotel guests and to create a village atmosphere; the use of signage and a village map app for visitors to find village shops and attractions; the need to create a sense of place or brand for the village, and; relating the connectivity and flow of the village to all other sections of the city.

By consensus, the Council directed staff to move forward on the concept and report back at the time the mid-year year budget is presented.

REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

La Quinta's representative for 2014, Councilmember Franklin reported on her participation in the following organizations meeting:

- **COACHELLA VALLEY ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP**
- **JACQUELINE COCHRAN REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Department Reports were received and filed. Copies are available in the City Clerk's Office.

City Manager Spevacek reported that of the nine compensation agreements with taxing agencies to be executed by the end of the calendar year, six have been completed and the remaining three are on schedule.

Mr. Escobedo, Assistant to City Manager, reported that a representative of the Small Business Administration will be touring the city October 23, 2014 to view private property damaged in the September 8, 2014 flood. Although public property damage around the city has been toured by both the State and County Offices of Emergency Services, neither has yet issued an official emergency declaration as requested by the

City Council. Mr. Escobedo said that due to bureaucratic delays, staff has been steering residents to the Ygrene program, which is able to offer loans for some types of repairs and has discounted their fees. He added that repairs already completed may also be eligible for Ygrene loans for up to one year after the event.

Public Works Director Jonasson provided an update on storm damage repairs to streets and public property.

Assistant La Quinta Police Chief Walton provided background and an update on recent crimes in the La Quinta Cove neighborhood and in response to Councilmember Evans, said he will research and report back on the correlation between early-release prisoners and the people committing these crimes.

Councilmember Henderson said that police statistics released should be honest and accurate but should not show murders as a percentage increase/decrease over previous years because La Quinta's two recent murders will read as a 200% increase in murder in the city. It is very important that potential new residents and businesses do not pull up such a statistic.

MAYOR'S AND COUNCIL MEMBER'S ITEMS

City Manager Spevacek introduced new employee Ted Shove who is now the Business Analyst in the City Manager's Office.

Council briefly discussed the permitted uses at the property located at the corner of Monroe Street and Avenue 58 and concurred that the matter should go on a future agenda.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded by Councilmembers Evans/Franklin to adjourn at 5:52 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

SUSAN MAYSELS, City Clerk
City of La Quinta, California