



CITY OF DESERT HOT SPRINGS

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL And the City Council Serving as the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency Board

ACTION MINUTES

MARCH 3, 2020

5:30 P.M. – CLOSED SESSION

6:00 P.M. – REGULAR SESSION

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Carl May Community Center
11711 West Drive, Desert Hot Springs, California**

CLOSED SESSION - 5:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Matas called the Closed Session to order at 5:31 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Council Members: Russell Betts, Gary Gardner, Jan Pye
Mayor: Scott Matas

Absent:

Mayor Pro Tem: Robert Griffith

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

Jennifer Mizrahi, City Attorney, announced the Closed Session Items.

CLOSED SESSION:

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)

Name of case: City of Desert Hot Springs v. Irene Valenti, et. al.; PSC1802698

2. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One Potential Case

RECESS

REGULAR SESSION - 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Matas called the Regular Session to order at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present:
Council Members: Russell Betts, Gary Gardner, Jan Pye
Mayor: Scott Matas

Absent:
Mayor Pro Tem: Robert Griffith

INVOCATION

Elder John Tinker gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Pye led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Jennifer Mizrahi, City Attorney, advised that there was no reportable action.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Action: Betts moved to approve the March 3, 2020 Regular Meeting agenda; and approve the Consent Calendar in its entirety, motion seconded by Gardner, motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Vote: AYES: 4 - Betts, Matas, Pye, Gardner
Passed NOES: 0 - (None)
ABSENT: 1 - Griffith

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Russ Martin announced that Mission Springs Water District was voted "best water in the world" at the 30th Annual Berkeley Springs International Water Tasting event.

James Fields expressed the need for street lighting on a portion of Cuando Way.

Ted Mayrhofen, Public Safety Commissioner, requested Brown Act training.

Sheila Thornton and Sandy Lyons, OneFuture Coachella Valley, expressed thanks for the City's funding contribution.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Doria Wilms, Assistant City Manager, provided an update regarding COVID-19.

Luke Rainey, Deputy City Manager, provided an update regarding the City's statewide park grant application.

Doria Wilms, Assistant City Manager, provided an update regarding the Palm Drive re-paving project.

Daniel Porras, Public Works Director, provided an update regarding Phase II of the Palm Drive Lighting and Safety Improvements project; and the traffic signal projects.

Luke Rainey, Deputy City Manager, announced that there would be a ground-breaking ceremony for the new Library.

Doria Wilms, Assistant City Manager, announced the Senior Resource Fair event.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Council Member Pye reported on the various meetings and events she attended.

Council Member Betts reported on the various meetings and events he attended.

Council Member Gardner reported on the various meetings and events he attended.

Mayor Matas reported on the various meetings and events he attended.

ADMINISTRATIVE CALENDAR:

3. Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Feasibility Study

Deputy City Manager, Luke Rainey

Recommendation: Authorize the City Manager to execute an Agreement between the City of Desert Hot Springs and the California Choice Energy Authority for an amount not to exceed \$73,000 to provide a Community Choice Aggregation feasibility study.

Luke Rainey, Deputy City Manager, presented the Staff report and introduced Barbara Boswell from the California Choice Energy Authority.

Barbara Boswell provided an overview of the feasibility study and responded to questions.

Katie Barrows, Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG), gave an update regarding the Desert Community Energy Community Choice Aggregation (CCA).

A discussion ensued.

Action: Pye moved to approve staff recommendation, motion seconded by Gardner, motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

<u>Vote:</u>	AYES: 4 - Betts, Matas, Pye, Gardner
Passed	NOES: 0 - (None)
	ABSENT: 1 - Griffith

Item 6 was considered at this time.

4. [Resolution to Forgive the \\$15,126,594 Loan Originally to the Desert Hot Springs Investment Fund, LLC to Finance the Construction of the City's Health and Wellness Center](#)

Finance Director, Geoffrey Buchheim

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution of the City Council forgiving the \$15,126,594 Loan from the City of Desert Hot Springs originally to the Desert Hot Springs Investment Fund, LLC to finance the construction of the Health and Wellness Center.

Geoffrey Buchheim, Finance Director, presented the staff report.

A discussion ensued.

Action: Betts moved to approve staff recommendation and adopt *Resolution No. 2020-005*, motion seconded by Pye, motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

<u>Vote:</u>	AYES: 4 - Betts, Matas, Pye, Gardner
Passed	NOES: 0 - (None)
	ABSENT: 1 - Griffith

5. [Annual Housing Element Progress Report](#)

Community Development Director, Rebecca Deming

Recommendation: Approve the 2019 Annual Housing Element Progress Report and Direct Staff to Submit the Report to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

Rebecca Deming, Community Development Director, presented the staff report.

Action: Pye moved to approve staff recommendation, motion seconded by Gardner, motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Vote: AYES: 4 - Betts, Matas, Pye, Gardner
Passed NOES: 0 - (None)
ABSENT: 1 - Griffith

6. **Discussion Item: Consideration of a Letter of Support for the Inland Empire Regional Energy Network (I-REN)**

Mayor Pro Tem, Robert Griffith; and Council Member, Gary Gardner

Recommendation: Consider whether to place an item regarding "consideration of a letter of support for the Inland Empire Regional Energy Network (I-REN)" on a future agenda for action.

Item 6 was considered following Item 3.

Council Member Gardner presented the report.

A discussion ensued.

Action: Betts moved to approve placement on March 17, 2020 agenda, motion seconded by Gardner, motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Vote: AYES: 4 - Betts, Matas, Pye, Gardner
Passed NOES: 0 - (None)
ABSENT: 1 - Griffith

CONSENT CALENDAR:

7. **City Council Regular Meeting Minutes: February 18, 2020**

City Clerk, Jerry Soriano, CMC

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes as presented; or as corrected.

8. **County Service Area 152 (CSA 152) Budget and Proposed Assessment For Fiscal Year 2020-19**

Public Works Director, Daniel Porras

Recommendation: 1) Review the budget and assessment for County Service Area 152; and
2) Adopt a Resolution of the City Council making its findings and establishing the rates for County Service Area 152 to fund the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit.

Resolution No. 2020-006

9. [Contracts Management Report as of February 15, 2020](#)

Geoffrey Buchheim, Finance Director

Recommendation: Receive and file.

[PUBLIC COMMENTS](#)

None.

[ADJOURN](#)

Mayor Matas adjourned the meeting at 7:09 P.M.

Jerryl Soriano, CMC, City Clerk