



CITY OF NEWARK

CITY COUNCIL

City Administration Building, City Council Chambers

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Minutes

Thursday, January 11, 2024
7:00 P.M.

A. ROLL CALL

Mayor Hannon called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Vice Mayor Freitas, Council Members Bucci, Collazo, and Jorgens were noted present.

Mayor Hannon announced that he would adjourn the meeting in memory of City of Oakland Police Officer Tuan Le.

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclaiming January 13 - 28, 2024 as Sun Salutation Awareness Period

Mayor Hannon presented the proclamation to Rohit Sharma and members of the Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Miller of the First Presbyterian Church thanked the Police Department for their assistance with the homeless. She requested that staff look into the Chapman Drive and Lake Boulevard intersection to determine if the prohibitory traffic sign was still needed.

Unidentified speaker mentioned the vandalism at a temple in Newark recently. He would like the Police to find out who did it and suggested security cameras at temples.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

City Manger Benoun stated that D.3 and D.4 had minor revisions that were explained in a memorandum to the City Council and public before the meeting.

Mayor Hannon requested the removal of item D.3 from the Consent Calendar.

Council Member Collazo moved, Council Member Bucci seconded, to approve Consent Calendar Items D.1, D.2, and D.4, with revisions as referenced by City Manager Benoun, that the resolutions be numbered consecutively, and that reading of the titles suffice for adoption. The motion passed, 5 AYES.

1. Approval of Audited Demands
2. Approval of December 14, 2023 minutes
3. Pulled - Acceptance of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the period ended June 30, 2023
4. Adopt a resolution: (1) amending the Employee Classification Plan to delete and add multiple classifications due to title changes and new position of Deputy Finance Director; (2) amending the Compensation and Benefit Plan for the Management, Supervisory, and Professional Employees Group; (3) amending the City's Salary Schedule; (4) amending the 2022-2024 Biennial Budget and Capital Improvement Plan; and (5) approving a letter of understanding with Newark Association of Miscellaneous Employees (NAME)
Resolution No. 11608

D.3 Acceptance of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the period ended June 30, 2023

Mayor Hannon thanked the Finance Department for another clean audit.

No one from the public requested to speak.

Mayor Hannon moved, Vice Mayor Freitas seconded to accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report with the revisions as outlined by City Manager Benoun. The motion passed, 5 AYES.

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS

F. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Presentation: "Resilient East Bay" Industrial Lands Analysis

Deputy Economic Development Director Stedler introduced Dena Belzer, Strategic Economics. Ms. Belzer gave a presentation on Industrial Land Use Analysis and Implementation Toolkit Introduction. Presentation on file with City Clerk. At the conclusion of her report she stated that she would assess the existing conditions for Newark's Industrial Land and prepare recommendations.

No one from the public requested to speak.

Council Member Bucci stated he would like the Newark Industrial Land Analysis (Analysis) to include tips on how to turn old distribution buildings into manufacturing buildings.

Mayor Hannon stated that he would like to see the Analysis to include: a history (1980s) versus today to protect industrial lands, current vacancy rates for industrial use buildings, how much square footage growth in the industrial area is anticipated in the future, anticipated revenue manufacturing versus industrial use in the future, is there a warehouse/manufacturing combination that would be beneficial for job creation and tax benefits.

Alexander Quinn stated that Newark's current vacancy rate is 7.5%

This item was informational only.

2. Adoption of an ordinance adding Chapter 17.15 to the Newark Municipal Code to establish the By Right Housing (-BRH) Overlay District, amending the Newark Zoning Map by applying the -BRH Overlay District to specific parcels, and making related miscellaneous amendments to Title 17, Zoning, of the Newark Municipal Code

Vice Mayor Freitas announced that he would recuse himself from this item due

to real property and business conflicts of interest. He exited the Council Chambers.

Council Member Collazo announced that she would recuse herself from this item due to real property and business conflicts of interest. She exited the Council Chambers.

City Manager Benoun gave the staff report recommending approval.

No one from the public requested to speak.

Council Member Bucci moved, Council Member Jorgens seconded to adopt an ordinance adding Chapter 17.15 to the Newark Municipal Code to establish the By Right Housing (-BRH) Overlay District, amending the Newark Zoning Map by applying the -BRH Overlay District to specific parcels, and making related miscellaneous amendments to Title 17, Zoning, of the Newark Municipal Code. The motion passed, 3 AYES, 2 RECUSED.

Vice Mayor Freitas and Council Member Collazo returned to the City Council Chambers.

G. CITY COUNCIL MATTERS

Council Member Jorgens wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Council Member Collazo wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that she will try to be the best version of herself this year.

Council Member Bucci wished everyone a Happy New Year. He encouraged people to attend the next Parks Master Plan meeting and to fill out the Parks Survey online.

Vice Mayor Freitas stated that the Central Avenue Overpass will be completed in 2027. He noted that some of the bike lane balusters on Cherry Street and Newark Boulevard are bent and the reflective protectors are falling off. He asked how the street be cleaned in those bike lanes.

City Manager Benoun staff will review the conditions of the balusters and that a subcompact sweeper will be acquired to clean the bike lanes.

Mayor Hannon thanked the nonprofits that provided food and toys for families at Christmas. He thanked the Police Department and the Alameda County Fire Department for Santa at the Fire House Event. He announced that the meeting would be adjourned in memory of Oakland Police Officer Le.

H. CITY MANAGER UPDATES

I. CLOSED SESSION

J. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hannon adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m. in memory of Oakland Police Officer Tuan Le.

Sheila Harrington, City Clerk