



CITY OF NEWARK CITY COUNCIL

City Administration Building, City Council Chambers

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Minutes

Thursday, September 28, 2023
7:00 P.M.

A. ROLL CALL

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

B. PRESENTATIONS

1. Introduction of employee

Mayor Hannon introduced Community Preservation Manager Oscar Carrillo.

2. Proclaim October as Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Mayor Hannon presented the proclamation to Chief Information Officer/ Information Technology Director Ed Miranda, Information Technology Analyst Peter Fong, and Information Technology Analyst Sheena Raj.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Milind Shyani stated that he asked for trees to be planted on Newark Boulevard at a previous City Council meeting. He requested that City Council allocate funding towards this request.

Noel Doot suggested that the stained-glass panels in the Civic Center Buildings be lit up at night, an art project for high school students to beautify the utility boxes, and highlighted areas around the Lake for landscape maintenance.

City Manager Benoun stated that staff would follow up with Mr. Shyani and Mrs. Doot's comments. He stated that the Public Art Master Plan is anticipated to be presented to the City Council in the next couple of months.

Mayor Hannon closed public comment.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Hannon allowed Mr. Shyani to speak again as he did not use the full amount allotted during his initial comments.

Mr. Shyani stated that the medians near Ruschin Avenue on Newark Boulevard do not have a water source and that may be why trees have not been planted there.

Mayor Hannon stated that he would continue Public Comment to the end of the City Council meeting and would allow the speakers one minute.

Council Member Jorgens moved, Council Member Freitas seconded, to approve Consent Calendar Items D.1 through D.7, that the resolutions and ordinances 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 September 14, 2023, minutes
3. Adopt a resolution authorizing an amendment and future amendments to the Contractual Services Agreement with Sedgwick Claims Management Services
Resolution No. 11563
Contract No. 22071
4. Adopt a resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) grant and the Traffic Records Improvement Project (TRIP) grant through the State of California Office of Traffic Safety and amending the 2022-2024 Biennial Budget
Resolution No.11564
5. Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Contractual Services Agreement with CSW Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group for Professional Design Services for Old Town Streetscape Improvements, Project 1258 and to amend the 2022-2024 Biennial Budget for Fiscal Year 2024
Resolution No.11565
Contract No. 23071

6. Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute Task Order No. 28 to the Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Fremont for case management services
Resolution No.11566
Contract No. 09044
7. Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute Task Order No. 29 to the Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Fremont for Paratransit services
Resolution No.11567
Contract No. 09044

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS

F. OTHER BUSINESS

G. CITY COUNCIL MATTERS

In response to Council Member Bucci, City Manager Benoun stated that staff would recommend the creation of entity to oversee the implementation of the Public Art Master Plan projects.

Council Member Bucci thanked the Newark Days Committee and Laurie Gratz, the new president of the Committee, for another successful Newark Days.

Council Member Jorgens stated that he was excited about the new protected bike lanes on Cherry Avenue and Newark Boulevard and encouraged the public to participate in the preparation of the new Active Transportation Plan.

Council Member Freitas thanked the Newark Days Committee and Laurie Gratz. He attended the Promotores graduation and stated that it was a wonderful ceremony.

Vice Mayor Collazo shared her experience with the City's cybersecurity test. She congratulated the Promotores graduates and spoke on how they benefit the community and make it a better place.

Mayor Hannon stated that he attended the Promotores graduation and complimented the graduates who will help the community. He thanked Laurie Gratz and the Newark Days Committee. He shared his experience leading bingo at the Newark Senior Center. He complimented Recreation staff for their service.

Vice Mayor Collazo stated to shop Newark.

H. CITY MANAGER UPDATES

City Manager Benoun announced the following: Document Shredding event on October 7, Community Clean up event on October 21, How To Start a Business Workshop on October 20, Manufacturing Week begins October 4, Satellite Affordable Housing Associates Thornton Avenue Apartments affordable housing project on October 11, and the Police Department Faith in Blue event on October 11. He announced that the Information Technology Department received a Quality IT Practices Award at the Municipal Information Systems Association of California and that the Facilities Master Plan and Parks Master Plan Surveys are available on the city website.

Mayor Hannon requested that the City Council be notified of the Manufacturing Week activities.

Vice Mayor Collazo announced that the Mexico Tortilla Factory will be featured on the *Check Please* television show on October 5th. Shop Newark.

Mayor Hannon stated that he would allow the two speakers from Public Comment to address the City Council at this time and they would each have one minute.

Two public comments were received from speakers that were anti-Semitic, racist, and used profanity.

Mayor Hannon stated that First Amendment protection allowed the previous speakers to express their thoughts. He stated that Newark is a Welcoming City, and the comments were reprehensible.

Council Member Bucci stated that a number of City Council meetings throughout the state have been targeted with these comments, and that the speakers hide behind a computer screen.

Council Member Collazo stated that Newark is a welcoming City. She said that she forgave the speakers because they do not know how to receive or give love.

I. CLOSED SESSION

J. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Hannon adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Sheila Harrington, City Clerk