

**Ridgecrest City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
AGENDA**

January 21, 2026
Closed Session 5:00 p.m.
Regular Session 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL

Travis Endicott, Mayor

Kyle Blades, Mayor Pro-Tem

Solomon P. Rajaratnam, Vice Mayor

L. Scott Hayman, Council Member

John 'Skip' Gorman, Council Member

Ron Strand, City Manager

Keith Lemieux, City Attorney
Martin Koczanowicz, City Attorney



**City Hall, Council Chambers
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest CA 93555**

Ricca Charlton, CMC
City Clerk

rcharlon@ridgecrest-ca.gov
(760) 499-5002

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact Ricca Charlton at (760) 499-5002. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting.

Watch meetings on-line:

All of our meetings are streamed live at <https://ridgecrest-ca.gov/369/Watch> or on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/cityofridgecrest/live> and are also available for playback after the meeting.

Call in for public comments:

To participate with verbal comments, *please call (760) 499-5010*. This phone line will allow only one caller at a time, so if the line is busy, please continue to dial. We will be allowing a 20-30 second delay between callers to give time for media delays and callers to dial in. If you wish to comment on multiple items you will need to call in as each item is presented.

*Agendas are available on the City Website
<https://www.ridgecrest-ca.gov/council-agendas>*

This Page Intentionally Left Blank



NOTICE AND CALL OF A **SPECIAL CLOSED SESSION MEETING** OF THE
RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL / SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY /
HOUSING AUTHORITY / FINANCING AUTHORITY

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL / SUCCESSOR
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY / HOUSING AUTHORITY / FINANCING AUTHORITY,
PUBLIC AND CITY CLERK:

PUBLIC NOTICE that a **SPECIAL CLOSED SESSION MEETING** of the Ridgecrest City
Council/Successor Redevelopment Agency/Housing Authority/Financing Authority is hereby
called on:

Wednesday, January 21, 2026 @ 5:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
100 W. California Avenue
Ridgecrest, California

Said **SPECIAL CLOSED SESSION MEETING** shall be for the purpose of:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL GOV CODE SECTION 54956.9 (b)
Potential Litigation (4 cases)

Closed Session held pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957 Subpart (b):
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
Title: City Manager

Dated: January 15, 2026

Travis Endicott, Mayor / Chair

ATTEST:

Ricca Charlon, City Clerk

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

**RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL
SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
FINANCING AUTHORITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY
AGENDA**

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

**Closed Session – 5:00 p.m.
Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL GOV CODE SECTION 54956.9 (b)
Potential Litigation (4 cases)

Closed Session held pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957 Subpart (b):
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
Title: City Manager

REGULAR SESSION

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

PRESENTATION

1. Presentation Of The Key To The City to Tex Hoppus **Gorman**

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA - Persons wishing to address the Council on matters that are within the Council’s jurisdiction and DO NOT ALREADY APPEAR ON THE AGENDA, may do so at this time.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/DIRECTION

CONSENT CALENDAR – All Matters Listed Under The Consent Calendar Are To Be Considered Routine And Enacted By One Motion Unless Pulled By A Council Member Or A Member Of The Public.

2. Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgcrest City Council **Charlon**

PRESENTATION

3. Presentation Of Retirement to City Manager Ron Strand **Staff / Council**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam
Meeting: 1st Monday of the month @ 5:15 p.m.
Location: City Hall Conference Room B, 1st Floor
➤ **Next meeting February 2, 2026**

Finance Committee

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Scott Hayman
Meeting: 2nd Tuesday *every other month* at 5:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall Conference Room B, 1st Floor
➤ **Next meeting February 10, 2026**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Mayor Endicott and Kyle Blades
Meeting: 4th Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.
Location: City Hall Conference Room B, 1st Floor
➤ **Next meeting January 22, 2026**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Endicott and Scott Hayman
Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Next meeting February 3, 2026**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

**Ridgecrest City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
STAFF REPORT**

SUBJECT: Presentation Of The *Key To The City* to Tex Hoppus

PRESENTED BY: Skip Gorman, Council Member

SUMMARY:

Tex Hoppus is a local hero. Just walk into our Historical USA Building on West Ridgecrest Boulevard to witness the decades of Tex Hoppus (and company's) quiet dedication to that noble old structure which keeps the vivid history of Ridgecrest alive in our hearts.

It all started with Tex's interest in family genealogy. His small genealogy group ultimately merged with the Historical Society and under Tex's leadership the hard-working group gradually rehabilitated the venerable USO Building. The jail, firehouse and peripheral associated Quonset huts emerged to their present form under Tex's stewardship and, additionally, the peripheral (redesignated) Veteran's Building, which was rescued from becoming a submerged one-room schoolhouse in the depths of Lake Isabella, ultimately joined the growing Historical Society complex to showcase our community's colorful past.

So it is owing to his effective, persistent, and visionary leadership that we honor Tex Hoppus the Key to the City of Ridgecrest with sincere thanks and appreciation.

Written and submitted by Skip Gorman

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ACTION REQUESTED: Presentation Of *Key To The City*

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Submitted by: Skip Gorman

Action Date: January 21, 2026

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

Ridgecrest City Council
Successor Redevelopment Agency
Financing Authority
Housing Authority
STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Regular Meeting January 7, 2026

PRESENTED BY: Ricca Charlon, City Clerk

SUMMARY:

Draft Minutes of the City Council / Successor Redevelopment Agency / Housing Authority / Financing Authority Regular Meeting January 7, 2026

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve minutes

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION: Action as requested

Submitted by: Ricca Charlon

Action Date: Jan 21, 2026

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

**RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL
SUCCESSOR REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
FINANCING AUTHORITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY
DRAFT MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

**Closed Session – 5:00 p.m.
Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.**

This meeting was recorded and will be on file in the Office of the City Clerk for a certain period of time from date of approval by the Ridgecrest City Successor Agency/Financing Authority/Housing Authority. Meetings are recorded solely for the purpose of preparation of minutes.

ROLL CALL – 5:00 p.m.

Council Present: Mayor Endicott; Mayor Pro-Tem Blades; Vice Mayor Rajaratnam; Council Member Hayman; Council Member Gorman

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Attorney M. Koczanowicz; City Manager Strand; City Clerk Charlon

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - *Motion To Approve* – Rajaratnam - Blades – 5 ayes

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL GOV CODE SECTION 54956.9 (b)
Potential Litigation (1 case)

Closed Session held pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957 Subpart (b):
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
Title: City Manager

PRESENTATIONS

Ridgecrest Tourism Improvement District Annual Report 2024-25

K. Crutcher

ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION - No reportable action

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public Comment – E. Edwards, M. Licitra, B. Licitra

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/DIRECTION

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. *Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council*

Charlon

2. *Resolution To Update And Adopt Salary Schedule Per Public Employee Retirement Law*

Brewton

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar - Blades - Hayman– 5 ayes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam
Meeting: 1st Monday of the month @ 5:15 p.m.
Location: City Hall Conference Room B, 1st Floor
➤ **Report from January 5, 2026**

Finance Committee

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Scott Hayman
Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall Conference Room B, 1st Floor
➤ **Next meeting January 13, 2026**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Mayor Endicott and Kyle Blades
Meeting: 4th Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.
Location: City Hall Conference Room B, 1st Floor
➤ **Next meeting January 22, 2026**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Endicott and Scott Hayman
Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
➤ **Report from January 6, 2026**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT – 6:45 p.m.

This Page Intentionally Left Blank