

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

May 3, 2023
Regular Session 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL

Eric A. Bruen, Mayor

Solomon P. Rajaratnam, Mayor Pro-Tem

Kyle Blades, 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>*

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

AGENDA

Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

- Roll call

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

REGULAR SESSION

- Pledge Of Allegiance
- Invocation

PRESENTATION

1. Key To The City **Bruen**
2. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast / National Day Of Prayer Proclamation **Council**
3. Police Week Proclamation **Council**
4. Chaplain Eddie Thomas' Retirement Presentation **Police Dept.**
5. Ridgecrest Police Explorer Appreciation Awards -Stephen Lloyd, Kiana Lee, and Jimmy Song
Police Dept.

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.

6. Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Regular Meetings Dated April 5, 2023 and April 19, 2023 **Charlon**

COMMITTEE REPORTS - *Committee Meeting dates are subject to change and will be announced on the City website*

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitor Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Megan McKenzie (staff)

Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 9:00 a.m.

Location: California Welcome Center

- **Report from 4/26/23**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Kyle Blades

Meeting: 4th Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Report from 4/27/23**

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam

Meeting: 1st Monday of the month @ 5:15 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Report from 5/1/23**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

➤ **Report from 5/2/23**

City Organization and Services Committee ('City Org')

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Next meeting 5/04/23**

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Next meeting 5/09/23**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

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A Proclamation of The City of Ridgecrest, California

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER MAY 4, 2023

WHEREAS, the morning of May 4, 2023 has been designated as the time for the National Prayer Breakfast, a yearly occasion when leaders of all faiths gather to combine their prayers to strengthen the spiritual base of our nation; and,

WHEREAS, the tradition of a National Prayer Breakfast was established in February 1952 in Washington, D.C., by both Houses of Congress, with the first Thursday in May established as a firm day for this event by President Reagan on May 5, 1988, and has been celebrated in the Indian Wells Valley since 1971; and,

WHEREAS, the Ridgecrest Kiwanis Club has planned a local observance of the National Prayer Breakfast at Desert Christian Center on the morning of Thursday May 4th; and,

WHEREAS, this year our community and the whole nation face challenges that call for our most solemn and reverent concern, for deep wisdom and acute perception, and for renewed spiritual strength in our approach to these challenges; and,

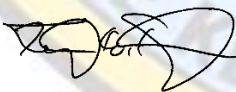
WHEREAS, the City of Ridgecrest recognizes these challenges, the need for spiritual strength and the efficacy of the prayers of many faiths.

Now, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed, the Ridgecrest City Council does hereby proclaim that the City of Ridgecrest joins in the observance of the **NATIONAL PRAYER DAY** and **MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST**, the morning of Thursday, May 4, 2023 and urges all citizens to participate wholeheartedly in this event.

Proclaimed this 3rd Day of May, 2023



Eric A. Bruen
Mayor



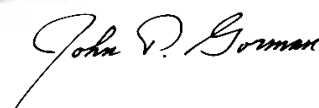
Kyle Blades
Vice Mayor



Solomon P. Rajaratnam
Mayor Pro Tem



L. Scott Hayman
Council Member



John 'Skip' Gorman
Council Member

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A Proclamation of The City of Ridgecrest, California

RIDGECREST HONORS NATIONAL POLICE WEEK MAY 14-20, 2023

WHEREAS, the members of the Ridgecrest Police Department play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the City of Ridgecrest; and,

WHEREAS, it is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of their law enforcement agency, and that members of our law enforcement agency recognize their duty to serve the people of the community by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression; and,

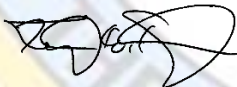
WHEREAS, the men and women of the Ridgecrest Police Department unceasingly provide a vital public service.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Ridgecrest City Council, does hereby proclaim May 14th through May 20th 2023, as ***“Police Week”*** in the City of Ridgecrest in honor of the law enforcement officers, past and present, who have rendered a dedicated service to the community, and do further proclaim May 15, 2023, as ***“Peace Officers’ Memorial Day”*** in honor of those law enforcement officers who through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community or have become disabled in the performance of duty.

Proclaimed this 3rd Day of May, 2023



**Eric A. Bruen
Mayor**



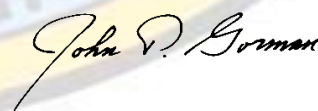
**Kyle Blades
Vice Mayor**



**Solomon P. Rajaratnam
Mayor Pro Tem**



**L. Scott Hayman
Council Member**



**John ‘Skip’ Gorman
Council Member**

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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 Meetings* Dated April 5, 2023 & April 19, 2023

PRESENTED BY: Ricca Charlon, City Clerk

SUMMARY:

Draft Minutes of the City Council / Successor Redevelopment Agency / Housing Authority / Financing Authority *Regular Meetings* Dated April 5, 2023 & April 19, 2023

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve minutes

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION: Action as requested

Submitted by: Ricca Charlon

Action Date: May 3, 2023

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

DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – 6:00 p.m.

Council Present: Mayor Eric A. Bruen; Mayor Pro-Tem Solomon P. Rajaratnam; Vice Mayor Kyle Blades; Council Member Skip Gorman; Council Member L. Scott Hayman

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Attorney M. Koczanowicz; City Manager Strand; City Clerk Charlton; Captain Tucker; PW Director Reed; P & R Director Wegener; Finance Director Freese

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended to add need arose item 7.5 per the Attorney’s request - Rajaratnam - Blades 5 Ayes

NOTE: The vote is displayed in bold below each item. For example, **Blades-Rajaratnam** denotes Council Member Blades made the motion and Council Member Rajaratnam seconded the motion. Ayes, Noes, Absents, Abstentions follow.

REGULAR SESSION

PRESENTATION

1. National Public Safety Telecommunications Week - RPD Dispatchers – Samantha Aston, Amber Peterson, Diane Pudgorski, Joshua Rutherford, & Keslie Stivers **Council**

2. Police Life Saving Award **Capt. Tucker**

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA - T. Wiknich, M. Sinnott

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/DIRECTION

Bruen - Community Cleanup April 15th

- Gave a Tribute to PACT Volunteer Francis Simpson who passed recently
- Star Follies April 28/29, 2023
- May 4 leading Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast

Gorman – April is Autism Awareness Month – VX9 sponsoring a fundraiser April 15th to raise funds

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Regular Meeting Dated March 15, 2023 **Charlton**

4. Authorization For The City Manager, Ron Strand, To Sign The Notice Of Completion For The Replacement Of The Roofs On The Concession/Restroom Building Located At Leroy Jackson Sports Complex And The Replacement Of The Gazebo And Bathroom Building Roofs Located At Upjohn Park And For The City Clerk To File The Notice Of Completion And For City Staff To Release Retention In The Amount Of Three Thousand Two Hundred And Two Dollars (\$3,202.00) To The Contractor, AV Roofing Within Thirty (30) Days After Recordation Of The Notice Of Completion **Wegener**

5. Proposed Approval Of Increased Appropriations To The Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget For Building Professional Services **Reed**
6. Resolution Authorizing Submission Of The Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Transportation Development Act Article 4 Claim To The Kern Council Of Governments **Freese**
7. A Declaration Of Equipment And Vehicles As Surplus According To The FY22 Adopted Budget Purchasing Policy And Resolution 22-41 **Reed**

Motion To Approve Consent Calendar **Rajaratnam - Blades 5 Ayes**

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

- 7.5 New National Opioids Settlements: Teva Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, And Walmart And Status Update Regarding Previous Opioid Distributor And Jansen Settlement Agreements **Attorney**

Attorney reviewed staff report

Motion To Approve **Blades - Rajaratnam 5 Ayes**

8. A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council To Appropriate A Portion Of The American Rescue Plan Act Funds To Add A Bathroom/Concession Building At The Leroy Jackson Sports Complex Softball Fields **Wegener**

Director Wegener reviewed staff report

Motion To Approve **Hayman - Blades 5 Ayes**

9. A Resolution Of The City Of Ridgecrest, California Adopting The 2023 Sewer System Management Plan Update; The Fats, Oils & Grease Best Management Practices Manual; & The Overflow Emergency Response Plan **Reed**

Director Reed reviewed staff report

Motion To Approve **Rajaratnam - Hayman 5 Ayes**

ORDINANCE

10. Introduction And First Reading Of An Ordinance Of The Ridgecrest City Council Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Concerning An Extension Of Tentative Parcel Maps & Tentative Tract Maps **Spurlock**

Planner Spurlock reviewed staff report

Rajaratnam requested the following addition: (e)The approval or conditional approval of a tentative parcel map shall be for 24 months. *Upon written application, a time extension not exceeding 24 months may be granted by the planning commission.*

Motion To Introduce, By Title Only, with additional wording above **Gorman - Blades 5 Ayes**

Motion To Waive Reading In Full with additional wording above **Blades - Rajaratnam 5 Ayes**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Kyle Blades

Meeting: 4th Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 3/23/23 – Handicap ramps, complaints about Race, Franklin curb & gutter 85%, status updates on projects**

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam

Meeting: 1st Monday of the month @ 5:15 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 04/03/23 – ED map on website is updated, ICSC travel, Donations for summer reading challenge being taken by Kern County Library, Role of City in assisting businesses**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- **Report from 04/04/23 – discussions regarding timelines on current projects**

City Organization and Services Committee ('City Org')

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Next meeting 04/06/23**

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Next meeting 04/11/23**

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitor Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Megan McKenzie (staff)

Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 9:00 a.m.

Location: California Welcome Center

- **Report from 3/22/23 – Night on Balsam analytics shared, increase of billboard rentals, logo designs for billboards, film website recently updated**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ACA1- 2024 ballot measure – California 2/3 vote for new/increased tax initiative from Howard Jarvis – oppose? Or how do we walk the line?

Possibility of City letter re: highway 395 dangers

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Gorman – Highway 395 dangers

Bruen – Base traffic issues, Kern County flyer re: land fill annual cost increase

ADJOURNMENT

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

DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

**Closed Session – 5:30 p.m.
Regular Session – 6:00 p.m.**

ROLL CALL – 5:30 p.m.

Council Present: Mayor Eric A. Bruen; Mayor Pro-Tem Solomon P. Rajaratnam; Vice Mayor Kyle Blades; Council Member Skip Gorman; Council Member L. Scott Hayman

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Attorney M. Koczanowicz (WebEx); City Manager Strand; City Clerk Charlton; Captain Dampier; PW Director Reed

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Motion To Approve Agenda As Amended to delete item 1 - **Hayman - Blades 5 Ayes***

NOTE: The vote is displayed in bold below each item. For example, **Blades-Rajaratnam** denotes Council Member Blades made the motion and Council Member Rajaratnam seconded the motion. Ayes, Noes, Absents, Abstentions follow.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - Pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9 Subparts (a), (d)(2) and (e)(3). One case

REGULAR SESSION – 6:30 p.m.

ATTORNEY REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION – No reportable action

PRESENTATION

1. *Citizen Appreciation—Jim Suver, RRH*

McLaughlin

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA - M. Sinnott

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS/DIRECTION

Bruen – 20th year celebration for Immanuel Childcare Facility, Chamber Star Follies April 28 & 29

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. *A Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of The Certifications And Assurances And Authorized Agent Forms For The Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) For The Following Project(s): Battery Electric Van Replacement Purchase, \$71,645* *Smith*
*Motion To Approve Consent Calendar - **Rajaratnam - Hayman 5 Ayes***

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

3. *Discussion Regarding The Board Of The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)* *Hayman*
Public comment – M. Sinnott

4. A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Authorizing The City Manager To Sign And File A Financial Assistance Application And Subsequent Agreements With The California State Water Resources Control Board For The Planning, Design And Construction Of The City Of Ridgecrest New Wastewater Treatment Plant **Strand**

- City Manager reviewed staff report, short discussions followed

Motion To Approve - **Rajaratnam -Hayman 5 Ayes**

ORDINANCE

5. Second Reading and Adoption, Ordinance 23-01, An Ordinance Of The Ridgecrest City Council Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Concerning An Extension Of Tentative Parcel Maps & Tentative Tract Maps **Spurlock**

- City Planner reviewed staff report, short discussions followed
- Rajaratnam suggested change to 2.e. “maybe granted by the planning commission with a total extension not to exceed 6 years”

Motion To Waive Reading In Full, with above addition, Ordinance 23-01 – **Blades - Rajaratnam 5 Ayes**

Motion To Adopt, By Title Only, with above addition, Ordinance 23-01 – **Blades - Hayman 5 Ayes**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

City Organization and Services Committee (‘City Org’)

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Thursday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 04/06/23** – SB1383

Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Report from 04/11/23** – Sales tax, Measure V, TOT, & property tax revenues

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitor Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Megan McKenzie (staff)

Meeting: 4th Wednesday each month at 9:00 a.m.

Location: California Welcome Center

- **Next meeting 04/26/23**

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam and Kyle Blades

Meeting: 4th Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

- **Next meeting 4/27/23**

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam

Meeting: 1st Monday of the month @ 5:15 p.m.

Location: City Hall Council Chambers

➤ **Next meeting 5/1/23**

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Skip Gorman

Meeting: 1st Tuesday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

➤ **Next meeting 5/2/23**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

CITY MANAGER REPORT

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Gorman – Spoke about his weekend adventures in Death Valley

Bruen – Welcomed new police officer, Andrew Solorzano, spoke to citizens in having smart habits to be safe in the community, spoke about his trip to Sacramento last week – visited with Groves & Fong, pool townhall #2 May 2nd @ QOL meeting, Mayor’s Prayer Breakfast/National Day of Prayer on May 4, 2023 to be held at DCC

ADJOURNMENT – 7:51 p.m.

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