

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

Minutes

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

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.

CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Eric A. Bruen (via WebEx); Mayor Pro Tem L. Scott Hayman; Vice Mayor Solomon P. Rajaratnam; Council Member Peggy Breeden; Council Member Kyle Blades

Staff Present: City Attorney Koczanowicz (via WebEx); City Clerk Charlon; Capt. Dampier; City Manager Strand; Finance Director Freese; PW Director Reed

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- **Blades - Breeden: 5 Ayes**

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

REGULAR SESSION

PRESENTATIONS

1. Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)

FREESE

PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public comments heard from S. Connally; A. Saunders travel blogger; M. Neel

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Proposed Action To Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council Regular Meeting Dated February 16, 2022

CHARLON

- **Blades - Rajaratnam: 5 Ayes**

PUBLIC HEARING

3. A Public Hearing And Approval Of A Resolution Of The City Of Ridgecrest City Council To Consider Public Comments And Establish A Finding For Unmet Needs That Are Reasonable To Meet With The Public Transportation System for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 **SMITH REED**

- Public hearing opened at 7:05
- Public comments heard from
 - K. Brown – Inyokern hub which is owned by the city on 2nd street, the location has no signs as the transportation hub or which busses come there.
 - No comments received by the City Clerk
- Public hearing closed at 7:20
- **Blades - Rajartnam: 5 Ayes**

4. Conduct A Public Hearing And Adopt A Resolution Recommending Community Development Block Grant CARES Act (CDBG-CV3) Funding Use In The Amount of \$67,219.80 And Project Description To The Kern County Board Of Supervisors For The City Of Ridgecrest

WEGENER CHARLON

- Public hearing opened at 7:22
- No public comments heard; no comments received by the City Clerk
- Public hearing closed at 7:30
- **Blades - Breeden: 5 Ayes**

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

5. Fire Contract Review **STRAND**
Public comments heard from M. Neel
6. A Resolution Of The Ridgecrest City Council Declaring Intention To Vacate And Abandon A Certain Pedestrian Way In Tract 1252 And Setting A Public Hearing Per Streets And Highways Code Section 8335 **SPURLOCK**
 - **Blades - Rajaratnam: 5 Ayes**
7. Discussion Regarding The Board Of The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA) **HAYMAN**
Public comments heard from M. Neel; K. Brown

ORDINANCE

8. Second Reading And Adoption, Ordinance 22-01 Of The Ridgecrest City Council Amending The Ridgecrest Municipal Code Regarding Solid Waste **MCKENZIE**

Motion To Waive Reading In Full, Ordinance 22-01 Of The Ridgecrest City Council Amending the Ridgecrest Municipal Code Regarding Solid Waste.

Public comments heard from M. Neel

- **Rajaratnam - Breeden: 5 Ayes**

Motion To Adopt, Ordinance 22-01 Of The Ridgecrest City Council Amending the Ridgecrest Municipal Code Regarding Solid Waste.

- **Blades - Breeden: 5 Ayes**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

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 02/24/22 – discussed Downs St. lighting, Caltrans update Downs and 178 intersection, modernizing city biking traffic**

OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS

KernCOG - 2/17

League of Ca Cities - 2/18 – discussed SB9 extensively; San Bernardino Sheriff brought light to the marijuana farms from the Cartels in our area

EKEA – 2/10

CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Clean CA Grant for \$1.8M was approved

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Blades – Big ticket items coming forward – Fire Contract, ARPA, Clean CA Grant, Etc. - Feedback is important from the public. It is not easy for him because fundamentally he does not agree with items like the trash, but it has to be done.

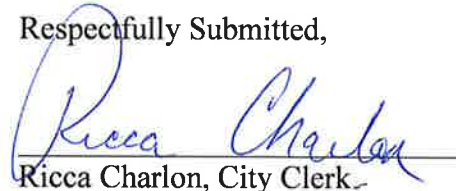
Rajaratnam – thanked staff for hard work and public for participating

Bruen – thanked council for great meeting, looks forward to being home from Washington DC tomorrow, full of pride being able to talk with elected officials about Ridgecrest

Hayman – thanked the couple that was here to blog about Ridgecrest for the next month. Thanked Mayor for being in DC. Proud of work being done and serving with this council.

ADJOURNMENT - 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ricca Charlon, City Clerk