

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

**Minutes**

**May 5, 2021**

**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; Mayor Pro Tem L. Scott Hayman; Vice Mayor Solomon P. Rajaratnam; Council Members Kyle Blades and Peggy Breeden

Council Absent: None

Staff Present: City Manager Strand; City Attorney Lemieux; City Clerk Charlon; Chief McLaughlin; PW Director Reed; P & R Interim Director Wegener; Finance Director Freese

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Motion To Approve Agenda Made By Breeden, Seconded By Blades*

*Motion Carried By Tabulation Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA - None**

**COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bruen

- Mayor's Prayer Breakfast 6:10am @ Desert Christian Center
- Highway 395 decal campaign \$5.00 /each – see Skip Gorman
- Town Hall Meeting – KMCC May 18 @ 6pm

Strand

- Introduced Megan McKenzie, new Economic Development Analyst

**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Police Week Proclamation
2. Life Saving Award – Officer M. Ogas

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

3. Approve Draft Minutes Of The Ridgecrest City Council – Dated April 20, 2021 (Council Workshop) & April 21, 2021 (Regular Meeting) **Charlon**

*Motion To Approve Consent Calendar Made By Breeden, Seconded By Hayman*

*Motion Carried By Tabulation Call Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

**DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

4. Discussion And Provide Guidance To The City's Representative On The Board Of The Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA) **Hayman**

## ORDINANCES

5. Introduction And First Reading, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of Ridgecrest Awarding A Non-Exclusive Taxi Franchise To Ridgecrest Taxi And Approving A Taxicab Franchise Agreement **Reed**

- PW Director Reed reviewed staff report
- Breeden asked about the possibility of a second taxi franchise (ok per Reed), conditions as to why the City may pull the franchise were discussed
- Hayman asked about bond and liability insurance
- Rajaratnam asked about the reason for this agreement (no previous agreement found per Reed), asked about the legal name or if there is a DBA (for purposes of the agreement), asked about 2019 fees paid
- Rollins (Owner) answered that he is unaware of the DBA answer
- Blades - asked where 3% charge came from
- Public Comment in chambers - D. Matthews

*Motion To Waive Reading In Full An Ordinance Of The Ridgecrest City Council Awarding A Non-Exclusive Taxi Franchise To Ridgecrest Taxi And Approving A Taxicab Franchise Agreement Made By Breeden, Seconded By Blades. Motion Carried By Tabulation Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

*Motion To Introduce, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The Ridgecrest City Council Awarding A Non-Exclusive Taxi Franchise To Ridgecrest Taxi And Approving A Taxicab Franchise Agreement Made By Blades, Seconded By Hayman. Motion Carried By Tabulation Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

6. Introduction And First Reading, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Repealing Article IV Of Chapter 7 And Ordinance 185 Regarding Cable Television Franchises And Replace With A New State Video Franchises Ordinance **Strand**

- City Manager reviewed staff report; pointed out change Section 7-114(B)(1) \$1,000 should be \$1,500
- Bruen – asked about franchise fees; asked how holes in RMC are being found/updated
- Public Comment in chambers - None

*Motion To Waive Reading In Full An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Repealing Article IV Of Chapter 7 And Ordinance 185 Regarding Cable Television Franchises And Replace With A New State Video Franchises Ordinance Made By Rajaratnam, Seconded By Hayman. Motion Carried By Tabulation Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

*Motion To Introduce, By Title Only, An Ordinance Of The City Council Of The City Of Ridgecrest Repealing Article IV Of Chapter 7 And Ordinance 185 Regarding Cable Television Franchises And Replace With A New State Video Franchises Ordinance Made By Breeden, Seconded By Rajaratnam. Motion Carried By Tabulation Vote Of 5 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstain; And 0 Absent.*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

### Finance Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman

Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month at 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room B

Infrastructure Committee

Members: Peggy Breeden and Kyle Blades  
Meeting: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month at 5:00 p.m.  
Location: City Hall 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room B

- Discussed Navy traffic plan, street lighting will come to council once estimates received from SCE

Economic Development Committee

Members: Kyle Blades and Solomon Rajaratnam  
Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month @ 5:00 p.m.  
Location: City Hall 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room B

Parks, Recreation, and Quality of Life Committee

Members: Mayor Eric A. Bruen and Scott Hayman  
Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month at 5:00 p.m.  
Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- Discussed FY22 budget priorities, KMCC open to public for some activities, project ideas for Helmers Park, Rummage sale was a success,

Ridgecrest Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (RACVB)

Members: Solomon Rajaratnam  
Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month, 9:00 a.m.  
Location: Kerr McGee Center Meeting Rooms

- Still waiting on CA Welcome Center plans to be returned to start construction, hotel occupancy low last 2 weeks

**OTHER COMMITTEES, BOARDS, OR COMMISSIONS**

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Bruen – General comment re: Ordinances

Rajaratnam – Thanked Police Dept.

Blades – Community Clean-up was huge success, thanked community for help

**ADJOURNMENT - 7:07 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Ricca Charlton, City Clerk