

**CITY OF CITRUS HEIGHTS
CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
Regular Meeting of Thursday, March 26, 2020
Virtually from the City Hall Council Chambers
6360 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, CA**

CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Slowey.

1. The Flag Salute was led by Mayor Slowey.
2. Roll Call: Council Members present: Bruins, Daniels, Middleton, Miller, Slowey
Council Members absent: None
Staff present: Boyd, Blomquist, Cotter, Huber, Jones, Lawrence, Kempenaar, Van and department directors.
3. The video statement was read by City Clerk Van.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Slowey requested to hear City Manager Items directly after approval of agenda.

ACTION: On a motion by Council Member Bruins, seconded by Council Member Middleton, the City Council approved the agenda as amended.

AYES: Bruins, Daniels, Middleton, Miller, Slowey
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

CITY MANAGER ITEMS

City Manager Boyd stated that the current directives from the State and County level are for all citizens to stay in your place of residence, except for essential activities, essential governmental functions, or to operate essential businesses. On March 19, the city declared a local state of emergency, which does not signify or represent an increased risk to Citrus Heights employees or residents, rather it allows the city to access potential future aid packages. During this time, City Hall remains committed to providing the quality services, while keeping employees and residents safe. City Hall has closed its lobby and front counters, residents and business owners in Citrus Heights still have access to all services remotely. All departments remain operational and staff are available to residents via phone, email, and through the city's website. Staff have identified technological solutions to continue conducting business by utilizing online platforms such as email, phone, virtual meetings, and file sharing. The city has identified essential personnel and they will continue conducting business within all restrictions. Community Centers are closed to the public and all non-essential events have been postponed. Staff are still available to help reschedule or book new events by phone or email. Those who are inquiring about rental information can also visit for the city's COVID-19 webpage for more information. Community Development Department staff have identified ways to continue to serve residents remotely. Building inspections now take place via Skype. The city is not inhibiting any inspections or contract business in the city from moving forward and all inspection functions will continue. Public Works staff continue to process service

requests and provide essential services. Staff and consultants in the field continue to practice all functions under safe guidelines. Residents can still submit service requests to report street repairs/debris, storm water issues, downed trees, construction projects, potholes, downed or missing street signs, graffiti removal, landscape maintenance, and street light and traffic signal maintenance through the city's website.

Chief Lawrence stated that the Police Department initiated a partial emergency operations center on March 13. By doing so, this allowed for immediate and daily access to the Sacramento County Office of Emergency Services where additional emergency supplies are available if needed. The Police Department will continue to provide full public safety services to residents and businesses. Immediate steps were taken to protect employees and the public, by issuing all operations staff in the field personal protective equipment and temporarily closing down the front lobby to the public. Any persons arriving onsite at the Police Department will be met outside by a staff member for assistance. Traffic enforcement and calls for service will continue as usual with an increase to patrol services throughout the business district and local grocery stores. Staff have been in communication with the local media and residents to dispel rumors and instill calm in the public. He has been in constant communication with local Police Chiefs and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department to ensure a united forefront when it comes to addressing the enforcement of the current state directive. Although the local authorities have full power to issue citations for those who violate the order, they remain confident that communities will continue to voluntarily comply with the health orders and stay home.

City Manager Boyd stated that the City Manager's Office is closely monitoring updates from the Sacramento County Public Health Department and Office of Emergency Services. Staff are also in constant contact with community partners, regional, state, and federal-level officials, and public health partners to ensure the city has the best practices in place for the public. City Council meetings will continue to be held remotely through virtual platforms and webcasted live for the public to view. The public can submit public comment cards to the City Clerk through the city's website.

Economic Development and Communication Manager Huber announced the Communications Division is increasing the communication effort to the public. A multi-channel comprehensive communications plan has been developed that features a dedicated COVID-19 webpage with the latest directives from Sacramento County and a business resource page highlighting the latest resources and programs available to local businesses. Currently the Small Business Association Disaster Assistance Program is allowing businesses to apply for a working capital loan of up to 2 million dollars to alleviate economic injury caused by COVID-19. The city has also committed to empowering businesses in the community by temporarily relaxing signage restrictions to all businesses that qualify as essential, allowing for more advertising during this time. Residents are encouraged to continue to support all open businesses in the city by shopping locally. More information on the current businesses that are open and the services available can be found on the city's website under the dedicated webpage Love Local Campaign. In addition to website updates, staff have committed to providing consistent e-news and e-alerts with the latest updates from the city. Residents can also access a one-stop webpage featuring a comprehensive listing of department and division information.

City Manager Boyd concluded the update by announcing that the city will continue to assess the budgetary impacts of this situation and report back on the financial estimations once complete. Finance consultants are currently working hard to determine the significance of the financial impacts and depending on the on how long the crisis goes on for, the impacts on the city could be severe. Staff will continue to assess and analyze any adjustments needed in the future to make sure the city stays in operations and good financial condition. The city may be eligible for relief and assistance packages being considered in the region and staff will position the city to take advantage of any assistance and reimbursements that may be available.

PRESENTATIONS

None

COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND REGIONAL BOARD UPDATES

Council Member Bruins highlighted the successful Police Activities Cornhole Tournament fundraiser and thanked everyone who attended. She encouraged the public to support the city's business community and continue to shop locally.

Council Member Middleton had no comments or updates.

Council Member Daniels also encouraged the public to continue supporting local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. He requested additional enforcement at C-Bar-C Park and encouraged residents to stay positive during this time.

Vice Mayor Miller participated in the Sacramento Transit Authority Board meeting and the Regional Transit Authority Board meeting.

Mayor Slowey provided an update for the Library Authority Board meeting and he thanked the public for participating in the shelter in place order. He also reminded the public to participate in the 2020 Census and announced the timeline modifications to the Census.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Slowey announced that due to the city council meetings being held remotely, the public has been asked to submit all public comment cards through the city's website. The City Clerk will read for the record all of the public comment cards received.

City Clerk Van read the Public Comment Card submitted by Alfred Sanchez as follows: "Hi, hope everyone at City Hall is doing well. As you know I take snacks to the homeless every day. Usually granola bars, fruit snacks, and cookies. I do this out of my own pocket. They call me Snack Man. Ive also sent dozens of people to get help via our homeless Navigator. I express concerns and act as liaison to the police. The recycle places are closed and they have taken a hit. Restraunts are closed, there goes there restrooms n hygiene. Many are considered about Corona and how it effects them. I would like to take fruits bit cannot afford it I service around 15 to 25 people daily. I'm asking for a grant of \$250 to help these guys by distributing fruits. I will keep receipts. I attend HART meetings and consider myself one of the many trying to do our part. Thank you for all you do. God speed."

City Clerk Van read the Public Comment Card submitted by David Warren as follows: “On Monday night, my wife was transported to UC Davis ER for treatment. The experience was a worst-case example of how my community’s failure to deal with the homeless crisis presented itself. Although my wife should have been transferred to the telemetry unit, she spent her entire hospitalization in the ER because there were no beds available due to the confluence of the current pandemic and the consequence of the law which prohibits a hospital discharging a patient that is homeless. Although there is little Citrus Heights can accomplish to curtail the pandemic, as a City there are temporary solutions that can be accomplished to reduce the impact of the pandemic on all of us. It is shameful that the City Council has not put any of these solutions on the agenda. Davis, Elk Grove and the City of Sacramento have approved ordinances which prohibit eviction of a tenant for not paying rent if caused by loss of income due to the pandemic. Sacramento County has also approved a similar ordinance, unfortunately without a similar degree of urgency. Why hasn’t Citrus Heights approved such an ordinance to assure that there is no increase in the homeless population in Citrus Heights? Clearly, if the major banks, Chase, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, etc., can offer a payment holiday for mortgage payments, a similar respite for renters should be at the top of tonight’s council agenda. If the Cheesecake Factory can tell its landlords that it will not pay rent until the restaurants reopen, as council members, why haven’t you assisted those who become unemployed in our community to avoid eviction for failure to pay rent. Further, both DHHS and CDC have issued directives to state, county and local government agencies concerning housing the homeless to stop the spread of the pandemic. It is patently clear that Citrus Heights, unlike Sacramento, has not opened a single bed to house the homeless. Having to walk past individuals who are coughing while entering a grocery store or pharmacy is a clear and present danger offering a means of transmission for the spread of disease. Refusing to provide a temporary location for the homeless to shelter in place to prevent transmission of the corona virus within our community is shameful because it endangers both those who are homeless and those that are not. As a recipient of first responder services this week, I observed that ambulances were backed up at the entrance to the emergency room. Obviously, while the paramedics and ambulances are out of service waiting for a patient to be admitted to the ER, there is a consequential reduction in the number of first responders available to assist patients. If the pandemic follows the pattern demonstrated in New York City, instead of ambulances, CHPD officers will be pressed into service as first responders to aid those who require transportation to a hospital. Does CHPD have sufficient resources to provide police services while CHPD officers are waiting at the ER? In Detroit, 132 police officers are off duty due to positive infection results. The national news has reported insufficient PPE supplies for both hospital staff and first responders. As a member of this community who is most at risk to corona virus infection, I and individuals similarly situated, deserve to know that the CHPD is prepared for the unfortunate circumstance that the sworn personnel can be adequately protected for such events as a traffic stop or something more serious. Of equal importance, does CHPD have sufficient staff to back fill positions should officers become unavailable due to infection? The statement on the City’s website that the City is providing an “adequate” conformity to County protocols is insufficient. If Citrus Heights wants to become more than a bedroom community, it must be proactive on all matters, including the city’s emergency plan for dealing with the pandemic and other emergencies. The City Council should schedule a special session to do the following:

1. Enact a municipal ordinance, similar to the cities of Elk Grove, Sacramento and Davis, providing for a moratorium for rental evictions for those individuals who have insufficient funds due to loss of income as a result of the pandemic;
2. Provide a full and complete **detailed** plan of the City’s emergency response to the pandemic, including available supplies of PPE for municipal employees, for public examination and comment; and;

3. Establish emergency shelter within Citrus Heights to slow the spread of the corona virus among the homeless.

It is long past due that our city stop telling individuals who live on the edge of, or are homeless, to 'let them eat cake.'"

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. **SUBJECT:** Auburn Blvd Complete Streets Revitalization Project Phase 2 Federal Project CML 5475 (038), City PN 20-14-004 Award of Contract for Final Design Services
STAFF REPORT: S. Hodgkins
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. 2020 - 020; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Agreement for Professional Services with Bennett Engineering Services, Inc. for the Auburn Boulevard Complete Streets Revitalization, Phase 2 Project
STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL: Improve Streets and Infrastructure
5. **SUBJECT:** Initiate Proceedings for Mitchell Farms Annexation into Landscape and Lighting Assessment District 03-01 as Zone 3
STAFF REPORT: S. Hodgkins / A. Flores
RECOMMENDATION: Staff Recommends the Council Adopt the Following Resolutions in the Order Listed:
- a. Adopt Resolution No. 2020-021; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, to Initiate Proceedings Pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 to Annex the Mitchell Farms Subdivision into Landscape and Lighting Assessment District No. 03-01 As Zone 3
 - b. Adopt Resolution No. 2020-022; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, for the Intention to Levy and Collect Assessments for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 for Landscape and Lighting Assessment District No. 03-01, Zone 3
6. **SUBJECT:** Resolution Adopting a Side Letter Agreement with the Citrus Heights Police Employees Association Covering the Period of October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2021
STAFF REPORT: R. Rivera / M. Alejandrez / S. Neilson
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. 2020-023; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, Adopting a Side Letter Agreement with the Citrus Heights Police Employees Association

ACTION: On a motion by Vice Mayor Miller, seconded by Council Member Bruins, the City Council adopted Consent Calendar Items 4, 5, and 6.

AYES: Bruins, Daniels, Middleton, Miller, Slowey
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None

PUBLIC HEARING

7. **SUBJECT:** Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Program Year 2019 Community Development Block Grant Funds
STAFF REPORT: C. McDuffee / S. Cotter / N. Piva
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. 2020- 024; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, Approving the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report for Program Year 2019

Development Specialist Cotter reported that the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report describes the city's progress toward meeting the goals outlined in the Consolidated Plan and Action Plan. In 2019, the city received about \$646,000 in Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) and about \$130,000 in housing loan payoffs. Expenditures were about \$384,000. A total of over 8,000 low- to moderate-income persons/households were served during the year. Staff recommends the City Council direct staff to file the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report for Program Year 2019 to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mayor Slowey opened the public hearing at 7:46 p.m., hearing no speakers, he closed the public hearing.

ACTION: On a motion by Council Member Bruins, seconded by Council Member Middleton, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020- 024; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, Approving the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report for Program Year 2019.

AYES: Bruins, Daniels, Middleton, Miller, Slowey
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None

REGULAR CALENDAR

8. **SUBJECT:** Adopting a Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)
STAFF REPORT: C. Boyd
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. 2020-025; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, Ratifying the Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency

City Manager Boyd stated that on March 19, 2020 the Mayor issued a proclamation declaring the existence of a local emergency in the City of Citrus Heights in response to the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) public health crisis. The purpose of declaring a local health emergency empowers the city to more effectively respond to COVID-19, seek and utilize mutual aid, potentially obtain reimbursement and ensure that city staff have all the necessary tools at their disposal to slow the spread of the virus. While it may seem contradictory, this proclamation does not signify an increased risk to Citrus Heights residents. Rather, by proclaiming a local emergency, the city is taking important administrative action that allows the city potential access to aid and available resources. While the Mayor has issued the proclamation declaring a local emergency, the City Council must still ratify the proclamation declaring the existence of a local emergency.

ACTION: On a motion by Council Member Bruins, seconded by Council Member Daniels, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020-025; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, Ratifying the Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency.

AYES: Bruins, Daniels, Middleton, Miller, Slowey
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

9. **SUBJECT:** Adopt Old Auburn Road Complete Streets Plan
STAFF REPORT: S. Hodgkins / L. Blomquist
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution No. 2020 - 026; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, Adopting the Old Auburn Road Complete Streets Plan
STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL: Improve Streets and Infrastructure

Planning Manager Kempenaar noted that the city has committed to continually improving traffic safety for bikes, pedestrians, and vehicles throughout the city. The 2011 General Plan Update included a complete streets policy that treats all users equally. It also directed us to update our Bike Master Plan and prepare a Pedestrian Master Plan. The Pedestrian Master Plan identified Old Auburn Road as a focus area in major need of improved pedestrian facilities. In December 2017, the city was awarded the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant to develop a Complete Streets Plan for the portion of Old Auburn between Sylvan Corners and Garry Oak Drive.

Principal Civil Engineer Blomquist stated the Plan was developed with several actions in mind, to listen to the needs of local residents and implementing context sensitive solutions, understanding the data for travel demand and collision patterns, and to create a plan that can be implemented and aligns with current grant funding availability. The goals included improving traffic safety for all users, reduce the number of collisions and conflict points along the corridor, reduce vehicle speeds, improve walking and biking facilities, improve access across Old Auburn, and reduce cut-through travel. Over a several month period, staff collected traffic data for the Old Auburn corridor. The overall general concept of the Plan includes one vehicle travel lane in each direction, a center two-way turn lane, a separated lane for bicycles, and separated sidewalk for pedestrians by a landscape buffer. Two alternatives between Antelope Road and Fair Oaks Boulevard were presented.

Planning Manager Kempenaar provided an overview of the Environmental Review for the Plan.

Principal Civil Engineer Blomquist explained that the Plan identifies preferred concept level designs. The Plan will be phased for implementation.

Council questions and comments followed.

Public Comment

City Clerk Van read the following public comment card from Anthony Silveria: "Not once in the "preparation" for this project have I, or the other residents living in the area been approached about how horrible an idea this is. I have a hard enough time trying to pull out of my street (Chipmunk Way), without the trees you are going to put in, or the cross walk for the church, or the median you want to create to take up more room. the two lanes are there for a reason, one to go to Antelope, and the other to continue on Auburn. The test you did stopped the road completely."

City Clerk Van read the following public comment card from Kathy Morris: “First, I want to say that I greatly appreciate the level of work, and professionalism, that has gone into the development of the streets plan. I have been fortunate to participate in many of the meetings/discussion on the plans. Although I understand there are many concerns on the restructuring of the streets, I must admit that I personally are most concerned with the FAIR OAKS/ANTELOPE section Since I live on Glen Alta, Gary Oak is my main transit in and out of the area. My business commitments have me traveling in any direction at any time of the day. I could come out of Gary Oak and go thru to Antelope, or down Old Auburn, or up Old Auburn, or turn onto Fair Oaks – at most any time of the day. Frankly, I support the current structure of the Fair Oaks/Antelope intersection. The access from Fair Oaks onto Old Auburn now is GREAT. The exit from Gary Oak onto Old Auburn and onward WORKS. Although I appreciate the need for Bike and Pedestrian lanes, I believe the proposed changes will again make it difficult for me and my immediate neighborhood. Therefore I do not support this section of the changes. I also appreciate the need for funding, and understand that Bike and Pedestrian areas may be required in order to secure funding. Still, the proposed changes are not in MY best interest. As a reminder, I speak for myself, not for my neighborhood association or board.”

City Clerk Van read the following public comment card from Bill Shirley: “My name is Bill Shirley and I am vice president of CHASE, neighborhood association areas 7 & 8. I first want to thank the city engineers for meeting with myself and other members or our board to discuss the Complete Street Plan, primarily the Old Auburn Blvd and Fair Oaks Blvd intersection since it is in the middle of our area. I appreciate the time they took to explain the concept they are presenting to the city council. As I have shared this information with my neighbors in the Oaks they have all said they are pleased with the current lane configuration. Not one person was in favor of the proposal you are being presented with tonight. I ask that you table this council adoption issue until we can have a regular city council meeting so my neighbors can express and discuss their concerns. I would also ask members of the city council to spend time watching the traffic flow at this well known intersection during peak hours when people are "back" to work, there is normal traffic flow, so you can understand why my neighbors are against the proposal you are being presented with tonight. My neighbors said they would like a bike lane at this intersection, but not at the cost of losing a west bound lane from Gary Oak Dr. to the Antelope Blvd intersection.”

ACTION: On a motion by Vice Mayor Miller, seconded by Council Member Daniels, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020 - 026; A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Citrus Heights, California, Adopting the Old Auburn Road Complete Streets Plan.

AYES: Bruins, Daniels, Middleton, Miller, Slowey
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

None

CITY MANAGER ITEMS

The City Manager items were heard prior to council comments and updates.

ITEMS REQUESTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS/ FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Slowey adjourned the regular meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Van, City Clerk