

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 AT 11:00 A.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

MAYOR: Louie A. Trujillo

COUNCILORS: David G. Romero ***Absent***
Barbara Casey
Michael L. Montoya
David Ulibarri

ALSO PRESENT: Leo Maestas, City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Caleb Marquez, Sergeant at Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Trujillo called the meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Trujillo asked for a moment to thank everyone for their hard work and also thanked City Clerk Fresquez, City Manager Maestas, Community Development Director Marquez, Interim Police Chief Marquez and HR Director Arguello for doing a great job.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
David Ulibarri	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the minutes from October 11, 2023. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Abstained
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Montoya commended Community Services Director Wanda Salazar for making sure that they didn't lose the funding for the Senior Center Parking Lot project.

PRESENTATIONS

Executive Director Michael Peranteau with MainStreet de Las Vegas' provided their FY 2023-24 Quarterly Report. Mr. Peranteau discussed the Transformation Strategy of the Great Blocks project, Economic Report regarding businesses that have closed (Popular Dry Goods, Blowin' in the Wind, Stella's and For the Love of Vinyl) one new business that opened (Casa de Musica) and one building that was sold (Wells Fargo on E. Lincoln), Trash Pick-Up (November 11th at the Riverwalk) and an update on the CityWide Mural project (Ward 2 completed by the end of October, Ward 4 started, Wards 1 & 3 will start in the Spring of 2024).

Councilor Montoya asked if Councilor Romero was involved in the mural in his Ward and if he was okay with it.

Mr. Peranteau advised yes, Councilor Romero was aware of what's going on with the mural in his Ward.

Councilor Montoya asked where they were at regarding the lighting for the mural on Legion.

City Manager Maestas advised that once they are finished with the project they would install the lights quickly.

Councilor Montoya asked if they are putting a sealer on the mural.

Mr. Peranteau advised that they would be putting a clear varnish to preserve it.

Mr. Peranteau discussed assisting the City of Las Vegas at the Trunk or Treat on October 28th and helped the City and the Urban Land Institute organize a Housing Summit on September 13th.

Councilor Montoya asked that they provide Community Development Director Marquez with the report and housing assessment from the Housing Summit.

Mr. Peranteau discussed the Recovery Month event that took place in September, NM MainStreet Service Requests and NM MainStreet de Las Vegas annual Gala.

Mayor Trujillo asked if MainStreets goals had been met for the quarter.

Mr. Peranteau advised yes, his report is based on the contract.

Councilor Casey asked if they collaborate with the Small Business Development Center at Luna.

Mr. Peranteau advised yes and advised that seven businesses would be closing in Las Vegas.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Discussion and Approval of the Samaritan House contract.

Mayor Trujillo asked if the City Attorney reviewed and approved the contract.

City Manager Maestas advised yes.

Community Development Director Marquez advised that they went off the old contract from the prior year and added a couple of things that they thought fit within the parameters of the contract.

Councilor Montoya advised that he asked last year for a copy of the liability insurance be attached when approving the contract and a full disclosure be given to them. Councilor Montoya advised that they had received a full disclosure regarding all the benefits the non profit organization obtains from different sources and a detailed salary schedule from all those who are employed by the non profit organization. Councilor Montoya advised those should be included as part of their contract every year. Councilor Montoya advised that he had a recommendation for Mr. Lyon to meet with the City Manager after April to discuss his requests prior to them approving the budget in July.

Community Development Director Marquez advised that he did look into the RFP process in regards to the amount of \$60,000 and stated that they aren't allowed to give \$60,000 without going out for a request for proposal. Community Development Director Marquez advised that \$50,000 is budgeted for the Samaritan House. Community Development Director Marquez advised he did research other Samaritan Houses and Shelters and found that donations were between \$20,000 and \$50,000. Community Development Director Marquez advised that the City of Las Vegas was on the higher end of the donation scale.

Councilor Montoya asked how many citizens and County residents they serve.

Mr. Lyon advised he did not have that information.

Councilor Montoya asked if Mr. Lyon asked the County for this year's contributions.

Mr. Lyon advised not yet.

Councilor Montoya asked how much they would be asking the County for.

Mr. Lyon advised the same amount as the City.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the Samaritan House contract.

Mr. Lyon advised that the contract was modified by the City and stated there were things added and not taken out. Mr. Lyon advised that a Day Service Program was added, which is a whole different program, involving other providers. Mr. Lyon advised that the contract was for \$10,000 less than what they asked for and it's \$30 per day per person for two meals, a bunk, clothing, shoes, sanitation, showers and laundry.

Councilor Montoya advised that the City of Las Vegas should be providing food and services, not salaries, electricity or phone bills. Councilor Montoya asked if they had a budget they abide by.

Mr. Lyon advised yes.

Councilor Montoya advised that the City of Las Vegas also has a budget they have to abide by.

Mayor Trujillo advised there was a motion on the floor.

Mr. Lyon advised he still had issues with the contract, they had struck out the zoom meetings because the public wasn't participating. Mr. Lyon advised that it takes the City about 60 days to pay them so they asked to get the first disbursement upfront immediately. Mr. Lyon advised that they would be hiring professional Social Workers.

Councilor Montoya asked if Mr. Lyon had referred people from the shelter to work at the City of Las Vegas.

Mr. Lyon advised that they send them to the Workforce since they have job training programs.

Discussion took place regarding the salary for employees at the Samaritan House.

Community Development Director Marquez discussed why the prepayment was struck from the contract. Community Development Director Marquez advised that the City can't pay for services that haven't been rendered. Community Development Director Marquez advised that the Samaritan House should have money to be able to function and shouldn't be dependent on the City.

Mr. Lyon advised that the City's donation is 10% of their total budget and they do have the opportunity to operate. Mr. Lyon advised that they had added a 10% penalty for late payment over 30 days in the contract.

Community Development Director Marquez advised that language for the 10% penalty for late payments was struck out.

Mayor Trujillo advised there was a motion on the floor by Councilor Casey. Mayor Trujillo asked for a second.

Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

City Manager Maestas advised that they would work closely with Mr. Lyon on when he invoices the City to make sure payment is expedited.

Mr. Lyon advised that he did not want to seem arrogant, but there were fundamental changes throughout the contract that were made and the contract was given to him yesterday. Mr. Lyon advised that they added Day Services without additional fees and \$10,000 less, which they cannot have a Day Services Program because they can't afford to operate. Mr. Lyon advised there was also an expansion of the hours and extension of the amount of days.

Mayor Trujillo advised that the Samaritan House had some money that was left over from last year and Mr. Lyon asked if it could be used for Day Services. Mayor Trujillo advised that was one of the reasons why he wanted Day Services added to the contract.

Mr. Lyon advised that Day Services would require a salary cost for staff to stay longer.

Mayor Trujillo asked even though Council approved the contract, is it highly unlikely that Mr. Lyon will sign the contract.

Mr. Lyon advised that they appreciated the money but they need Social Workers and they want to get people off the street and provide more. Mr. Lyon advised that they could strictly be limited to Emergency Shelter Services but Day Services wouldn't be included.

Mayor Trujillo asked Mr. Lyon to write his concerns down and share them with the Governing Body. Mayor Trujillo advised if they need to bring the contract back to amend it they could do that.

EXECUTIVE SESSION


There was no need for executive session.

ADJOURN

Councilor Casey made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. All were in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised that the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM.



Mayor David G. Romero

ATTEST:


Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk