MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2022 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

MAYOR: Louie A. Trujillo *Absent*

COUNCILORS: David G. Romero
Barbara Casey- Mayor Pro-Tem
Michael L. Montoya
David Ulibarri

ALSO PRESENT: April Gonzales, Deputy City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Antonio Salazar, Sergeant at Arms

Due to equipment failure, the Special City Council meeting was not recorded or streamed on Youtube.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Casey called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Pro Tem Casey asked that everyone keep Marcario Gonzales in their prayers for a quick recovery as he was recently hospitalized.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion. All were in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the minutes from November 9, and November 16, 2022. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion. All were in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Public Input and Discussion regarding the Samaritan House.

City Clerk Fresquez read public input that was sent to Mayor Trujillo via email from Ms. Diana Appleby who was strongly opposed to further funding the Samaritan House as the facility is a health and safety risk to the neighborhood.

Councilor Romero made a motion to recess due to technical difficulties at 5:35 pm. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. All were in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Romero made a motion to reconvene into regular session at 6:00 pm. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. All were in favor.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

City Clerk Fresquez read public input that was sent via email from Ms. Mary Romero who had many concerns that the Samaritan House would go back to the same business as usual which she stated was a living nightmare.

Pastor Mark Saiz spoke on behalf of the Samaritan House advising the Board has revised their rules and policies, has cut down on staff and stated that there are about 12-15 local homeless people at any given time that can be fed and housed and a lot of the others that are from other cities and states.

RaeDawn Price and Jess Price both spoke about their concerns as business owners for the safety of the public and all the issues that need to be addressed in order to provide a safe environment for the community.

Philip Martinez stated that although there are many issues that need to be addressed by the Samaritan House, the need to provide shelter for the homeless is crucial.

Pastor Paul was in agreement with Pastor Saiz that there are various issues that need to be addressed and the Board is revising their policies in order to address the community's concerns.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the safety of the residents and business owners as well as the needs of the homeless.

A call for service report was provided by Police Chief Salazar to show the reduction in calls from the time the Samaritan House stopped providing overnight shelter for the homeless.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Consideration/Direction regarding funding for the Samaritan House.

After much discussion, Council gave direction requesting that City Manager Maestas and Deputy City Manager Gonzales meet with Samaritan House Board members to agree on a contract that would be submitted to the Council for consideration at their next regular meeting on December 14, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for executive session.

ADJOURN

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

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Mayor Louie A. Trujillo

ATTEST:

Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk