

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
MINUTES – STUDY SESSION
November 17, 2015
2:30 p.m.
City Council Chamber**

PRESENT: Mayor Gold
Vice Mayor Mirisch
Councilmember Brien
Councilmember Bosse
Councilmember Krasne
Mahdi Aluzri, City Manager
David Snow, Interim City Attorney
Byron Pope, City Clerk
Brad Meyerowitz, Recreation Services Manager
Trish Rhay, Assistant Director of Public Works Services/Infrastructure and Field Operations
Michelle Tse, Planning and Research Analyst
Cheryl Friedling, Deputy City Manager for Public Affairs

ABSENT: None

The City Council Study Session was held in the Council Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

A – DIRECTION

1. City Council Meeting Dates from January Through April 2016

This item schedules the upcoming City Council Meeting dates from January through April 2016.

City Clerk Byron Pope asked City Council to provide their comments and confirm their availability on the proposed City Council meeting dates. Mayor Gold asked Council to also discuss separating the City Council election of Mayor and Vice Mayor from the City Council installation ceremony.

Council agreed to the proposed meeting dates and to hold the City Council election of Mayor and Vice Mayor at the February 16, 2016 City Council Formal meeting.

2. Jewish National Fund Request for Co-Sponsorship and Usage of the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Staff seeks direction on request from the Jewish National Fund for City Co-sponsorship of a Water Summit event, proposed to be held in the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts on March 2, 2016.

Recreation Services Manager Brad Meyerowitz discussed the City's current lease with the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts (WACPA), provided details on the Jewish National Fund's (JNF) event then asked for Council direction on JNF's request for City co-sponsorship. He introduced Board Member of the Los Angeles chapter of the Jewish National

Fund Gina Raphael who expressed appreciation to Council for their support and answered Council questions about anticipated attendance.

Council approved the request.

3. a. Tiered Water Rates Structure Presentation

This presentation presents a recommendation for potential modifications to the City's tiered water rates structure.

Assistant Director of Public Works Services/Infrastructure and Field Operations Trish Rhay provided a background, discussed the guiding principles for the proposed structure, explained the proposed billing and briefly touched on the revenue requirements. She noted that the proposed tiered rate structure includes a rate increase and that it will be revenue neutral for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 but will need continuous future rate increases. Ms. Rhay introduced HF&H Consultants, LLC (HF&H) Senior Vice President John Farnkopf and Vice President Rick Simonson to present the remainder of the report. Mr. Farnkopf spoke on the rate-making methodology and discussed the analysis of the Cost of Service. Mr. Simonson spoke on the proposed quantity charges and bill impacts for Single-Family Residential Class, Multi-Family Residential Class and Commercial Class. He clarified that the Multi-Family Residential Class is on a per unit dwelling basis. Mr. Simonson also noted the recommendation to maintain the current service charges. Ms. Rhay discussed the next steps.

Public Works Commissioner Jeff Wolfe provided his feedback. Public Works Liaison Committee members Vice Mayor Mirisch and Councilmember Brien each provided their comments. Assistant Director of Administrative Services /Finance Noel Marquis spoke on the relationship between meters and billing. Mr. Aluzri clarified that the tiered water rates structure is used to identify the baseline rate which affects the penalty surcharge. Ms. Rhay added that penalty surcharges are currently in effect and that Tier 4 users will pay the suggested rate as well as any incurred surcharges.

Council supported the increase.

b. Conservation Program Update

This is a monthly report update regarding City's conservation efforts and programs.

Planning and Research Analyst Michelle Tse discussed recent events, reported on the City's water use reduction from May 2015 to October 2015, compared previous enforcement measures to the current approach then concluded with a review of the next steps.

Ms. Tse noted that the penalty surcharge is currently in effect and spoke on targeted outreach efforts. She clarified the trigger for termination of irrigation water supply and restriction of water supply through meters. Ms. Tse also briefly discussed the consideration of a 1-day per week watering schedule and an upcoming open house event for businesses.

Public Works Liaison Committee member Vice Mayor Mirisch did not have any comments. Councilmember Brien asked for clarification on the time allotment for the 1-day per week watering schedule.

4. Request to the City Council to Provide Funding for the Screening at the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts of a Historical Documentary on Beverly Hills by Mr. Phil Savenick

This item transmits Mr. Savenick's request for the City to utilize one of the City's no-cost space rentals at the Wallis, and for the City to underwrite all costs associated with this event.

Deputy City Manager for Public Affairs Cheryl Friedling presented a brief history on the item, discussed the fiscal impacts and requested Council approval. She noted that the January 7, 2016 date is available and that if approved, would be the first time Council would write off the hard costs for an event at the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts. She stated that costs are estimated between \$4,000 and \$10,000 dollars. Mr. Phil Savenick, producer of the documentary, thanked Council for their support and asserted his desire to honor the community with the event.

Ms. Friedling and Mr. Savenick answered questions about how the event will be marketed, how overflow will be addressed, hard costs and what the costs will cover. Councilmember Bosse asked how residents and establishments can support the event. City Manager Mahdi Aluzri noted that the Community Charitable Foundation would need to be contacted. Councilmember Krasne asked if it would be possible to air the event. Mr. Aluzri stated that the City's Cable Division would need to be consulted.

Councilmember Brien expressed his concern that underwriting the entirety of the event's costs may set a precedent. Vice Mayor Mirisch stated that underwriting costs for public benefit such as the proposed event is acceptable. Mayor Gold expressed concern about the range of the cost requested and asked staff to return to Council with specific cost estimates.

B – ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER (TIME PERMITTING)

None

C – INFORMATION

5. Extension of Parkway Landscaping Improvements Associated with the Olympic/Spalding Gateway Project

This item conveys staff's intent to extend parkway landscaping improvements along the north parkway of Olympic Boulevard from the recently constructed gateway improvement to Spalding Drive.

Item not discussed.

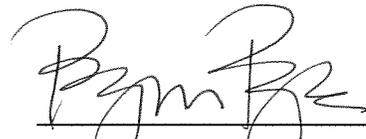
6. Fiber Optic Conduit Sharing with the Beverly Hills Unified School District

This item provides information related to the request from BHUSD to temporarily share fiber optic conduit along a segment of Moreno Drive to facilitate construction at the Beverly Hills High School.

Item not discussed.

The Study Session recessed at 4:36 pm to the Closed Session to discuss items that are identified on the agenda that has been prepared for the meeting.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted
this 1st day of December, 2015



BYRON POPE, City Clerk

JULIAN A. GOLD, M.D., MAYOR

This meeting was televised on City of Beverly Hills Municipal Government Television Access,
BHN/10, Time Warner Cable.