

STUDY SESSION MINUTES
March 1, 2016
2:30 p.m.
Council Chamber

PRESENT: Mayor Gold
 Vice Mayor Mirisch
 Councilmember Brien
 Councilmember Bosse
 Councilmember Krasne
 Mahdi Aluzri, City Manager
 George Chavez, Assistant City Manager
 Laurence Wiener, City Attorney
 Byron Pope, City Clerk
 Michelle Tse, Planning & Research Analyst
 Debby Figoni, Water Conservation Administrator
 Caitlin Sims, Senior Management Analyst
 Don Rhoads, Chief Financial Officer/Director of Administrative Services
 Aaron Kunz, Deputy Director of Transportation

A - DIRECTION

1. **Commission Reappointments (Cultural Heritage, Fine Art, Human Relations, Planning, Public Works, and Traffic and Parking)**
 The first terms of Cultural Heritage Commissioners Noah Furie, Rebecca Pynoos and Richard Waldow; Fine Art Commissioner Carolyn Hiller; Human Relations Commissioners Sonia Berman, Ori Blumenfeld, Jerald Friedman and Karen Popovich Levyn; Planning Commissioner Farshid Joe Shooshani; Public Works Commissioner Jerrold S. Felsenthal; and Traffic and Parking Commissioner Jacob Manaster are ending on June 30, 2016. They are eligible for reappointment to a second term of up to four years each and have submitted letters of interest to be reappointed.

 City Clerk Byron Pope presented the names of the commissioners who are eligible for reappointment beginning July 1, 2016. The Council will vote to approve the reappointments at the next Council Formal meeting on April 5, 2016.
2. **a. Conservation Program Update**
 First Agendized February 16, 2016
 This is the monthly report to highlight the City's overall conservation efforts and programs.

 Planning & Research Analyst Michelle Tse presented an update on the water conservation program and introduced the City's Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni, who spoke about use of the water tracker and encouraged residents to contact the Public Works Services department for assistance on meeting their conservation goals.

2. **b. Penalty Surcharge Framework**

First Agendized February 16, 2016

Staff will provide an update on the penalty surcharge framework related to excess water use.

Senior Management Analyst Caitlin Sims provided a brief history on the water penalty surcharge.

Chief Financial Officer/Director of Administrative Services Don Rhoads presented specific details about how the penalty surcharge is calculated based on water usage.

Speakers:

1. Andy Licht
2. Jake Manaster
3. Paul Bernstein

Councilmember Bosse requested information on how many people were affected by the increased penalty rate. Councilmember Krasne asked if the water bills could be changed to reflect water usage displayed as “gallons” instead of or alongside “units” so that people would have a clearer understanding of how much water they were using. Mayor Gold asked that staff return at a later date with answers to both questions.

Council was in favor of reducing the penalty surcharge rate, which will be voted on at tonight's Council Formal Meeting.

3. **Olympic/Beverly/Beverwil Intersection**

Discussion of next steps of potential improvements to the intersection.

Deputy Director of Transportation Aaron Kunz, along with traffic consultant Jaimee Bourgeois, presented details of a study regarding improvements to the Olympic Boulevard / Beverly Drive / Beverwil Drive intersection. The findings were previously presented at the November 16, 2015 Traffic & Parking Commission meeting and several scenarios were recommended that were designed with the goal of improving safety.

Speakers:

1. Antonio Coco
2. Paul Bernstein
3. Philip Brown
4. John Paulder
5. Christine Skirmuntt Ford

The Council consensus was to move forward with a plan referred to as “C-Modified”, which would add a left turn phase for northbound traffic on Beverly Drive turning onto westbound Olympic Boulevard.

4. **Fiscal Year 2015/16 Mid-Year Budget Status Report**
Staff will report on the status of City's revenues and expenditures through December 2015 and on the current available General Fund ending balance.

Item not discussed.

5. **Review of Pension and Retiree Medical Unfunded Liabilities and Options for Reducing These Liabilities**
Staff will provide an update on the status of the City's unfunded liabilities for both the pension and retiree medical ("Other Post-employment Benefits" or OPEB) programs, and ask for direction on the establishment of an irrevocable trust to manage these liabilities.

Item not discussed.

B - ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER (TIME PERMITTING)

None

C - INFORMATION

6. **LA Lawyers Philharmonic Request for Usage of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences' Samuel Goldwyn Theater**
The LA Lawyers Philharmonic has requested usage of the Academy's Samuel Goldwyn Theater for a free community concert on Thursday, March 24, 2016.

Item not discussed.

7. **Special Events Scheduled for April and May 2016:**
– **El Rodeo Fun Run on April 6 – Adjacent to School**
– **Young Presidents' Organization Block Party on May 11 – 300 Block of North Rodeo Drive**
Provides information regarding an El Rodeo Fun Run on April 6, located adjacent to the school, and a Young Presidents' Organization Block Party on May 11 on the 300 Block of North Rodeo Drive.

Item not discussed.

8. **The Massry Prize Ceremony**
Provides information regarding a City co-sponsored program entitled the Massry Prize Ceremony proposed for Saturday, October 22 in the Beverly Hills Council Chambers.

Item not discussed.

9. **2016 Beverly Hills Homeless Count Results**
City sees decline in homeless population.

Item not discussed

The Study Session recessed at 4:53 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 5th day of April, 2016



BYRON POPE, City Clerk

JOHN A. MIRISCH, Mayor

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