

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
MINUTES – STUDY SESSION
June 21, 2016
2:30 p.m.
City Council Chamber**

PRESENT: Mayor Mirisch
Vice Mayor Krasne
Councilmember Bosse
Councilmember Gold
Councilmember Reims
Mahdi Aluzri, City Manager
George Chavez, Assistant City Manager
Laurence Wiener, City Attorney
Kevin Kearney, Senior Management Analyst
Trish Rhay, Assistant Director of Public Works Services / Infrastructure and Field Operations
Michelle Tse, Planning & Research Analyst
Debby Figoni, Water Conservation Administrator
Don Rhoads, Chief Financial Officer/Director of Administrative Services
Cheryl Friedling, Deputy City Manager for Public Affairs
Mark Cuneo, City Engineer

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Speaking:

1. Mike Konle
2. Steve Mayer
3. Lionel Ephraim

A - DIRECTION

1. A Request by Councilmember Gold to Review City Council Ad Hoc Committees

First Agendized June 6, 2016

This report transmits a request by Councilmember Gold for City Council discussion of the role of the ad hoc committees in reviewing policy matters and making recommendations to Council.

Senior Management Analyst Kevin Kearney explained the structure of an Ad Hoc Committee and the differences between them and other City Council Committees.

Councilmember Gold cited that the potential inefficiency of an Ad Hoc meeting was highlighted during the recent search for an investigator where the efforts of the Ad Hoc Committee were subsequently duplicated by two additional Councilmembers.

Councilmember Gold was not opposed to eliminating Ad Hoc Committees but was open to keeping them if the Council was given the opportunity to promote items other Councilmembers wished to bring to the full Council rather than having two sets of Councilmembers working separately on the same item at two different times.

The other Councilmembers expressed their support for continuing the Ad Hoc system as it is presently constructed, but with the option for bringing an item to the full Council if they chose to.

2. a. Proposed Water Conservation Target for Submittal to State Water Resources Control Board and Next Steps

Staff seeks Council direction regarding proposed self-certified water conservation target that needs to be submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board by June 22, 2016. Additionally, staff will provide an update regarding the City's conservation policy and programs.

Trish Rhay, Assistant Director of Public Works Services – Infrastructure and Field Operations recapped the events that have led to the current state of the drought. She said the City has begun to take a long-term approach to water conservation as opposed to solely focusing on meeting a designated percentage of water use reduction.

Planning & Research Analyst Michelle Tse outlined the new regulations from the State Water Board regarding water conservation and the City's efforts to comply.

Water Conservation Administrator Debby Figoni responded to a question from Councilmember Reims regarding water auditing, noting that residents, business owners and professional landscapers are all subject to water audits.

Councilmembers were concerned that setting a conservation goal lower than what had already been achieved would send the message to the Community that water conservation was no longer as important as it recently had been. The Council agreed that at minimum the same level of conservation needs to be upheld going forward.

2. b. Proposal to Suspend Water Penalty Surcharge Assessments

Staff seeks Council direction regarding proposal to eliminate water penalty surcharge assessments given the State Water Resources Control Board's May 18, 2016 water conservation regulations.

Planning & Research Analyst Michelle Tse reviewed the origin of the City's water penalty surcharge and the intent of its implementation in November 2015.

Chief Financial Officer/Director of Administrative Services Don Rhoads reviewed the financial analysis of a comparison between the penalty surcharge program and a fee and fine system.

Council directed staff to suspend the penalty surcharges while a new fee and fine structure was devised and implemented at a later time.

3. Request by Mayor Mirisch to Add a Nameplate Recognizing Will Rogers as Honorary Mayor of Beverly Hills to the "Recognition and Appreciation" Wall Listing of Beverly Hills Mayors in the City Hall Rotunda

This item requests that Honorary Mayor Will Rogers' name be added to the nameplate wall in recognition of his term as 'honorary mayor.'

Deputy City Manager for Public Affairs Cheryl Friedling presented a brief summary of Will Rogers' career.

Councilmember Mirisch spoke about Mr. Rogers' importance to the City of Beverly Hills and why he believed he was deserving of the honor.

All Councilmembers agreed that staff should move forward with the honor, with Councilmember Krasne suggesting that a famous quote of his be included along with the nameplate.

4. Request by Vice-Mayor Krasne for Consideration of a Citywide Utility Undergrounding Program

This item provides the findings of preliminary research into developing a citywide program for undergrounding overhead utilities

City Engineer Mark Cuneo presented preliminary information regarding undergrounding City utilities. Benefits would be aesthetic as well as an improvement in utility reliability, while drawbacks would include the initial cost and impaired troubleshooting ability in the event of malfunctions.

The Councilmembers directed staff to explore having a feasibility study conducted about such a project before they could make any further recommendations.

5. Electric Vehicle Charging Policy

This report provides information and seeks City Council direction on new and more comprehensive policies related to the City's Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations.

Item not discussed.

6. Request by Mayor Mirisch to Discuss Establishing an Ordinance that Would Prohibit Buildings from Being Demolished Prior to Approval of a Replacement Project for the Site

At the City Council's June 6, 2016 meeting, a member of the public requested that the City adopt an ordinance that would prohibit buildings from being demolished prior to approval of a replacement project for the site. Based on the comments received, the mayor requested that the item be placed on the agenda for discussion.

Item not discussed.

B – ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER (TIME PERMITTING)

None

C - INFORMATION

7. Taxicab Franchise Annual Update

Staff will provide a report on the first year of the Taxi Franchise System.

Item not discussed.

8. North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project

Summary of next steps.

Item not discussed.

9. Beverly Hills Bike Share Pilot Program – Station Installations

Provides Traffic & Parking Commission recommendations for bike share station locations.

Item not discussed.

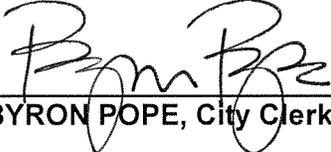
10. Southern California Edison Summer Energy Forecast

Report provides information on the summer energy forecast, the potential for rotating outages, and information on conservation and City planning efforts.

Item not discussed.

The Study Session recessed at 5:14 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 July, 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.