The Irwindale CITY COUNCIL met in regular session, beginning at the above time and place.

**ROLL CALL:**
Present: Councilmembers Mark A. Breceda, Manuel R. Garcia, H. Manuel Ortiz; Mayor Pro Tem Albert F. Ambriz; Mayor Larry G. Burrola

Present: Julian A. Miranda, City Manager; Theresa Olivares, Assistant City Manager; Adrian Guerra, City Attorney; Ty Henshaw, Chief of Police; Arsanious Hanna, Director of Engineering / Building Official; Jeanette Duran, Interim Director of Finance / City Treasurer; Marilyn Simpson, Community Development Director; Mary Hull, Human Resources Manager, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Public Services Director; Jeff Wagner, Information Technology Manager; Iris Espino, Assistant to the City Manager; and Laura Nieto, Chief Deputy City Clerk

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**
None.

**COUNCILMEMBER TRAVEL REPORTS**
None.

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**
None.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES / PROMOTIONS**
None.

**PROCLAMATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / COMMENDATIONS**

PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING MARCH AS RED CROSS MONTH

The proclamation was presented.

**SPONTANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS**

**CARMEN ROMAN**
Carmen Roman submitted a written comment wherein she questioned whether the staff reclassifications referenced in the mid-year financial review could wait until the fiscal year 22/23 budget is presented.

**MEGAN ZEPEDA**
Megan Zepeda complained about the measures that the city has taken to allow for hybrid meetings.
DAVID REYNOSO

David Reynoso, Chief of Operations for Absolute International Security, thanked city officials for attending the business’ grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony and invited residents of Irwindale to apply for open security guard positions.

FRED BARBOSA

Fred Barbosa spoke on his admiration of the city’s response to a lawsuit filed against the city by Five Points LLC.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

A motion was made by Councilmember Breceda, seconded by Councilmember Garcia, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was unanimously approved.

ITEM NO. 1A

MINUTES

The following minutes were approved:

1) Special meeting held February 9, 2022
2) Regular meeting held February 9, 2022
3) Special meeting held February 23, 2022
4) Regular meeting held February 23, 2022

ITEM NO. 1B

WARRANTS / DEMANDS / PAYROLL

The warrants / demands / payroll were approved.

ITEM NO. 1C

A RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY REGARDING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Resolution No. 2022-23-3273, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRWINDALE, CALIFORNIA, EXTENDING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC WITHIN THE CITY OF IRWINDALE PURSUANT TO IRWINDALE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2.44,” was adopted.

ITEM NO. 1D

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2022-19-3269
APPROVING A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT FOR SUCCESSOR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE IRWINDALE CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (ICEA)
Resolution No. 2022-19-3269, entitled:


Resolution No. 2022-22-3272, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRWINDALE, FINDING THAT THE PUBLIC PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED BY APPROVING A REIMBURSEMENT TO MR. LAWRENCE CERVANTES FOR THE COSTS INCURRED IN REPAIRING THE DRIVEWAY APPROACH FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 16008 MARTINEZ STREET, AND APPROPRIATING MONIES FROM THE GENERAL FUND RESERVE BALANCE,” was adopted.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM NO. 2A MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENTS TO THE FY 2021-2022 BUDGET (Joint Item on Housing Authority)
INTERIM DIRECTOR DURAN

Interim Director Duran presented the report and made a PowerPoint presentation.

CARMEN ROMAN

Carmen Roman complained since she believed that programs for residents are being proposed for budget cuts.

FRED BARBOSA

Fred Barbosa stated his belief that the city is draining its mining fund.

SUZANNE GOMEZ

Suzanne Gomez asked questions about the mining fund and encouraged the Council to be responsible stewards of the city’s funds.

DISCUSSION HELD

Discussion was held relating to increased residential waste costs and the related negotiations between staff and Athens, the deferral of capital improvement projects to FY 22/23, the need for staff reclassifications/new hires as listed in the report as well as their related costs, the costs of the COVID-19 test kits that Irwindale residents may receive through the city’s Resident ID Card program, the need for two new vehicles for the Community Development Department, the costs of pool repairs and equipment, the citywide ADA sidewalk survey, the need for street signage with and without lights, current staff support for housing programs in the Community Development Department,

MAYOR PRO TEM AMBRIZ

Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz suggested that the Community Development Department purchase only one new vehicle, instead of the two that were requested. He also spoke against approving the Communications Specialist reclassification at this time, but supported the rest of the requested reclassifications and the new positions, and spoke on the need to support city departments and provide them with what is needed so that they may fulfill the increasing demands placed on them by the Council, for the betterment and safety of the community.

COUNCILMEMBER GARCIA

Councilmember Garcia suggested that staff look into purchasing electric vehicles in the future.

COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ

Councilmember Ortiz opposed the Senior Finance Analyst, Police Captain, and Benefits Administrator reclassifications, and suggested that the Senior Finance Analyst position be filled once a permanent Finance Director if hired. He supported filling the Housing Coordinator and Housing Office Specialist positions.

MAYOR BURROLA

Mayor Burrola spoke on the projected budget deficit, current world events and their impacts, noted that the FY 22/23 budget will be considered in the near future, and spoke on the need to spend conservatively.

As requested by Mayor Burrola, Manager Hull clarified the costs and duties related to the proposed staffing reclassifications and new hires,
and Director Rodriguez discussed the duties of the proposed Senior Bus Driver position.

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Mayor Burrola to postpone the proposed staffing reclassifications and the new hires, with the exception of the Housing Coordinator and Housing Office Specialist positions. The motion died due to a lack of a second.

**CARMEN ROMAN**

Carmen Roman concurred with Mayor Burrola and Councilmember Ortiz, stated that the reclassification requested by Director Rodriguez should be approved, and suggested that the rest of the reclassifications and new hires be postponed until the budget for the upcoming fiscal year is considered.

**DENA ZEPEDA**

Dena Zepeda complained that the staffing reclassifications and new hires are being considered again. She did, however, speak in favor of approving the Housing Coordinator position.

**FRED BARBOSA**

Fred Barbosa spoke negatively regarding the reclassification process his sister underwent.

**COUNCILMEMBER BRECEDA**

Councilmember Breceda advised that the city has a reserve fund available to use when needed, such as the present circumstances.

**COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ**

Councilmember Ortiz said he is opposed to approving the Police Captain, Senior Finance Analyst, and Communications Specialist positions, but would be supportive of approving the other positions, which would cost approximately $20,000 for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

**MAYOR BURROLA**

Mayor Burrola requested that staff no longer request a reclassification of the Police Lieutenant to Captain.

**MOTION**

A motion was made by Mayor Burrola to postpone consideration of the Assistant Engineer and Senior Bus Driver reclassifications and the new Senior Finance Analyst position until the budget for the new fiscal year is considered, and approve the Senior Center Leader reclassification, and the new Housing Coordinator and Housing Office Specialist positions.

**COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ**

Councilmember Ortiz seconded the above-mentioned motion, and added that “the title of Captain to Lieutenant” be changed.

**ROLL CALL**

The motion failed, with Councilmembers Breceda, Garcia, and Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz opposed, and Mayor Burrola and Councilmember Ortiz in favor.
MAYOR PRO TEM AMBRIZ

Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz suggested voting on each staffing and one-time budget requests individually.

Lieutenant to Captain: Breceda, Garcia, and Ambriz in favor; Ortiz and Burrola opposed

Senior HR/Risk Management Analyst to Benefits Administrator: Breceda, Garcia, and Ambriz in favor; Ortiz and Burrola opposed

Office Specialist to Communications Specialist: unanimously approved

Departmental Aide to Senior Center Leader: unanimously approved

Bus Driver to Senior Bus Driver: Breceda, Garcia, Ortiz, and Ambriz in favor; Burrola opposed

Police Records Clerk to Police Records Clerk / Dispatcher: Breceda, Garcia, and Ambriz in favor; Ortiz abstained; Burrola opposed

Engineering Technician to Assistant Engineer: unanimously approved

Senior Finance Analyst: Breceda, Garcia, and Ambriz in favor; Ortiz and Burrola opposed

Housing Coordinator: unanimously approved

Housing Office Specialist: unanimously approved

Aquatics Pool Equipment Repairs: unanimously approved

Two vehicles for Community Development: Breceda, Garcia, Ortiz, and Burrola in favor; Ambriz opposed (suggested only one vehicle),

Engineering Capital Improvement Program Signage with lights: unanimously approved (Ortiz and Burrola suggested no lights)

Engineering Capital Improvement Program Citywide ADA Sidewalk Survey: unanimously approved

Engineering Left Turn Phasing, Arrow & Vincent Traffic Signal: unanimously approved

MOTION

A motion was made by Councilmember Ortiz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz, to defer the following Capital Improvement Projects to Fiscal Year 22/23: Recreation/Library Building Improvements, Irwindale Park Phase IIB, Irwindale Police Station, Our Lady of Guadalupe Capital Improvements. The motion was unanimously approved.
MOTION

A motion was made by Councilmember Breceda, seconded by Councilmember Ortiz, to approve all the expenditure budget requests listed in the staff report, noting that the Residential Waste item was reduced from $85,000 to $70,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-15-3265

Resolution No. 2022-15-3265, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRWINDALE AND THE IRWINDALE HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD APPROVING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022,” was passed, approved, and adopted, with the adjustments noted above, on the motion of Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz, seconded by Councilmember Breceda, and unanimously approved.

RECESS

At 8:40, the City Council took a short recess.

RECONVENE

At 8:49 p.m., the City Council reconvened with all members present.

ITEM NO. 2B

FIREWORKS SALES IN THE CITY OF IRWINDALE

CITY MANAGER

Miranda presented the staff report.

COUNCILMEMBER

GARCIA

Councilmember Garcia suggested that the Council consider allowing one additional non-profit organization to sell fireworks at one other location within city limits, and that the Municipal Code be revised to reflect this update and that the 1-year minimum period stipulated in the Municipal Code be waived. He suggested that Northview High School be considered for this change, as many Irwindale residents currently attend or have attended the school.

COUNCILMEMBER

ORTIZ

Responding to a question by Councilmember Ortiz, Councilmember Garcia suggested that the Northview High School sports programs benefit from this provision. Councilmember Ortiz supported the suggestion.

MOTION

A motion was made by Councilmember Breceda to approve allowing one additional non-profit organization to sell fireworks at one other location within city limits, and that the Municipal Code be revised to reflect this update and that the 1-year minimum period stipulated in the Municipal Code be waived, for the benefit of the Northview High School sports programs.
COUNCILMEMBER GARCIA  Councilmember Garcia noted that the TNT Corporation would be happy to assist the Northview High School sports program meet the requirements to sell fireworks for their fundraisers.

MARCEL PEREZ  Marcel Perez, Teacher and Coach at Northview High School, spoke in support of allowing Northview High School sell fireworks to raise funds for its numerous sports programs.

LINDA MAREZ  Linda Marez also spoke in support of the request, noting the important role that sports programs have in keeping children on the right path.

MAYOR PRO TEM AMBRIZ  Responding to a question by Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz, Mr. Perez indicated that the funds raised through the fireworks sales would benefit all of Northview High School’s sports programs.

ROLL CALL  The above-mentioned motion was seconded by Councilmember Ortiz and unanimously approved upon roll call.

ITEM NO. 2C RENT CONTROL MEASURES  RENT CONTROL MEASURES

CITY ATTORNEY GUERRA  City Attorney Guerra presented the staff report.

MAYOR PRO TEM AMBRIZ  Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz noted that he requested this report mainly as a way to prevent renters from being evicted from their homes due to hardships created during the pandemic, and that he was not interested in implementing rent control.

COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ  In reply to several questions by Councilmember Ortiz, City Attorney Guerra advised that: 1) rent control measures would more likely be seen implemented in larger cities, 2) rent disputes are typically matters to be resolved between tenants and property owners, and that the state would typically not become involved, and 3) cities that have rent control measures may become involved in tenant/landlord disputes.

Councilmember Ortiz stated his belief that a need to consider further action beyond what Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz requested seems to exist.

MAYOR BURROLA  Replying to several questions by Mayor Burrola, City Attorney Guerra advised that: 1) the state has previously adopted regulations to prohibit evictions based on non-payment of rent if tenants could demonstrate that their inability to pay was due to COVID-19, and that the state may pay a portion of the rent under those conditions. However, he was unsure if these types of programs remain available at this point, 2) tenants in need of assistance can reach out to the state, and 3) he could look into whether the County has an eviction
A motion was made by Councilmember Garcia, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz, to receive and file the report. The motion was unanimously approved.

City Manager Miranda, Assistant City Manager Olivares, and Councilmembers Breceda and Garcia all declared potential conflicts of interest with this item, recused themselves from participating in the discussion, and exited the Council Chambers.

City Librarian Balli made a PowerPoint presentation and presented the staff report.

Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz noted the need to develop a stand-alone Library, and spoke in support of placing the new Library to the west of the existing Library, in the existing grassy area. He then expressed concern regarding the availability of parking for the new building, to which Librarian Balli advised that, once the site for the Library is determined, staff would work with the architect to address parking issues.

Director Hanna concurred with Librarian Balli, and added that the size of the Library building would also factor into the amount of parking stalls that would be developed. He advised that staff will request that the architect provide schematics for presentation and input from the Parks & Recreation Commission, Librarian Balli, the community, and finally from the City Council.

Director Hanna concurred with Librarian Balli, and added that the size of the Library building would also factor into the amount of parking stalls that would be developed. He advised that staff will request that the architect provide schematics for presentation and input from the Parks & Recreation Commission, Librarian Balli, the community, and finally from the City Council.

Replying to a question by Councilmember Ortiz, Director Hanna advised that the exact size of the building has yet to be determined, though staff would try to keep it below 9,000 square feet, and is debating whether it should be one or two stories high.

Councilmember Ortiz noted that it had previously been suggested that the Library be placed at the 10-acre site in order to provide plenty of space for the building and parking, although doing so would place it away from the city's hub at City Hall. He noted, however, that the Parks & Recreation Commission and staff support developing the new Library to the west of the existing Library.
In response to a question by Councilmember Ortiz, Librarian Balli advised that the 9,000 square foot Library would nearly triple the existing Library’s size of 3,200 square feet.

MAYOR PRO TEM AMBRIZ

Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz asked Librarian Balli what she would like to see, to which she indicated that staff agrees that the Library should be built to the west of the existing Library. She added that the site would first need to be selected before proceeding with the development of plans, including parking, and advised that staff will hold community workshops to determine the public’s wants and needs.

MAYOR BURROLA

Mayor Burrola requested that staff present options on what could be developed at the 10-acre site. He added that the new Library would also require additional staffing, equipment, books, and other items in order to fill it. He concurred that the Library should be located near City Hall and the gym, and requested that the public be invited to provide input.

MOTION

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz, seconded by Councilmember Ortiz, to select the grass area west of the existing Library as the site for the construction of a new standalone Library. The motion was unanimously approved; Councilmembers Breceda and Garcia absent.

ITEM NO. 2E LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (Verbal)

Assistant City Manager Olivares presented the report, wherein she advised that a total of 2,020 bills were introduced for the 2022 session between the Senate and the Assembly. Of these, the top legislative items related to drought response and water resilience, infrastructure, transportation, health care, COVID-19, and public safety. She added that the CA Contract Cities Association is also tracking 34 bills that include homeless encampments, anti-litter programs, affordable housing, increase housing density, ADU’s, solid and organic waste, land use and zoning, and open meetings / teleconferences. City staff is tracking these as well. Staff also prepared a letter of support for the Foothill Gold Line Budget request, per the approved Legislative Policy, and sent the letter to Governor Newsom. Staff has also been asked to monitor eight bills pertaining to COVID-19 on behalf of the Human Resources Department.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.
CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

CITY MANAGER MIRANDA

City Manager Miranda spoke on the County’s recent removal of its mask mandate, and advised that most City facilities no longer require facemasks from employees of members of the public. However, staff and the public must still wear masks while visiting the Recreation Department during KidZone and Tiny Tot program hours. He also provided details on Library and Recreation events, and noted that the Finance Department has received the “Operating Budget Excellence Award,” and acknowledged the efforts of each Finance Department staff member.

AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTED BY COUNCILMEMBERS

ITEM NO. 5A
MOTOR POLICE OFFICER (Requested by Councilmember Ortiz)

CHIEF HENSHAW

Chief Henshaw provided background information on the Motorcycle Officer program. He noted that the program was implemented to enforce traffic laws and reduce traffic accidents. In its first year, it achieved a 30% reduction in traffic accidents. He stated that adding another Motorcycle Officer would achieve fewer accidents. The fully burdened cost for another Motorcycle Officer would be $156,000 per year. He added that the Police Department has recently received a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety which would cover the $45,000 cost to purchase a new motorcycle.

COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ

Councilmember Ortiz noted that he requested this item since residents have raised concern over speeding motorists. He requested that this matter be addressed during FY 22/23 budget deliberations.

COUNCILMEMBER BRECEDA

Councilmember Breceda agreed that another Motorcycle Officer was needed, and suggested approving the position now.

MAYOR PRO TEM AMBRIZ

Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz also voiced his support of another Motorcycle Officer.

COUNCILMEMBER GARCIA

Councilmember Garcia noted that the additional Motorcycle Officer would not impact current minimum staffing levels. He also suggested looking into filling existing vacancies in the Police Department as a means of reducing overtime expenses.

MAYOR BURROLA

Mayor Burrola agreed that this should be discussed during the budget deliberations for the upcoming fiscal year.
**MOTION**

A motion was made by Councilmember Ortiz, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz, to include one additional Motorcycle Officer position to the FY 22/23 budget for consideration at a future meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

**ITEM NO. 5B**

**DISCUSSION REGARDING THE FORMATION OF A HOMELESS AD-HOC COMMITTEE (Requested by Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz)**

**MAYOR PRO TEM AMBRIZ**

Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz spoke on the activities of the ad hoc committee to address homelessness along the San Gabriel Riverbed, which City Manager Miranda, Assistant City Manager Olivares, Councilmember Ortiz, and he all participate in, along with representatives of local cities. He suggested creating another ad-hoc committee to discuss homelessness issues within Irwindale and to report these to the first ad hoc committee.

**DISCUSSION HELD**

Discussion was held relating to the objectives of the new ad hoc committee and who should participate in it.

**COUNCIL CONSENSUS**

Council consensus was reached for Mayor Burrola, Mayor Pro Tem Ambriz, City Manager Miranda, and Assistant City Manager Olivares form an ad hoc committee to discuss homelessness issues within the City of Irwindale.

**ITEM NO. 5C**

**5223 AND 5237 MORADA STREET — PUBLIC PARKING**

(Requested by Councilmember Ortiz)

**COUNCILMEMBER BRECEDA**

Councilmember Breceda declared a potential conflict of interest, recused himself from participating on this topic, and exited the Council Chambers.

**ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER OLIVARES**

Assistant City Manager Olivares presented the report. She advised that staff is working with Panattoni and Southern California Edison for the installation of an electric meter at the two sites. The installation would take place approximately 10 to 12 weeks after Edison receives the necessary application. Staff also seeks Council direction regarding the type of signage to be posted at the sites. The matter will be placed on a future Council agenda for further discussion.

**COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ**

Responding to a request by Councilmember Ortiz, Assistant City Manager Olivares advised that the lighting would not work solely off solar power.
Assistant City Manager Olivares added that Panattoni will pave the area and make certain improvements, and that the city would receive invoices for the power utilized at the sites, though Panattoni would reimburse the city for the costs of energy.

Mayor Burrola asked clarifying questions regarding the lighting at the sites, to which Assistant City Manager Olivares advised that the parking lot currently has lights.

Director Hanna added that the lights would have shields so that they do not bother nearby residences.

Assistant City Manager Olivares advised that the total number of lights and their design will be presented to the Council in April.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Laura M. Nieto, MMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk

Approved as submitted at the meeting held March 23, 2022.