



RESIDENT OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Minutes

City of Barstow Council Chambers
220 East Mountain View Street, Barstow, CA 92311

November 19, 2019
5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Leonard Williams called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: City Manager Nikki Salas, Assistant City Manager Cindy Prothro, Executive Assistant Christina Rudsell, Park and Recreation Superintendent Kyle Wooley, Economic Development Administrator Amanda Hernandez, Chairman Leonard Williams and Commissioners David Mendez, Barbara Rose and John Williams.

Absent: Commissioner Kimberly Johnson

3. Approval of Agenda

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Barbara Rose, Commissioner
SECONDER: John Williams, Commissioner
AYES: Mendez, Rose, J. Williams, L. Williams
ABSENT: Johnson

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Special Meeting – November 7, 2019

Discussion ensued about referring to the Resident Oversight Commission (ROC) meetings as Special Meetings versus Regular Meetings. City Manager Salas stated that clarification would be provided to the ROC.

Commissioner Rose recommended the meetings be classified as Regular Meetings unless occurring outside of their normal quarterly meeting times.

It was the consensus of the ROC to reference the first initials of Chairman Williams and Commissioner Williams throughout the minutes.

City Manager Salas asked that the typo on her title on the last paragraph of page 1 be corrected from Commissioner to City Manager.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Barbara Rose, Commissioner

SECONDER: John Williams, Commissioner

AYES: Mendez, Rose, Williams (John), Williams (Leonard)

ABSENT: Johnson

5. Ongoing Business

a. Financial Report – Fiscal Year 2018-2019 – 4th Quarter

Commissioner Rose asked Assistant City Manager Prothro for an explanation of the Financial Report Memorandum. Assistant City Manager Prothro discussed the revenue collected and the timeline of when the State of California remits payments to agencies versus when it is actually collected. She discussed the percentage retained by the State (.49% or 10,153.07 for the 4th Quarter of FY 18-19) which will be shown as an expenditure. Assistant City Manager Prothro also mentioned that the State has a not-to-exceed amount and a few more quarters need to pass in order to realistically project the amount retained by the State.

Commissioner Rose requested that staff provide the not-to-exceed figure from the State.

Commissioner Mendez asked for an explanation of the .4% Transfers and Unidentified amount listed on the financial report. Assistant City Manager Prothro stated that amount is likely nominal transfers and adjustments that occur outside of the reporting period along with adjustments to the County of San Bernardino pool amount.

Commissioner Rose requested that the rounding on the financial report's pie chart be corrected.

Chairman L. Williams asked if Measure Q's percentages collected by industry group are in line with other sales taxes collected by the City. Assistant City Manager Prothro state fuel is in line, autos will fluctuate and consumer goods will be affected by the County pool.

Commissioner Rose asked for a quarterly and eventually, annual, comparison of Measure Q sales tax data/trends.

6. New Business
 - a. None at this time.
7. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Rose thanked staff for following up on the financial report items requested by the ROC at their November 7, 2019 meeting. She also commended Chairman L. Williams for chairing the meeting and asked that staff not overlook any items requested by the ROC.

Commissioner J. Williams commented on how the City was doing great and exciting things with Measure Q. He discussed the importance of ensuring that any information that is provided to the community be accurate. He also suggested a Measure Q Facebook or online forum. Discussion ensued about an online forum versus providing updates through the City's website. City Manager Salas stated that the ROC is welcome to share information with the community, but cannot comment on each other's posts per Brown Act regulations.

Discussion ensued about comments from the public on the funding of certain positions over public safety positions. City Manager Salas stated that funding of all positions through Measure Q were brought to the City Council for approval.

Commissioner J. Williams emphasized the importance of the ROC being unified and correcting any misinformation about Measure Q.

Chairman L. Williams discussed how he provides the public with factual information based on clarification from City Manager Salas and Assistant City Manager Prothro. He stated that the ROC needs to be unified and not engage in any negativity.

Commissioner Rose encouraged the ROC to function within their parameters although they do have a right to voice their opinions as tax paying citizens.

Chairman L. Williams encouraged the ROC to reach out to City Manager Salas and commended her for being so responsive. He also stated that the Council has followed the Measure Q spending plan.

Commissioner Rose suggested that a cheat sheet be provided to the Chairperson and have the ROC review.

Commissioner Mendez discussed his engagement with the community about Measure Q and agreed with Commissioner J. Williams' suggestion about a Measure Q Facebook page although it does not have to be monitored. He also discussed how a Facebook page would allow staff to qualify any misinformation.

Commissioner Rose advised caution on having a Measure Q Facebook page and stated that she is opposed to the suggestion.

Commissioner Mendez stated that he is not resigning from the ROC and will give it a year. It is not what he anticipated and needs to understand it better in order to make a more informed decision.

8. Staff Comments

City Manager Salas discussed recent purchases of new and replacement technology for Police and Fire which was approved at the November 18, 2019 Council meeting. She also discussed recent issues with the Police Department recruitments and candidates not passing background checks, the academy, etc. She also discussed the Barstow Fire Protection District recruitments along with the funding of technology purchases/upgrades since it has been challenging to recruit staff.

Assistant City Manager Prothro discussed some of the challenges with Measure Q spending during the current fiscal year along with the tangible results.

Economic Development Administrator Hernandez stated that she is excited to start working with the Barstow community.

Executive Assistant Rudsell provided the ROC with an updated meeting schedule.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Wooley agreed with the Measure Q Facebook page if it is not run by the City. City Manager Salas stated she would look into the legalities of a Measure Q Facebook page.

9. Public Comment

None.

10. Suggested Items for the Next Agenda

1. Financial Report – Fiscal Year 2019-2020 – 1st Quarter
2. Recommendation to assign each Commissioner a specific area of interest
3. Measure Q Reporting Schedule
4. Select meeting dates/schedule

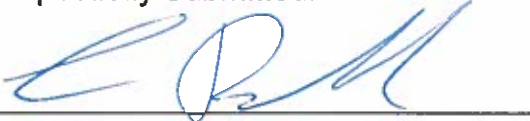
11. Next Meeting Date

December 19, 2019 at 5 pm

12. Adjourn

By consensus of the ROC, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Christina Rudsell
Executive Assistant

5-19-2020

Date

Approved:



Leonard Williams
Chairperson

5-19-2020

Date