



RESIDENT OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Minutes

City of Barstow Council Chambers
220 East Mountain View Street, Barstow, CA 92311
(Public comments conducted via teleconference due to the COVID1-19 crisis)

September 30, 2020
5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Leonard Williams called the meeting of the Resident Oversight Commission (ROC) to order at 5:10 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Leonard Williams	Chairman	Present	
Kimberly Johnson	Commissioner	Present	
Barbara Rose	Commissioner	Present	
John Williams	Commissioner	Present	
Vacant	Commissioner	Vacant	

3. Approval of Agenda

RESULT: APPROVED [4-0-1-0]
MOVER: Leonard Williams, Chairman
SECONDER: John Williams, Commissioner
AYES: Johnson, Rose, J. Williams, L. Williams,
ABSENT/VACANT: One

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting – June 24, 2020

Commissioner Rose asked about J. Williams's comment on Item 7 of the minutes regarding Commissioners speaking negatively about the ROC.

Commissioner J. Williams and Commissioner Rose concurred, that all members of the ROC should conduct themselves professionally.

RESULT: APPROVED [3-0-1-1]
MOVER: John Williams, Commissioner
SECONDER: Leonard Williams, Chairman
AYES: Johnson, J. Williams, L. Williams
ABSENT/VACANT: One
ABSTAIN: Rose

5. Ongoing Business

a. None

6. New Business

a. Financial Report – Fiscal Year 2019-2020 – 4th Quarter

Commissioner Rose asked about the status of the pie chart by service industry. Assistant City Manager Cindy Prothro stated that the pie chart will be available in December as there has been a delay in reporting from the State due to COVID-19.

Commissioner Rose asked about the issue with Home Depot not collecting the additional Measure Q sales tax. She also requested that the public be notified that Home Depot is not collecting enough sales tax.

City Manager Nikki Salas stated that staff will continue to follow-up with Home Depot to correct the issue. She also stated that it is not necessary to go public since Home Depot is working to correct and is still remitting the Measure Q portion to the City.

Commissioner J. Williams agreed that the City should follow-up on Home Depot charging the correct rate, but not send out a press release at this time.

Commissioner J. Williams stated that he will not approve any financial reports until there is a detailed breakdown of the cost allocation item starting with Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

City Manager Nikki Salas stated that more detailed information will be provided.

Commissioner J. Williams expressed concern with maintenance at the City's parks particularly Stringham Park.

City Manager Nikki Salas stated that maintenance staff have been reduced due to COVID-19 however any maintenance or safety issues will immediately be addressed with the appropriate department and staff.

RESULT: APPROVED [3-1-1-0]
MOVER: J. Williams, Commissioner
SECONDER: K. Johnson, Commissioner
AYES: Johnson, J. Williams, L. Williams
NO: Rose
ABSENT/VACANT: One

Commissioner Rose requested that the record state her opposition due to the lack of detail in the financial report.

b. Parks and Recreation Update

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Kyle Wooley provided an update on parks and recreation services. He discussed improvements funded by Measure Q which include new cheer mats and pool covers.

Chairman Williams asked about the status of new playground equipment.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Kyle Wooley stated that staff is working on obtaining quotes and also pursuing grant opportunities.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Kyle Wooley also discussed recent meetings among the local sports organizations and the success of the groups working together. He and Commissioner J. Williams also discussed the possibility of publicly recognizing the sports groups and volunteers.

7. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner J. Williams addressed rumors regarding the City's lack of support for the Fire Department. He stated that he did due diligence and the only item of concern is the generator at Station 3 and invited the rest of the ROC to visit the site with him. The other rumored items of concern are not accurate based on his discussions with Fire Department staff and management. He stressed the importance of not giving the public the impression that the ROC and City staff have turned their backs on the Fire Department.

Commissioner J. Williams also cited maintenance records verifying inaccurate misleading information that is being conveyed to the public.

Commissioner Johnson stated she enjoys being on the ROC, has learned a lot and joined to be a part of checks and balances. She asked the ROC to stay within the parameters of Measure Q when discussing and not to intermingle personal opinions. She stressed the importance of being mindful of what is said and how it is said because it affects the entire ROC.

Commissioner Rose stated that her understanding of the parameters of the ROC is not to review maintenance issues and deficiencies, but rather serve as a checks and balance. She thanked City Manager Nikki Salas for having the Battalion Chief and Police Chief speak at the last City Council meeting.

Commissioner Rose also requested clarification on the limitation and duties of the ROC especially when it comes to the messaging put out by the ROC. She would like to know what the agreed upon platform is for the ROC to communicate and report out on. She requested that the ROC be cognizant of their parameters and duties and be respectful of one another.

Chairman L. Williams stated that he was concerned that the financial report did not have enough information which is why he took the initiative to ask questions of staff and then relay to the public. He stated that he took the initiative because he saw no one else doing it and commended the ROC for also taking the initiative.

8. Staff Comments

City Manager Nikki Salas stated that the ROC and staff can work together to improve the reporting platform.

City Manager Nikki Salas also discussed the original intent of having a Measure Q workshop to discuss year two of the five-year plan and how the process stopped due to COVID-19. She mentioned that Measure Q and the City's budget will be reviewed in February as part of the budget mid-year review process. A Measure Q workshop will be scheduled after February depending on the COVID-19 crisis and where the City is at on reopening. It is not feasible or conducive to have a virtual workshop given the technology limitations of the City Council Chambers. The goal is to have a Measure Q workshop followed by the City Council budget workshop.

Commissioner Rose asked if the ROC would participate as Commissioners or citizens.

City Manager Nikki Salas stated the means of participation is at the discretion of each ROC member.

City Manager Nikki Salas also addressed misinformation regarding City staff and Measure Q funded administrative positions.

Assistant City Manager Cindy Prothro discussed the Fiscal Year 2019-2021 financial audit and how the final audited Measure Q financial report will be presented to the ROC at the December meeting if it is ready or the following meeting.

9. Public Comment

Mayor Julie Hackbarth-McIntyre informed Commissioner Rose that John Wymore, the President of the Barstow Professional Firefighters Association misinformed her. She expressed dissatisfaction with Mr. Wymore's misinformation and commended City Manager Nikki Salas for addressing the misinformation from Mr. Wymore.

Commissioner Rose stated that Mr. Wymore did not lie about the issues he addressed with her.

Mayor Hackbarth-McIntyre also stated that Mr. Wymore requested that the three Measure Q firefighters not be hired in order to allow him to collect more overtime. She stated that she will never put the community in jeopardy in order to line the pockets of others. She also stated that Measure Q funds have been spent as identified in the spending plan and does not appreciate the misinformation from the public.

10. Suggested Items for the Next Agenda

- a. Financial Report – Fiscal Year 2020-2021 – 1st Quarter
- b. Financial Reporting Platform
- c. Measure Q Cost Allocation

11. Next Meeting Date

December 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

12. Adjourn

By consensus of the ROC, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.


Respectfully Submitted:



Christina Rudsell
City Clerk Services Manager

4.22.21
Date

Approved:



Kimberley Johnson
Chairperson

22 apr 21
Date