



**MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA**

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chair Ding on Monday, May 11, 2020, at 8:33 a.m., in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., Council Chamber, located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena, California.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Amin Alsarraf, Stephanie Cao, Ed Donnelly, Grace Liu Kung, and Scot Lam; Chair Jeremy Ding, Vice-Chair Alan Ehrlich

Absent: None

Officials

Present: Councilmember/City Council Liaison Richard D. Schneider, M.D., Police Chief/Staff Liaison Joe Ortiz, Fire Chief/Staff Liaison Paul Riddle, Deputy City Clerk Kenia Lopez, Police Department Clerk/Recording Secretary Laura Mendez, and Management Aide/Recording Secretary Kim Kha. Other staff members presented reports or responded to questions as indicated in the minutes.

Absent: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

No Public Comment

ACTION/DISCUSSION

1. Minutes of the Public Safety Commission Meeting of April 13, 2020

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR EHRLICH, SECOND BY CHAIR DING, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the Minutes of the April 13, 2020 Public Safety Commission Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Cao Abstain, Commissioner Lam Abstain.

2. Budget Presentation by City Manager Stephanie DeWolfe and Finance Director Karen Aceves

Finance Director Aceves stated that 51% of the City's revenue comes from Property Tax, 13 % Sale Tax, 11% Utility User Tax, and 10% User Fees.

A Short Term Revenue Loss of 1.6 Million through June 30, 2020. A loss of 100,000 or 1% from Property Taxes, 0% from UUT, 300,000 or 13% from Sale Tax and 1,200,000 or 18% from User Fees.

A Mid-Term Revenue Loss of 3.5 Million through June 30, 2021. A loss of 600,000 or 4% from Property Taxes, 110,000 or 3% from UUT, 600,000 or 15% from Sales Tax, 2,200,000 or 31% User Fees.

Finance Director Aceves also illustrated a general fund budget broken down by departments, a short term reduction, and consideration of reduction for each department personnel.

City Manager DeWolfe thanked the Public Safety Commission for taking the time to listen to the budget presentation and asking questions.

City Manager DeWolfe emphasized that this presentation is being made to all 80 plus Commissioners and to the Community with the hope that they will be a part of a communication team, sharing the information to friends, family, neighbors, social media, and via email.

3. Coronavirus-COVID-19 Update by Fire Chief Riddle and Police Chief Ortiz

Fire Chief Riddle gave a brief overview of where we sit in the Los Angeles County with current statistics.

Fire Chief Riddle reported that Los Angeles County cleared 31,000 cases with 1,530 associated deaths, informed that South Pasadena is reporting 100 cases in the city and 107 cases at the skilled nursing facility, the 107 cases at the skilled nursing facility includes 29 staff members and 78 residents that are positive, out of the entire city 22 cases outside of the skilled nursing facility are positive for COVID-19, and 13 associated deaths are at the nursing facility.

Fire Chief Riddle noted, "As far as testing, it remains a big challenge here, not just in the Los Angeles County but the State. Close to 955,000 have been tested in the State and over 200,000 in the Los Angeles County."

Fire Chief Riddle stated that more COVID-19 information is also available at the Los County website with statistics.

Police Chief Ortiz wants the residents to know that the City is safe and the staff is healthy at the Police Department, and that they continue to decontaminate vehicles and work spaces on a routine basis, taking temperatures and completing health questionnaires.

Calls for service are down 19%, officers are out checking on pedestrians, parks, unhoused neighbors, making contacts and providing resources, stated that even if calls are down officers continue to stay busy, including the burglary task force.

Police Chief Ortiz thanked Commissioner Alsarraf for his suggestion at the last meeting regarding some type of domestic violence outreach campaign that other agencies in the Los Angeles County were doing, informed that a program is fully deployed with posters displayed at essential businesses throughout the City and officers handing out pamphlets with information.

Police Chief Ortiz discussed a project called, "Lock It/Keep It," which is an educational outreach program informing people to lock it and not leave valuables in vehicles, noted an increase in thefts of computers, wallets, and purses from parked vehicles that are being left unlocked.

Police Chief Ortiz gave updates on unhoused neighbors, noting that they are continually checked on and provided with pamphlets and resources, informed that two have been placed in hotels under "Project Roomkey," one had stayed on Huntington Drive and the other, named Albert, had stayed at Rite-Aid.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. City Counsel Liaison Communications

Councilmember/City Council Liaison Richard D. Schneider, M.D. informed that the City Council had a session with Senator Anthony Portantino who provided updates on legislation and COVID-19, informed of an upcoming session with Congresswoman Judy Chu.

2. Staff Liaison Communications

Fire Chief Riddle had no further addition to his report.

Police Chief Ortiz had no further addition to his report.

3. Commissioner Communications

Chair Ding requested an update on the Police and Fire Open House, proposed a discussion of the Public Safety Commissions Charter for the next meeting.

Commissioner Lam gave introduction, glad to be a part of the Public Safety Commission.

Commissioner Donnelly informed that this past week, the South Pasadena Chinese American Parent-Teacher Organization and the U.S. Asian Art and Culture Association made a donation of PPE to first responders, city staff and community volunteers, thanked them for the generous donation.

Commissioner Kung reported that they are still doing virtual meetings, informed that the South Pasadena School District sent out a virtual learning survey to families to complete for each child and to be returned by Friday, May 15th, informed that schools will begin on Thursday, August 13th, but do not know if it will be virtual learning or open facilities.

Commissioner Cao welcomed Commissioner Lam, thanked the city staff for the important work they do and keeping them updated.

Commissioner Ehrlich requested a CERT presentation for the next meeting, noted that he had sent out a thank you letter to the Public Works at the City Council Meeting for putting up high visibility pedestrian safety panels in crosswalks.

Commissioner Alsarraf echoed Commissioner Cao, commented, “Thank you to the Chiefs, their department and city staff as well it’s a challenging and uncertain time and we are all trying to navigate it as well and I appreciate all the effort and that they are putting in and being out in the front line and would like to welcome Scot.”

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ding adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

DocuSigned by:
Laura Mendez
7D9C868CE638447...

Laura Mendez
Recording Secretary

Approved By:

DocuSigned by:
Jeremy Ding
6A3BD0AFEE3541B...

Jeremy Ding
Chair