



CITY OF MERCED

Merced Civic Center
678 W. 18th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Minutes Tax Transparency Commission

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

6:00 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair PIUSER called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair PIUSER led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

C. ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Chair Douglas Piuser, Member Alane Quien, Member Alison Kostecky, and Member Matthew Michael

Absent: 3 - Member Michael Harris, Member Anthony Aldana, and Member Cristina Garcia

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Member Quien, seconded by Member Michael, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

E.1. **SUBJECT:** Annual Tax Transparency Commission Attendance Report

REPORT IN BRIEF

Yearly attendance report for the Tax Transparency Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a motion approving and filing the annual attendance report.

This Consent Item was approved.

E.2. **SUBJECT:** Tax Transparency Commission Minutes of November 8, 2022

REPORT IN BRIEF

Tax Transparency Minutes from the meeting of November 8, 2022.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a motion approving and filing Tax Transparency Commission Minutes of November 8, 2022.

This Consent Item was approved.

F. REPORTS

Clerk's Note: Deputy City Manager Frank QUINTERO requested to introduce staff members to newly appointed Commissioners.

Commissioners and city staff briefly introduced each other.

Commissioners spoke on hearing Report Item I.5. before all other Report Items due to technical issues.

A motion was made by Member Kostecky, seconded by Member Quien, to move Report Item F.5. before all other Report Items. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

F.5.

SUBJECT: Fire Department First Responder Fee Information Session

REPORT IN BRIEF

Presentation of the feasibility report from EMS Consultant AP Triton who researched a First Responder Fee. Similar First Responder Fees are utilized to support EMS operations in fire departments across California.

RECOMMENDATION

Tax Transparency Commission - Adopt a motion to accept this presentation as information only.

Clerk's Note: Report Item F.5. was moved to be heard prior to all other Report Items.

Fire Chief Derek PARKER gave a slideshow presentation on the Merced Fire Department First Responder Fee Study.

Commissioners, Mr. PARKER, and Deputy City Clerk Alejandra MEDINA discussed the billing amount from the 3rd party vendor, reasoning for First Responder Fee, calls for service, the Tax Transparency Commission's role

in the First Responder Fee Study, the First Responder Fee, why this presentation was given, the amount of calls for service, percentage of medical calls, AP Triton's familiarity of EMS and Fire billing, and lifespan of Fire trucks.

A motion was made by Member Quien, seconded by Member Michael, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

F.1.

SUBJECT: Review City Manager Recommended Measure C Budget for 2023/2024 Fiscal Year - Revenue and Expenditures

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a motion making a recommendation to the City Council regarding the proposed 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget.

Finance Officer Venus RODRIGUEZ gave a slideshow presentation highlighting the City Manager's Measure C recommended budget.

Commissioners, Mrs. RODRIGUEZ, Deputy Finance Julie TRUIJILLO, and Fire Chief Derek PARKER discussed the acquisition purchase for 351,000 dollars, details on the Girl's Academy, the amount of personnel on Measure C, and options to renewing Measure C.

A motion was made by Member Kostecky, seconded by Member Michael, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

F.2.

SUBJECT: Measure C Preliminary Revenue and Expense Reports - March 31, 2023

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a motion accepting as information only.

Finance Officer Venus RODRIGUEZ gave a slideshow presentation on the Measure C Revenue and Expense Reports - March 31, 2023.

No Commissioner comments.

A motion was made by Member Quien, seconded by Member Michael, that this

agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

F.3.

SUBJECT: Review City Manager Recommended Measure Y Budget for 2023/2024 Fiscal Year - Revenue and Expenditures

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a motion making a recommendation to the City Council regarding the proposed 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Budget.

Finance Officer Venus RODRIGUEZ gave a slideshow presentation highlighting the City Manager's Measure Y recommended budget.

Commissioners, Mrs. RODRIGUEZ, and Interim Police Chief Craig GUNDLACH what fiscal year was overpaid, details and lifespan of the rifles, scopes, and vests for police department, and drug war relating to cannabis tax.

A motion was made by Member Quien, seconded by Member Michael, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

F.4.

SUBJECT: Measure Y Preliminary Revenue and Expense Reports - March 31, 2023

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a motion accepting as information only.

Finance Officer Venus RODRIGUEZ gave a slideshow presentation on the Measure Y Revenue and Expense Reports - March 31, 2023.

No Commissioner comments.

A motion was made by Member Kostecky, seconded by Member Quien, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

G. BUSINESS**G.1. SUBJECT: Selection of a New Chair and Vice Chair****REPORT IN BRIEF**

Yearly selection of a Chair and Vice Chair.

RECOMMENDATION

Nominate and appoint a Commission Member as Chair and Vice Chair.

Commissioners discussed the selection of Chair/Vice Chair and term dates.

A motion was made by Member Quien, seconded by Member Michael, to re-select Commissioner Piuser as Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

A motion was made by Member Quien, seconded by Member Kostecky, to select Commissioner Michael as Vice Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kostecky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia

G.3. SUBJECT: Commission Comments**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides an opportunity for the Chair and/or Member(s) to make a brief announcement on any activity(ies) she/he has attended on behalf of the Commission and to make a brief announcement on future community events and/or activities. The Brown Act does not allow discussion or action by the legislative body under this section.

Clerk's Note: Agenda Item G.3. was heard before Agenda Item G.2.

Chair PIUSER thanked everyone for coming and sharing information.

Commissioner QUIEN thanked city staff for attending the meeting.

G.2. SUBJECT: Request to Add Item to Future Agenda**REPORT IN BRIEF**

Provides members of the Boards/Commissions to request that an item be placed on a future Boards/Commissions agenda for initial consideration by the Boards/Commissions.

Chair PIUSER requested to have the cost to replace a fire engine and police cruiser heard at the next meeting.

Commissioner QUIEN requested to add an item to speak on Measure C and what it is voted on.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Clerk's Note: This Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

A motion was made by Member Michael, seconded by Member Quien, that this Regular Meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chair Piuser, Member Quien, Member Kosticky, and Member Michael

No: 0

Absent: 3 - Member Harris, Member Aldana, and Member Garcia