

**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA**



**MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2015
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pougnet called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Girl Scout Troop 1744, led the Pledge.

INVOCATION: David Sanger, Our Savior's Community Center, led the Invocation.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmember Foat, Councilmember Hutcheson, Councilmember Mills, Mayor Pro Tem Lewin, and Mayor Pougnet.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Ready, City Attorney Holland, City Clerk Thompson.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Pougnet and the City Council congratulated Police Chief Al Franz on his retirement, and thanked him for his years of service to the Palm Springs Police Department, and announced the retirement of Police Canine Officer "Rocket."

Mayor Pougnet announced the groundbreaking for the new Andaz hotel, the 9/11 memorial installation at the Palm Springs Fire Department, the upcoming Downtown holiday tree lighting, and the Festival of Lights Parade.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:

ACTION: Accept the Agenda as presented. **Motion Mayor Pro Tem Lewin, seconded by Councilmember Hutcheson and unanimously carried on a roll call vote.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ALLEN WORTHY, commented on a recent incident with the Palm Springs Police Department.

BRETT KLEIN, thanked the Mayor and Councilmembers for their advocacy of health and wellness, and biking in the City of Palm Springs.

DR. JONATHAN FREEMAN, Palm Springs, thanked the candidates in the election and noted the demolition of the former Magruder building.

TRAVIS ARMSTRONG, noted the upcoming meeting at City Hall regarding the Palm Springs Dog Park.

DARYL TERRELL, Moreno Valley, thanked the City Council for their achievements and accomplishments.

JANICE SMITH, commented on the conduct of the election.

RICK PANTELE, thanked the Mayor and Members of the City Council for their achievements.

JOY BROWN MEREDITH, thanked the Mayor and Members of the City Council for their achievements.

FRANK TYSEN, commented on his concerns with Mayor Pougnet.

1. SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL ITEMS:

1.A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

ACTION: Approve the November 4, 2015, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes. **Motion Mayor Pro Tem Lewin, seconded by Councilmember Foat and unanimously carried on a roll call vote.**

1.B. PROPOSED RESOLUTION DECLARING THE RESULT OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 2015, REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION:

City Clerk Thompson provided background information as outlined in the Staff Report dated December 2, 2015.

ACTION: Adopt Resolution No. 23936, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, RECITING THE FACT OF THE REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2015, DECLARING THE RESULT AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS ARE PROVIDED BY LAW." **Motion Mayor Pro Tem Lewin, seconded by Councilmember Hutcheson and unanimously carried on a roll call vote.**

1.C. OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember Hutcheson and Mayor Pro Tem Lewin provided their comments as outgoing Councilmembers.

1.D. OUTGOING MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Pougnet provided his outgoing comments as Mayor of the City of Palm Springs.

The City Council recessed at 7:46 p.m.

1.E. ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

City Clerk Thompson administered the Oath of Office to Councilmember Elect Geoff Kors, Councilmember Elect J.R. Roberts, and Mayor Elect Robert Moon.

Councilmember Kors, Councilmember Roberts and Mayor Moon were seated at the dais.

The City Council convened at 8:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Councilmember Foat, Councilmember Mills, Councilmember Kors, Councilmember Roberts, and Mayor Moon.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Ready, City Attorney Holland, City Clerk Thompson.

1.F. INCOMING COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember Kors and Councilmember Roberts provided their comments as newly elected Members of the City Council.

1.G. INCOMING MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Moon provided his comments as newly elected Mayor of the City of Palm Springs.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ALLEN WORTHY, commented on his legal actions against the City.

SAM DUREAS, requested the City Council review the laws regarding licensing of dogs and requested mandatory "chip" for dogs.

ROBERT FINDLEY, Palm Springs, commented on the recent demolition of the former Magruder building, and welcomed the new City Councilmembers.

HOBERT C. WEHIR, Palm Springs, discussed leadership of public officials.

DONNA CHABAN, Palm Springs, welcomed the City Council and stated the Council should remain positive, and commented on the operations of the Palm Springs Animal Shelter.

JOY BROWN MEREDITH, welcomed and congratulated the new City Councilmembers.

FRANK TYSEN, commented on the revival of the City of Palm Springs.

1.H. APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO TEMPORE:

Councilmember Foat nominated Councilmember Mills to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

ACTION: Appoint Councilmember Mills as Mayor Pro Tempore for the term ending December, 2016. **Motion Councilmember Foat, seconded by Councilmember Kors and unanimously carried on a roll call vote.**

2. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION:

The City Attorney determined the City Council did not need to recess to Closed Session.

3. REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION: None.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

4.A. HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD RECOMMENDATION ON THE APPLICATION BY THE PALM SPRINGS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION REQUESTING A CLASS 1 HISTORIC DESIGNATION FOR "TAHQUITZ PLAZA" LOCATED AT 600, 650, 700, AND 750 EAST TAHQUITZ CANYON WAY (APN 508-055-003, AND 508-044-006) ZONE TOURIST RESORT COMMERCIAL, SECTION 14 SPECIFIC PLAN:

Flinn Fagg, Director of Planning Services, provided background information as outlined in the Staff Report dated December 2, 2015.

Mayor Moon opened the public hearing, and the following speakers addressed the City Council.

CORY ALDER, Nexus, stated Nexus as the property owner supports the nomination of the Tahquitz Plaza as a Class 1 Historic Site.

STEVEN PRICE AND TRACY BECKMAN, Palm Springs Preservation Foundation, commented on the historic site selection process and codes, and stated the nomination is in furtherance of the historic resources code.

ERIK ROSENOW, Palm Springs, requested the City Council support the Class 1 Historic Designation of the Tahquitz Plaza buildings.

PETER MORUZZI, Palm Springs, requested the City Council support the Class 1 Historic Designation of the Tahquitz Plaza buildings.

MICHELE JOHNSON, Palm Springs, requested the City Council support the Class 1 Historic Designation of the Tahquitz Plaza buildings.

HUGH KAPTUR, Architect, commented on his development of the building and the City of Palm Springs, and requested the City Council support the Class 1 Historic Designation of the Tahquitz Plaza buildings.

JADE NELSON, requested the City Council support the Class 1 Historic Designation of the Tahquitz Plaza buildings.

JUDY DEERTRACK, requested the City Council support the Class 1 Historic Designation of the Tahquitz Plaza buildings, and requested the City Council consider review of the demolition in the code.

No further speakers coming forward, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Roberts stated his support for the staff recommendation, and requested the City Council support for the Class 1 designation.

Mayor Pro Tem Mills stated he does not agree with all the findings in the resolution, but stated his support for the Class 1 designation, and questioned if the carports should be included in the designation.

Councilmember Foat requested the Architect address the carports, stated the carports should not be included in the designation, and thanked Nexus Development for their support of the designation.

Planning Director Fagg stated the proposed resolution finds the carports and parking areas between the two buildings are non-contributing elements at the site, and are not a part of the historic designation.

Mayor Moon stated his support for the designation and the agreement with the developer, and commented on preservation efforts.

ACTION: Adopt Resolution No. 23937, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, DESIGNATING THE BUILDINGS AT 600, 650, 700, AND 750 EAST TAHQUITZ CANYON WAY (COLLECTIVELY KNOWN AS THE TAHQUITZ PLAZA) AS A CLASS 1 HISTORIC SITE (HSPB 97)." **Motion Councilmember Roberts, seconded by Councilmember Kors and unanimously carried on a roll call vote.**

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

Councilmember Kors requested an item be placed on the next agenda to discuss ethics, transparency and government reform.

Councilmember Foat requested a discussion item be placed on the next City Council agenda regarding strategic planning.

ADJOURNMENT: The City Council adjourned at 9:14 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting, Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, preceded by a Closed Session, Small Conference Room, City Hall, 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs.

**APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE PALM SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL THIS
16TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2015.**

ROBERT MOON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JAMES THOMPSON, CITY CLERK