

The Citizens Oversight Committee of the City of Westminster, California convened on March 25, 2019 at 10:10 a.m. in a Special Meeting in the Administrative Conference Room located at 8200 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster, California.

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL: DIANA CAREY, WESTON SEID, VANESSA PEARSON, RUTH PIKER, RONALD ST. JOHN

PRESENT: CAREY, SEID, PIKER, ST. JOHN
ABSENT: PEARSON

STAFF PRESENT: Finance Director Sherry Johnson, Assistant Finance Director Erin Backs, Economic Development Manager Alexa Smittle, Senior Staff Accountant Aisha Rodriguez

SALUTE TO FLAG: Chair Carey

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: No one was present to speak.

1. Introduction and swearing in of New Member

New Committee Member Weston Seid was introduced and sworn in by Finance Director Sherry Johnson.

2. Special Presentations

Finance Director Sherry Johnson presented a recap of the 18-19 Budget Adoption.

Chair Carey inquired about the unfunded liability and if the City is beginning to pay it down. Sherry informed the committee that the City is currently setting funds aside and is also pre-paying in order to save on interest expense.

Economic Development Manager Alexa Smittle was present to give information on the Community Development Department and changes taking place in the City. She spoke about Project W and the new Neighborhood Preservation Unit. She also spoke about what the City is doing to get more retailers into the City. She noted that the mall is an area of interest and that it will be addressed with the zoning piece of

the General Plan. The City held its first Community Meeting on March 12th and there were about 250 people in attendance. A second meeting is scheduled three months out. The City is implementing many ways to help revitalize the City, one being a Facade Improvement Loan for certain areas of Westminster Blvd. as well as mini grants for needed updates to existing businesses.

Sherry Johnson commented that the City is in the process of a fee study which should bring in additional revenue.

Committee Member St. John mentioned he hears a lot of talk around the City of sales tax not being collected in the Little Saigon area.

Sherry Johnson explains that the State is responsible for enforcing this and unfortunately there is nothing the City can do unless the State does something.

Committee Member Piker asks about the Civic Center revamping. Alexa Smittle explains that she doesn't know where we stand with that plan at the moment.

Chair Carey asks what the plan is with the sales tax increase because she hears a lot of negative comments around the City regarding what is being done with the extra funds. She states that many residents do not want to vote it back in when the time comes. She feels that it is a good idea to put something on WTV3 before the meetings to show what is being done around the City.

Committee Member Piker comments that a monthly update would be a good idea.

Chair Carey states that she is willing to give updates at Chamber meetings and that Staff should give Council updates regularly at Council Meetings.

3. Approval of the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Citizens Oversight Committee on April 5, 2018

Motion was made by Committee Member St. John, and seconded by Committee Member Piker to approve the minutes from the April 5, 2018 meeting as is.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	CAREY, SEID, PIKER, ST. JOHN
NOES:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

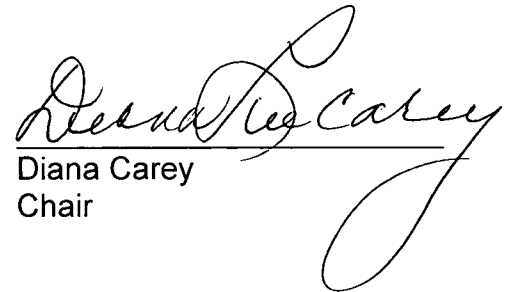
4. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

Committee Member Piker requested that more information about sales tax and how it is being used is shared at next meeting.

Chair Carey requested more information on Auto Sales.

5. OVERSIGHT BOARD OF THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Carey adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.



Diana Carey
Chair



Tanya Ramirez
Committee Secretary