

The Board of Commissioners of the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency **held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, April 10, 2024** via tele-/videoconference.

Chairman Ian Leonard called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Board Clerk Donna Arthur-Pettigrew called roll.

Present: Ian Leonard, Derek Davis, Gilbert Harden, Sr., Jose Javier Ramos and Tasha Gainey-Humphrey
Absent: Maria Sharma, Christopher Collins
Attendees: Olivette Simpson, Mark Asselta, Glynn Jones, Sulena Robinson-Rivera, and Donna Arthur-Pettigrew, CRA

Ms. Arthur-Pettigrew advised the Board that, pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, notice(s) had been posted in the Courier-Post, the Philadelphia Inquirer, and the Office of the City Clerk.

Note: Ms. Gainey-Humphrey entered at 6:05 PM.

Review of Minutes

Date of Meeting: March 6 and 20, 2024

Motion: GH, DD **Ayes:** IL, DD, GH, JR

Nays: **Abstentions:**

Comments: Mr. Leonard verified that everyone had a chance to review the Minutes and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Interim Executive Director's Report

Date of Meeting: April 3 and 10, 2024

Motion: GH, DD **Ayes:** IL, DD, GH, TGH, JR

Nays: **Abstentions:**

Comments: Ms. Simpson announced that the soil removal work at the Yaffa Site is projected to be substantially complete by the third week of May 2024. Any delays were because of weather/rain impacts, but overall the remediation contractor is on schedule.

Ms. Simpson was happy to announce that NJ Economic Development Authority has a competitive grant opportunity that includes:

- (1) Acquisition of privately owned property for public use with a grant award of \$50,000.00 to \$1 million. Public use projects must be publicly accessible spaces for the community which may include community parks, garden, public walkways, public parking lots/garages or similar public places.
- (2) Future development projects with a grant amount up to \$4 million. They include mixed use development, transit-oriented development, cultural, arts, performing arts, supermarkets, commercial and research.

The deadline is May 20, 2024 and our target areas include North Camden and Federal Street corridor.

Redevelopment Project Presentations

None.

Resolutions for Review and Action

The resolutions below were presented for consideration.

04-10-24A Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with TRC Environmental Corporation to Provide Environmental and Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) Services for Remediation of a Portion of the Dominick Andujar Park Site Designated as Block 12, Lots 1, 3-9, and 18-21 of the City of Camden Tax Map for an Amount Not to Exceed \$76,747.00

Motion: GH, DD **Ayes:** IL, DD, GH, TGH, JR

Nays: **Abstentions:**

Comments: Mr. Ramos has several questions about the site location and the contract price. Ms. Simpson responded reminding the board the Andujar Park is City-owned and located within North Camden. Additional remediation is necessary and the purpose of this contract is inclusive of the additional costs associated with the scope of the remediation work. Mr. Ramos stated he knows the location and hopes the City maintains the sprinklers and grass, to minimize injuries to children while playing at the park site.

04-10-24B Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with BL Companies Architects/Engineers New Jersey, Inc. to Provide Environmental and Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) Services for Remediation of the “Triangle Area” at the Elijah Perry Park Designated as Block 544, Lot 1 of the City of Camden Tax Map for an Amount Not to Exceed \$40,140.00

Motion: GH, JR **Ayes:** IL, DD, GH, TGH, JR

Nays: **Abstentions:**

Comments: There were no comments or questions.

04-10-24C Resolution Authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with TTI Environmental to Provide Environmental and Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) Services for Remediation of the Former Reliable Tire Site Designated as Block 1302, Lot 1 of the City of Camden Tax Map Not for an Amount Not to Exceed \$46,084.00

Motion: GH, DD **Ayes:** IL, DD, GH, TGH, JR

Nays: **Abstentions:**

Comments: There were no comments or questions.

04-10-24D Resolution Amending a Professional Services Agreement with Marmero Law, LLC to Provide Legal Counsel Services in Connection with the Execution of Agreements Among the City of Camden, Housing Authority of the City of Camden, Saint Joseph Carpenter Society, and Camden Community Partnership for the FY 2020 Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grant To Extend the Term of the Agreement

Motion: JR, GH **Ayes:** IL, DD, GH, TGH, JR

Nays: **Abstentions:**

Comments: Mr. Ramos asked if legal services for St. Joseph’s Carpenter Society (SJCS) and Camden Community Partnership (CCP) were being paid. After a brief background discussion, Ms. Simpson confirmed that the contract is for the Agency’s legal services, not the partners. The discussion also included the infrastructure work to install traffic calming measures along Harrison and East State Street. Mr. Ramos also stated he hoped the traffic safety and calming measures in the road would be helpful to deter speeding and prevent accidents in this area.

Resolutions for Review and Action cont'd

04-10-24E **Resolution Authorizing a Further Extension of a Leave of Absence from Employment with the City of Camden Redevelopment Agency for Vincent Basara**

Motion: JR, TGH **Ayes:** IL, DD, GH, TGH, JR

Nays: **Abstentions:**

Comments: Ms. Simpson informed the board that this action is to meet the State Pension Benefits requirement that a resolution authorizing a further leave of absence be approved by the board on an annual basis.

Public Comments

None.

Old Business

Action has not been taken regarding Resolutions 03-09-22 E & F.

New Business

None.

Executive Session

None.

Chairperson's Remarks and Observations

None.

Adjournment

Mr. Ramos moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Gainey-Humphrey and affirmed with a Roll Call vote by all Commissioners. This meeting ended at approximately 6:30 PM.

Note: Commissioner Davis was unable to mute during adjournment.