

# DVP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

September 28, 2023, 9:00am

held in downstairs Board room at Crowne Plaza Ventura Beach Hotel

**Call to Order.** President Erik Feingold called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

DVP Directors present: Feingold, Kelsey Jonker, Hutton Becker, Danny Quintana, Peter Goldenring, Brandon Ristaino, Yvonne Besvold and Councilman Doug Halter. Others: E.D. Kevin Clerici, City Manager Bill Ayub, Christy Weir (DVO), Martha Cantos (EcuGreen & DVO), Michael Mendelson (Very Ventura), Vince Daly and Cheryl Heitmann (DVO).

**Approval of August Meeting and Special Meeting Minutes.** Motion made by Kelsey Jonker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peter Goldenring. Passed unanimously.

**Approval of August Financials.** Treasurer Besvold provided summary of August compilation, and initiated dialogue for 2024 Budget including expansion of DVP employment services. Finance Committee reviewed and approved August ancillary financial documents and contracts. Motion to approve made by Kelsey Jonker, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hutton Becker. Passed unanimously.

**Public Comments.** Bill Ayub, Christy Weir, Martha Cantos, Michael Mendelson spoke, sharing views on MSM.

**Police report.** Cmdr. Cain shared Aug-Sept stats, reviewed crime reporting process, shared that PTF is down one officer, so 7 of 8 positions currently full. Department is continuing overnight patrols when it can fill them.

**Public comments on Closed Session.** Cheryl Heitmann noted there was not an agenda item stating that a report out of the impending Closed Session would be made. In response, Peter Goldenring motioned to amend the agenda to add a Report out of Closed Session item, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Feingold. Passed unanimously.

**Closed Session occurred.**

**Report out of Closed Session.** Pres. Feingold announced DVP would re-hire Ferguson Case Orr Paterson to assist and advise DVP on its response to newly received Public Records Requests. Feingold also would ask FCOP counsel to weigh in or produce an advisory memo on DVP's exposure under the MSM permit and related agreements. And if FCOP is unable or unwilling, Feingold has the authority to identify and hire an alternative firm. Additionally, Feingold announced that DVP would draft a letter to DVO and the City, requesting and desiring in-person dialogue to address liability and defense issues in the MSM permit, subject to Board review and input.

**MSM Committee update:** Chair Goldenring provided copies of recent email exchanges with City staff, as well as a summary of recent correspondence with City executive leadership. MSM Committee Chair Goldenring asked CM Ayub to consider having the City hire certified pedestrian mall experts to evaluate Ventura's strengths/weaknesses and help chart a path forward.

**Reschedule Nov. 23 Board meeting to Dec. 14.** Motion by Feingold, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brandon Ristaino. Passed unanimously.

**Brown Act Training.** Board agreed to hire attorney to provide training at upcoming meeting. Motion by Feingold, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brandon Ristaino. Passed unanimously.

**Board vacancies.** Board briefly discussed appointment process, with some members suggesting just leaving the 2 posts vacant until the regular 2024 Board election. No decision was made.

**No City report.** Ayub spoke during public comment. Introduced himself.

**Staff update.** ED Clerici provided very brief comments as meeting ran long.

Meeting adjourned at 11:47am.

Minutes prepared by Kevin Clerici