

Stop Polluting Our Newport

From: Kiff, Dave <DKiff@newportbeachca.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2016 3:03 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: Insider's Guide for Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Happy Friday and happy “almost-start-of-summer” to you.

Here's what's on the schedule for the Newport Beach City Council meeting of **Tuesday, June 14, 2016**.

More detailed Council meeting information is at the end of this e-mail, and here is [a link to the full Council agenda](#). I don't summarize every item on the agenda.

Our afternoon **Study Session** starts at **5:00 p.m.** (versus its more typical 4:00 p.m. start), and there are only a handful of items on there:

- We'll talk about one way to add value to **mooring permit holders** – that being a “free” vessel pumpout program that would enable permit holders to not have to go to the pumpout stations. Instead, they could call this service for a pumpout in their mooring location. Could help water quality in the Bay, too.
- As the **drought** has eased up (but wait, there's a La Nina ahead!), the State has changed the way it asks localities to address drought. The State's new plan is to have us all “self-certify” and (self-select) what actions we would take to conserve water. There will not be a 28% or 21% or whatever reduction mandate by the State, but we'll have to do something based on our water supply sources and local wishes (I wish for longer showers again). We'll kick around some ideas with the Council as to what might work well here in Newport Beach. Frustratingly, my gut sense is that this new self-certification may only be in place for a short time, until we know more about the Fall-Winter 2016-17 rain forecast (not looking good there).

The nighttime **Regular Session at 7:00 p.m.** is a long one, but mostly just in terms of the number of items (not the relative level of controversy about them). Items of note include:

- Ratifying recommendations from the Finance Committee as to the private firm that would **audit the City's financial reports** as well as on a **proposed new Council Policy** that looks at how the Council would **apportion year-end surplus funds** when that circumstance occurs. The suggestion is to roughly split the surplus half and half between one-time capital improvements and retiring or saving up for long-term debt.
- I didn't mention this in the Study Session section, but there is a really complicated item on there about how we might try and get reimbursement for **uncompensated medical transports** of MediCal-eligible persons. Whoa. I almost fell asleep writing that.
- The **Marina Park project** comes back with its formal “**notice of completion**” meaning that the last box gets checked off relating to this impressive project. It came in under budget and on schedule.
- An interesting grant-funded water quality improvement to the **Santa Ana/Delhi Channel** (that's the major storm drain system that drains into the Upper Bay by the Peter and Mary Muth Center) is up for approval – it is a creative way to help take out trash and other pollutants before that stuff gets into the Upper Bay. The City's water quality committee has been working on this with our Public Works staff.
- The **restaurants near MacArthur and West Coast Highway** are interested in using the new improvements there for some outdoor dining.
- Step #1 of the two-step process for naming **new appointees to Boards and Commissions** occurs at this meeting. The Council may ratify the candidates selected by an Appointments Committee at this meeting, then vote on the actual names at the next meeting. Boards/committees with available appointments include the Board of Library Trustees, the Building and Fire Board of Appeals, the City Arts Commission, the Civil Service Board, the Harbor Commission, the Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission, and the Planning Commission.

- Our **annual budget** is up for review and possible adoption at this meeting as a public hearing item. The budget has been through the Finance Committee and multiple public sessions. General Fund revenues are at about \$199 million, with expenditures proposed for about \$190 million. If you're interested in the budget, please read the [staff report](#) (scroll to Item #23). It's kind of a long read, but I still find it pretty interesting to talk about. To me, there is nothing more important than the Council acts on than the once-a-year budget adoption.
- For those folks who ask us "how do we know that the City will have enough water to accommodate current and future residents?" (I do get that question **a lot**), there is a public hearing on 6-14 on the proposed **Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)**, a plan that must be updated at least once every five years. If you're interested in this issue, take a moment to thumb through the draft plan online [here](#). This 6-14 meeting is not the formal adoption of the plan (that would happen on 6-28) but it is a great chance to provide comments.
- An appeal comes forth for a **residential project in Newport Heights**. The address affected is 336 Catalina and 333 La Jolla.
- **Renewal of the two existing Business Improvement Districts (BIDs)** occurs at this meeting, along with the appointments of BID boards (Corona del Mar BID and the Newport Beach Restaurant BID).
- We'll ask for the City Council's consent to move forward on looking at ways to improve kids' **bike safety in and around Newport Heights** (for starters).
- Council Member Peotter has asked that the Council look at a possible **amendment to the City Charter relating to incurring debt** other than General Obligation Bonds as well as call at par provisions. That will be the final action item of the evening.
- Lastly, acknowledging that our community has gone through a rough few weeks, we'll **adjourn the meeting in memory of Brock McCann**. We were all broken hearted to hear of the death of Brock, a young man whom most of us never met. Thanks to the graciousness of the McCann family, we were able to learn more about him. I went away from that visit ever the more sad that, while Brock is in a better place, our community and his family needed him on Earth a lot longer than his brief 8 years. What a neat kid. Our thoughts and prayers remain with the McCann family, Brock's friends, schoolmates, teachers, our first responders, and our community as a whole.

Some notes:

- I'll offer our usual warning that **summer is upon us**, and lots more people (including lots of visitors) will be on bikes, walking, driving, dashing across streets, not looking around when they cross intersections, and more. And **Junior Guards** will gear up each morning and afternoon M-Th and head to the Balboa Pier as soon as June 27th. Let's be extra safe out there.
- Those of you who drive down **Newport Boulevard** should be getting more peace now, as the road is practically done (it has one more final layer of pavement to go – right after July 4) and the landscaping is going in. My thanks to all of you who have been patient with this improvement project and to our fine Public Works staff who helped get it done before Summer crunch time.
- Lastly, **a note of thanks to our well-skilled lifeguards**, especially Lifeguard Captain Mike Ure (who recently completed his 30th year of service with us) and Lifeguard Officer Andy Matsuyama (a longtime seasonal guard who recently was promoted into a permanent position), in the rapid response provided to ocean swimmer Maria Korcsmaros on Sunday, May 29th. I think all of us were stunned to hear the news of a shark bite off of our beaches, and if you're an ocean swimmer on any regular basis, your world is still upside down. Mike and Andy's awareness and immediate response, the location of their boat, as well as Maria's actions and her fitness level, likely combined to save her life. We wish Maria a speedy recovery, and offer our sincere thanks to Mike and Andy (who'd say humbly that they were just doing their jobs).

As always, thanks for reading. Feel free to forward this e-mail to family, friends and members of your HOA if you represent one. I always like hearing from you, too, so please don't hesitate to ask a question or offer a comment.

Sincerely,

Dave Kiff
 City Manager
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City Council Meeting Information: The Newport Beach City Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of most months (the exceptions are August and December). Typically, there is a **Study Session** that starts at 4:00 p.m. Study sessions are times for the Council to take a deeper look at a specific issue, or hear a presentation, that might eventually lead to a specific and more formal action. A **closed session** often follows the Study Session. Closed sessions are typically to address legal, personnel, and other matters where additional confidentiality is important. The **Regular (evening) Session** typically starts at 7:00 p.m., and often has a specific listing of 20-40 different items ready for formal votes. Items on the “Consent Calendar” are heard all at once, unless a Council member has removed (aka “pulled”) an item from the Consent Calendar for specific discussion and separate vote. If an item on the agenda is recommended to be “continued”, it means that the item won’t be heard nor voted on that evening, but will be pushed forward to another noticed meeting.

Public Comment is welcomed at both the Study Session and the Regular Session. The public can comment on any item on the agenda. If you want to comment on a Consent Calendar item that was not pulled from the Consent Calendar by a Council Member, you will want to do so at the time listed on the agenda – right before the Council votes on the entire Consent Calendar (it’s Roman Numeral XIII on the posted agenda). If an item is pulled, the Mayor will offer that members of the public can comment as that specific item is heard separately. Additionally, there is a specific section of Public Comment for items not on the agenda, but on a subject of some relationship to the city government. If you cannot attend a meeting and/or want to communicate with the City Council directly, this e-mail gets to all of them: CityCouncil@newportbeachca.gov. Please know that I get a copy of that e-mail, too, because in almost all cases it’s something that the City Manager follows-up on. It’s my head-start.

The Council meets in the Council Chambers at 100 Civic Center Drive, off of Avocado between San Miguel and East Coast Highway. There is plenty of parking in the parking structure behind City Hall. You are always welcome to attend in person, but you can also watch on TV (Channels 3/31) or on your computer.

This *Insider’s Guide* is not an attempt to summarize every item on the Agenda – just the ones that seem of specific interest to Dave. I encourage you to read the full agenda if you wish.