

City Council Regular Meeting - December 5, 2023

Meeting Time: 12-05-23 18:00

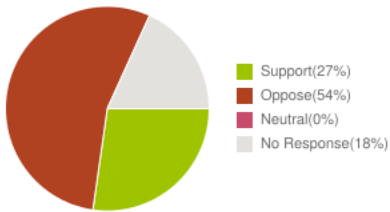
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
City Council Regular Meeting - December 5, 2023	12-05-23 18:00	47	11	3	6	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



City Council Regular Meeting - December 5, 2023

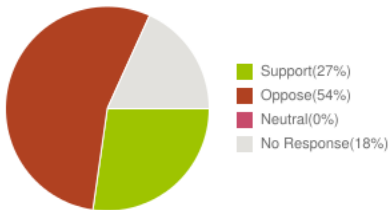
12-05-23 18:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
3. 23-0529 Consideration of a Resolution Approving City Contributions to Medical Insurance for the Manhattan Beach Mid-Management Employees Association, Unrepresented Employees and Officials (Human Resources Director Jenkins). ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 23-0160	1	0	1	0
14. 23-0409 Consideration of a Juneteenth Community Celebration in 2024 and, if Approved, Appropriate \$30,000 from the General Fund (Parks and Recreation Director Leyman). (Estimated Time: 75 Min.) A) DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION B) APPROPRIATE FUNDS	8	3	3	0
15. 23-0537 Update Regarding Police Department and Citywide Staffing and Recruitment, and Consideration of a Resolution Approving Various Recruitment and Retention Incentives (Police Chief Johnson and Human Resources Director Jenkins). (Estimated Time: 30 Mins.) ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 23-0165	1	0	1	0
16. 23-0543 Consideration of a Resolution Amending the City Manager's Employment Agreement to Provide The City Manager with the Ability to Accrue Additional Annual Leave of Up To 150 "Non-Cashable" Hours That Must Be Used Prior To December 31, 2024 (City Attorney Barrow). (Estimated Time: 5 Mins.) ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 23-0159, APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO THE CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT	1	0	1	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

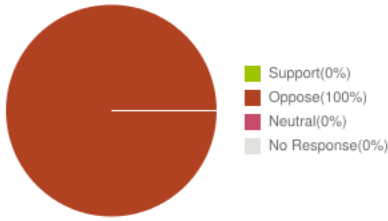
Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for 3. 23-0529 Consideration of a Resolution Approving City Contributions to Medical Insurance for the Manhattan Beach Mid-Management Employees Association, Unrepresented Employees and Officials (Human Resources Director Jenkins).

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 23-0160

Overall Sentiment



Gary Osterhout

Location:

Submitted At: 8:25am 12-05-23

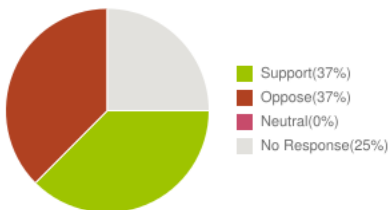
A \$203K is a huge hike for such a small group of employees. These folks are already well compensated in many ways--something has to give. Unless someone can show that the competition for our current quality of managers is as intense as that for police and fire, I think the analogy used by HR in justifying this increase is strained logic. Compared with private industry, and layering in the "secure for life" guarantees, we can't continue adding in additional benefits (unless, of course, one would increase the fees in some other unrelated area to cover).

Agenda Item: eComments for 14. 23-0409 Consideration of a Juneteenth Community Celebration in 2024 and, if Approved, Appropriate \$30,000 from the General Fund (Parks and Recreation Director Leyman).

(Estimated Time: 75 Min.)

- A) DISCUSS AND PROVIDE DIRECTION
- B) APPROPRIATE FUNDS

Overall Sentiment



Julie Cashin

Location:

Submitted At: 11:32am 12-05-23

Propose redirecting the \$30,000 to fortify the downtown outdoor dining program, ensuring a lasting and widespread impact.

Allocating a substantial sum to a single event raises concerns of shortsightedness and potential political motivations, hinting at favoritism. Suggesting a more equitable approach, seeking funds for various holidays, allows residents flexibility in supporting events of personal significance. Encourage Mira Coast students to independently raise funds for specific events through engaging local businesses and community initiatives.

Reallocating the budget to enhance the downtown area's outdoor dining program holds the promise of substantial benefits. Beyond elevating the city's aesthetic appeal, it provides a sustained platform for local businesses, contributing to increased tax revenue. The vision of year-round outdoor dining in our coastal city is a compelling

prospect.

Julie Cashin
Manhattan Beach, 4th Generation

Amanda Park

Location:
Submitted At: 9:52am 12-05-23

Thank you MB City Council for your leadership in exploring having a meaningful Juneteenth event in our amazing city. The Parks and Recreation committee has obtained community input, conducted research, and made a recommendation for this celebration. This will be an opportunity for our community to learn more about the history of Juneteenth and provide a platform for our community to celebrate African American culture, history, and achievements. It will also be an opportunity to bring communities together and foster a sense of togetherness and solidarity. I hope that City Council adopts the Parks and Rec's recommendations and forge ahead in planning the 2024 Juneteenth event. Really looking forward to it!!

Mike Michalski

Location:
Submitted At: 7:47am 12-05-23

The fact that some woke members of our community need to spend OUR tax dollars on a Juneteenth event in order to feel good about themselves is disheartening. No one is against a Juneteenth celebration, despite their phony moral posturing to the contrary. The point is we've never spent this kind of city taxpayer money honoring our veterans on Veterans' Day or those who gave their lives in service of our country on Memorial Day. Heck, we've never spent anything, to my knowledge, on MLK Day. The last Juneteenth event here was NOT city funded and had a good turnout. You want to celebrate Juneteenth, then have at it but stop the vapid virtue signaling and just do it on your own time and your own dime. It's easy to virtue-signal with someone else's money.

Laura Kiely

Location:
Submitted At: 2:03am 12-05-23

The fact that some people in our community are against celebrating the end of slavery is disheartening. I support funding community Juneteenth celebrations in Manhattan Beach. And I think our "family friendly" town should be respectful of our children's voices. They live here too.

Laura Kiely
Manhattan Beach resident since 1994

Robin Cleland

Location:
Submitted At: 4:19pm 12-04-23

How meaningful is a tax payers survey regarding a proposed annual \$30,000 Juneteenth expense if over 76% of the respondents are teenagers

who don't PAY TAXES! City Council and the City Clerk should not authorize this fraudulent survey and tax. You have a duty to the citizens who pay taxes that the survey is verified.

Of the 289 respondents who participated prior to Mira Costa's massive involvement in the survey, support for a Juneteenth community celebration was less than 50%. Are teenagers also being allowed to voting on the Storm Drain Measure? Of course not!

You have a duty to the taxpayers that this survey is legitimate and accurate. Stop this possible misallocation of taxpayer funds.

What bothers me the most is why \$30,000 annually for only this holiday?

What have we spent on Veterans Day or Memorial Day? Inclusive holidays that honor all!

D Berger

Location:

Submitted At: 1:55pm 12-04-23

I emphatically support a Juneteenth event in MB. Especially if students are interested (which they are), we can honor Black and Brown lives and our future generation of leaders. It is hard to believe that this is still even a debate. Have an event. It is a celebration of living and the right to equitable opportunities.

Charles Southey

Location:

Submitted At: 8:48pm 12-03-23

Can someone please clarify what the \$30,000 is for? More details would be nice. Seems like a massive expense for an event that no one is aware of and based on survey results, very few adult citizens support.

James Harger

Location:

Submitted At: 8:35pm 12-03-23

PLEASE do not spend a single taxpayer dollar on this WORTHLESS EVENT! The Bruce family has been paid twice: \$14,500 in 1927 and nearly \$20 million by LAC last year. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! We don't memorialize a June 19th event now or in the future with our taxpayer money.

If some of you want to come out of pocket, or you have other WOK sponsors, you/they can foot the bill. And quit using teenager votes in your survey, who are not taxpayers, to justify this WORTHLESS event.

If the teenagers and Council are so inclined to go forward, together you can make the effort to raise the money. Maybe a bake sale or a personal check will help the cause. And I bet those of you who are behind the event would NEVER write a substantial check to underwrite it with your personal funds. I call people like you CHEAP LIBERALS!

And Steve, please don't reply "thank you for your comment" because I know you don't. You're a HUGE disappointment.

Jim Harger

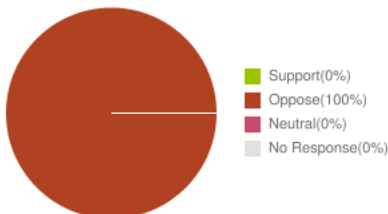
Manhattan Beach Native since 1958

Agenda Item: eComments for 15. 23-0537 Update Regarding Police Department and Citywide Staffing and Recruitment, and Consideration of a Resolution Approving Various Recruitment and Retention Incentives (Police Chief Johnson and Human Resources Director Jenkins).

(Estimated Time: 30 Mins.)

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 23-0165

Overall Sentiment



Gary Osterhout

Location:

Submitted At: 8:44am 12-05-23

I can see such incentives for police/fire, but not for the remainder of city staff (the latter which seems rather buried in the text). "Provide each City employee with a non-cashable floating "birthday holiday" that can be taken within

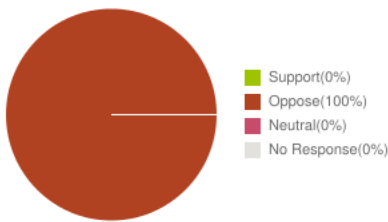
their birthday month?" -- c'mon, these folks already get more holiday and vacation than any private industry employee. In November, there seems to be more non-working days than working days. With fungibility of vacation hours, one more "noncashable" hour just means there is one more "cashable" hour. Frankly, I think we can do without a lot of our "institutional knowledge" that too often seems deployed on how to overcompensate city staff. If it's not 3-yr automatic salary raises, it's more vacation; if it's not salary increase, it's an increase in health insurance; if not a salary increase, it's a step-and-grade increase. If not positions, it's a special secured pension fund. With this "recruiting challenge" mantra trotted out each year. This has to stop.

Agenda Item: eComments for 16. 23-0543 Consideration of a Resolution Amending the City Manager's Employment Agreement to Provide The City Manager with the Ability to Accrue Additional Annual Leave of Up To 150 "Non-Cashable" Hours That Must Be Used Prior To December 31, 2024 (City Attorney Barrow).

(Estimated Time: 5 Mins.)

ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 23-0159, APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO THE CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Overall Sentiment



Gary Osterhout

Location:

Submitted At: 8:54am 12-05-23

For this last item of this kleptocracy session, I am also opposed to this. There is no discernable reason cited for this consideration in the staff report. Currently, the CM is sitting on \$126,000 of vacation hour value--much of which was earned during a period where his salary was less, with the value automatically increasing when he was promoted, and increases whenever he gets a raise in his current position. I think he has been sufficiently enriched, vacation wise. And such unnecessary increases just put a strain on the general fund and the internal service fees charged to the non-general funds. Think of the storm drains!

If this is all part of the golden handshake as he goes out the door, put together that comprehensive package together and let's evaluate that in total. Hopefully sooner than later.