

#### **CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS**

455 North Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210 4th Floor Conference Room A

### The Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Audit Committee

### SPECIAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday, December 20, 2018 4:00 PM

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date / Time: December 20, 2018 / 4:00 PM

IN ATTENDANCE: City Manager Mahdi Aluzri, Councilmember Robert Wunderlich,

Councilmember Lester Friedman, City Auditor Eduardo Luna, Director of

Finance Jeff S. Muir

Public in attendance: None

## 1) PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public were given the opportunity to directly address the Committee on any item listed on the agenda.

None.

### 2) ACTION PLAN FOR BUILDING THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AUDITOR'S OFFICE

This meeting's purpose is to present a framework proposal for a new auditor office and organize its processes

- Guiding principles
  - o Establishing a mission and values statement
  - Auditing standards
    - It is the City Auditor's recommendation that the *Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS)* or the *Yellow Book* is utilized. The Liaisons have noted the recommendation.
  - Audit process
    - The proposed process would include an initial planning process, the actual field work, and then the resulting report writing
    - Open communication and ongoing dialog is an integral part of the process
  - Auditing handbook and appropriate audit protocols
    - It is important to focus on independence, professional judgment, competence, and quality control and assurance
    - Conduct peer reviews
- Audit resources
  - Annual budget and staffing plan



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It is proposed to have (1) City Auditor, (2) Performance Auditors, and (1) Executive Assistant with a recruitment processing starting in 2019. More permanent office space would be needed. The space requirements will be brought before City Council at a future meeting.

### o Fraud hotline

- It is proposed to setup a means for City employees or members of the public to confidentially report any activity or conduct – related to or involving City personnel, vendors, resources, or operations – for which he or she suspects instances of fraud, waste, or abuse
- It is recommended by the Liaisons that there be a more general hotline to be able to report problems including, but not limited to fraud and would include appropriate follow-up measures in place

# Audit approach

- Annual audit work plan and risk assessment
  - It is proposed to create an annual work plan that would be approved by City Council. Different risk factors would be utilized to help create the work plan.
- Communication expectations and protocol
  - All reports will be made public
  - Quarterly update reports and annual accomplishment reports would be included
  - It is proposed that the Audit department would have its own section of the City's website
- Performance metrics
  - There would be particular requirements and metrics to ensure a high level of performance is met
- Audit recommendations follow-up process
  - It is proposed that a procedures is created to follow-up on audit recommendations as well as ensuring that recommendations are being implemented

### 3) ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time: December 20, 2018 / 5:07 PM