



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS REPORT

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CASEY MCKEON, CITY COUNCILMEMBER

DATE: JANUARY 17, 2023

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO REPEAL ORDINANCE 3907 RELATED TO THE CITY TREASURER’S ROLE

The elected City Treasurer is currently operating in a part-time position with limited responsibilities. Those responsibilities were reduced by City Council during the 2010-2011 timeframe and shifted to the appointed Finance Director (now titled Chief Financial Officer). However, those "shifts" were in violation of some parts of Section 311 of the City Charter.

The City Treasurer shall have the power and shall be required to:

(a) Receive on behalf of the City all taxes, assessments, license fees and other revenues of the City, or for the collection of which the City is responsible, and receive all taxes or other money receivable by the City from the County, State or Federal governments, or from any court, or from any office, department or agency of the City.

(b) Have and keep custody of all public funds belonging to or under control of the City or any office, department or agency of the City government and deposit or cause to be deposited all funds coming into their hands in such depository as may be designated by resolution of the City Council, or, if no such resolution be adopted, then in such depository designated in writing by the City Manager, and in compliance with all of the provisions of the State Constitution and laws of the State governing the handling, depositing and securing of public funds.

(c) Pay out moneys only on proper orders or warrants in the manner provided for in this Charter.

(d) Prepare and submit to the Director of Finance monthly written reports of all receipts, disbursements and fund balances, and shall file copies of such reports with the City Manager and City Council.

(e) Perform such other duties consistent with this Charter as may be required by ordinance or resolution of the City Council

(f) Assist and cooperate with the City Manager consistent with Section 403 of the City Charter.

From 2010-2011, the City Council adopted and updated Ordinance 3907 (amending HBMC Section 2.15.030) assigning some of these Charter responsibilities to the Finance Director. It is important that the City Council and other City leadership respect the Charter as written as the voice of the people and the will of the voters. There is wisdom in a divided government with independently elected officials who are appointed by the people (i.e., to work for the people

and to account to the people without any fear of losing his or her job). With the importance of the City being stewards of taxpayer moneys, it is important that this City Council reverse the former City Council's actions of 2010-2011 and restore the elected City Treasurer's duties, in full, to those provided in Section 311 of the City Charter.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Direct the City Attorney and the City Manager, in collaboration with the City Treasurer, to return to City Council at a regular meeting in February 2023 with the necessary actions to reverse Ordinance 3907 and restore the elected City Treasurer's duties, in full, to those provided in Section 311 of the City Charter.

