

# INDIAN WELLS CITY COUNCIL

## November 2, 2023



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**To:** City Council  
**From:** City Manager Department  
**Prepared by:** Chris Freeland, City Manager  
**Subject:** **Discussion Relating to Council Policy Manual Addressing Council's Non-Participation in Administration of the City**

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Council **DISCUSSES** and provides **DIRECTION** relating to Council Policy.

### BACKGROUND:

At the October 19, 2023, meeting, Council Member Reed requested Council consideration to place an item on a future agenda to discuss and review the Council Policy relating to non-participation in administration of the City.

Section 2.03.060 of the Indian Wells City Council Policy Manual addressing Council's non-participation in administration of the City:

*To uphold the integrity of the Council-Manager form of government and to provide proper checks and balances, Members of the Council shall refrain from becoming directly involved in the administrative affairs of the City, which includes the Indian Wells Golf Resort, unless directed by a majority of the Council to participate in a specific policy or project.*

The report included the following:

"On September 11<sup>th</sup> Councilmember Ty Peabody submitted a memorandum requesting updates on various city projects and programs. On September 17<sup>th</sup> City Manager Chris Freeland provided Councilmember Peabody and the entire City Council an update to Councilmember Peabody's September 11<sup>th</sup> memorandum.

On September 30<sup>th</sup> Councilmember Peabody submitted a new memorandum following up on his original September 11<sup>th</sup> memorandum seeking additional information on the administration of various Public Works projects. Councilmember Dana Reed expressed his concerns with this memorandum, which he believes to be a violation of the non-participation rule in Section 2.03.060. Councilmember Reed has requested this alleged

violation be agendaized for discussion by the City Council. A copy of Councilmember Peabody's memorandums, City Manager Freeland's email, and Councilmember Reed's email are attached."

During the October meeting, Council Member Peabody requested the item be placed on the November agenda for further discussion and in response to the matter.

Additionally, the City Council delegated a review of the Council Policy that addresses Council's Non-participation in Administration of the City to the Governance Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee will bring back recommendations or findings at a future meeting in 2024.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Councilmember Peabody Memo Dated September 11, 2023
2. City Manager Freeland Email Dated September 17, 2023
3. Councilmember Peabody Memo Dated September 30, 2023
4. Councilmember Reed Email Dated October 5, 2023