

**MINUTES OF THE  
LAWDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 20, 2016**

- A. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** – Mayor Pullen-Miles called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in the City Hall council chamber, 14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor Pro Tem Pat Kearney, Councilmember James H. Osborne, Councilmember Daniel Reid, Councilmember Bernadette Suarez

Other Participants: City Clerk Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Manager Stephen N. Mandoki, City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Lieutenant John Hocking, Assistant City Clerk Pamela Giamario, Public Works Director/City Engineer Frank Senteno, Municipal Services Director Deborah Holland, and approximately 25 audience members

- B. **CEREMONIALS** – Councilmember Suarez led the flag salute and Pastor Douglas Gates provided the inspiration.

Those present participated in a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the terrorist attack in Orlando, Florida.

- C. **PRESENTATIONS**

**South Bay Workforce Development Board** – Ruthi Davis discussed the board's activities.

- D. **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT** – Lieutenant Hocking discussed the joint police and fire efforts to educate the public about illegal fireworks and plans for enforcement. He responded to council's questions regarding the deployment of officers on the 4th of July, citations being issued and legal hours for safe and sane fireworks discharge.

- E. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

- Marco Sandoval – public education about fireworks, audience comments after the the Pledge of Allegiance, flags not being raised at the community center, the Health, Safety and Pet Fair
- Donna Hamilton – the definition of antiques and collectibles, and antique shops in the General Plan and the Hawthorne Boulevard Specific Plan
- Randall Abram – support for increasing fireworks enforcement and Sheriff's Department public education efforts
- Sam Pena, Republic Services – solid waste collection schedule during the holiday week, recommendation to douse fireworks prior to disposing in trash bins
- Marge Heinemann – doing good things for others

- F. **COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL** – The City Council responded generally to the comments, but did not request placement of any issues on a future meeting agenda. It was suggested that staff follow up on thrift/antique stores.

- G. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Motion to read by title only and waive further reading of all ordinances listed on the agenda.** (Recommendation: that council approves.)

**Rudolph Park – Final Acceptance.** (Recommendation: that the City Council approve Resolution No. CC-1606-037, accepting the property improvements for Rudolph Park as a gift-in-place from Trust for Public Land to the City of Lawndale.)

**Limitation on Spending Tax Proceeds.** (Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-1606-036 approving the appropriations limit for fiscal year 2016-17.)

**Consulting Services Related to Storm Water Management for Protection of Water Quality in the Dominguez Channel.** (Recommendation: that the City Council approve the contract services agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc. beginning June 20, 2016 through June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$9,936.)

**Community Center Fitness, Martial Arts, Dance and Gymnastics Classes.**

(Recommendation: that the City Council approve agreements for class instruction for FY 2016-17 with Christina Broome, Joshua Duncan, Maria Elena-Alvarez, Javonda Jones and OC Dance Productions.)

**Lawndale Beat Bus Contract.** (Recommendation: that the City Council approve the "First Amendment to Contract Services Agreement for Lawndale Beat Fixed-Route Transportation Services", correcting the end date of the agreement.)

**Extension of Community Development Block Grant and Labor Compliance Services.**

(Recommendation: that the City Council approve the first amendment to the agreement with MDG Associates Inc. for CDBG administration and labor compliance.)

**Traffic Modeling Analysis to Improve Vehicle, Pedestrian, Bicycle and Transit Flow on Inglewood Avenue.**

(Recommendation: that the City Council approve the first amendment to the contract services agreement with Evan Brooks Associates for the amount of \$3,000 through December 31, 2016.)

**Management Staff Salaries and Benefits, and Job Descriptions.** (Recommendation: that the City Council approve Resolution No. CC-1606-039, amending and restating the 2014 CMT resolution, and Resolution No. CC-1606-040, updating the job descriptions for the positions of Director of Municipal Services and Director of Community Services.)

**Accounts Payable Register.** (Recommendation: that the City Council adopts Resolution No. CC-1606-033, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$285,981.20.)

**Conflict of Interest Code.** (Recommendation: that the City Council direct staff and the city attorney to review the city's conflict of interest code to determine whether any revisions are required and to submit their findings to the City Council no later than October 1, 2016.)

**Obsolete Records.** (Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-1606-034, approving the requests from the City Manager, Municipal Services and Finance Departments for authorization to destroy the records listed in exhibits of the resolution.)

**Consideration of Claim Against the City.** (Recommendation: that the City Council reject the claim filed by Javier Landaverde and instruct staff to process the appropriate correspondence to the claimant.)

**Use of City Seal and City Name by Assemblywoman Burke.** (Recommendation: that the City Council approve the use of the city seal and City of Lawndale name on the promotional material(s) associated with Assemblywoman Autumn Burke's 2nd Annual Back to School Wellness and Health Fair at Jane Addams Park.)

City Attorney Israel reported that a redlined copy of Resolution No. CC-1606-039, included in the agenda item described as "Management Staff Salaries and Benefits, and Job Descriptions" was distributed to council with the recommendation to add one sentence pertaining to a particular position that was not included in the salary table.

**Councilmember Reid moved to approve Resolution No. CC-1606-039 as amended and to approve the remainder of the consent calendar as written. Mayor Pro Tem Kearney seconded the motion which carried by a vote of 5-0.**

#### **H. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Federal Funding for 4th of July Fireworks Suppression and Youth Day Parade Law Enforcement Services.** The public hearing was opened and closed immediately, there being no one wishing to testify.

**Councilmember Osborne's motion to authorize staff to submit the online application concerning the use of the 2016 Justice Assistance Grant funds was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kearney and carried by a vote of 5-0.**

#### **I. ADMINISTRATION**

**Filling the Vacancy in the Office of City Clerk.** Assistant City Clerk Giamario reported that three eligible residents had applied for the position and were present to be interviewed by the City Council.

Sirley Cuevas, Rhonda Hofmann Gorman and Henrietta Martinez individually provided background information and answered the following three questions that were provided on the application form:

- (a) What strengths, skills, knowledge and assets would you bring to service as the city clerk?
- (b) Why do you want to serve as the city clerk?
- (c) In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing the city clerk's office?

Councilmember Suarez asked all applicants to discuss their flexibility in scheduling and availability to the city. Mayor Pullen-Miles asked all applicants how long a commitment they would make to the job.

Mrs. Cuevas confirmed to Councilmember Osborne that she was prepared to vacate her planning commission office if appointed, and clarified for Mayor Pullen-Miles that she had attended one commission meeting. Councilmember Osborne inquired about Mrs. Hofmann Gorman's plans to run for elected office and asked Mrs. Martinez whether she had applied for other positions. Councilmember Suarez asked Mrs. Martinez what would be the first thing she would do as the city clerk.

At the conclusion of the interviews, Councilmember Suarez discussed the importance of commitment to the job and the city and the state law changes that would require the city to consolidate its elections with statewide elections. She then nominated Rhonda Hofmann Gorman for appointment; Councilmember Reid seconded the nomination. After a discussion about procedures, council unanimously approved the nomination.

**Councilmember Suarez moved to direct staff to fill in the blanks in Resolution No. CC-1606-035 with the appointee's name and adopt the resolution as amended. Councilmember Reid seconded the motion which carried by a vote of 5-0.**

The assistant city clerk administered the oath of office. After expressing her gratitude and pleasure to have the opportunity to serve the city, Rhonda Hofmann Gorman took her seat below the dais.

**Advisory Body Appointments.** The assistant city clerk reported that there were four eligible applicants for the five-member Cable Commission and 11 eligible applicants for the 12-member Senior Citizen Advisory Committee.

Mayor Pullen-Miles appointed Lenore Bemis, Andrew Gardiner, Bob Givens, and Joseph Madrigal to the Cable Commission, and appointed Betty Bailey, Oscar Bernal, Penny Bolton, Johnny Castro, Ruthi Davis, Teresa Garcia, Maureen Grimes, Margery Heinemann, Doris Hofmann, Harlika O'Balles, and Sally Riddle to the Senior Citizen Advisory Committee.

**Councilmember Osborne moved to approve the appointments by directing staff to insert the appointees' names in Sections 1 and 2 of Resolution No. CC-1606-038, and to adopt the resolution as amended. Mayor Pro Tem Kearney seconded the motion which carried unanimously.**

**Solid Waste Diversion from Landfills – Inclusion of Organic Waste and Sharps Disposal and Extension of Agreement.** Following the public works director's introduction, Debbie Morris of HF&H Consultants discussed the details of the proposed contract amendment. Assembly Bill 1826, signed by the governor in 2014, requires organics recycling for certain businesses and multi-family properties, public education and outreach, and monitoring programs. Organics recycling would include food waste and food-soiled paper waste. The proposed amendment would extend the current franchise with Consolidated Disposal Service, a subsidiary of Republic Services, Inc. at no additional cost. It would require the company to implement the provisions of AB 1826 and initiate a sharps disposal program, and would allow some leeway in disposal methods to offset the additional costs it would incur in implementing the program. The company would still maintain state mandated diversion rates. Councilmember Reid and Mayor Pullen-Miles received additional details about the sharps disposal program.

Public comment: Marco Sandoval also received additional information regarding the sharps disposal program.

**Councilmember Osborne's motion to approve the fourth amendment to the solid waste and recycling collection agreement with Republic Services was seconded by Councilmember Reid and carried unanimously.**

**Preservation of Local Government in a State of Emergency.** Municipal Services Director Holland reported that the California Emergency Services Act acknowledges that continuity of city government is essential to preserve law and order and to restore or continue governmental services during times of war, enemy attack or a state of emergency. The act authorizes the members of the City Council to each appoint up to three standby officers who could be called upon to perform their duties should they not be available during an emergency. Lawndale councilmembers traditionally appoint standby officers after each municipal election.

Mayor Pullen-Miles raised the question whether the appointment of standby officers must be agendized. City Attorney Israel responded that staff would investigate.

Mayor Pro Tem Kearney reappointed Tabitha Gomez and appointed Jeff Rudolph as his standby officers. Councilmember Reid reappointed Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, and appointed Michael Harbison and Annette Owens. Councilmember Suarez appointed Moises Merino, Sarah Wiltfong and Sandra Suarez. Mayor Pullen-Miles and Councilmember Osborne retained their previously appointed standby officers.

The mayor received confirmation that the standby officers would be notified of their appointment. The municipal services director reported staff's intention to meet with the appointees.

**State Expansion of Massage Therapy Law Allowing Cities to Adopt Regulations in the Interest of Public Health and Safety.** The municipal services director reported that many cities experienced a proliferation of massage establishments after the state passed the Massage Therapy Law in 2008. In 2014, the state amended the law to restore, to a degree, the ability of cities to regulate massage establishments via zoning ordinances. She recommended that council introduce the proposed ordinance which would update the city's building, sanitation and health standards pertaining to massage establishments and would limit the total number of massage establishments in the city to four.

Mayor Pullen-Miles asked how the number of establishments would be reduced to four from the current 11. Ms. Holland indicated that the number would go down through attrition, changes of ownership or location, and violations of the law.

Councilmember Osborne commented about the enormity of the issue in many cities with such businesses being fronts for illegal activities and expressed appreciation for staff's work.

Mayor Pullen-Miles expressed support for the imposition of a special use permit requirement which would give the city further regulatory tools to ensure the businesses remain in compliance with the law. He noted that the ordinance would prohibit the sale of condoms and contraceptives and asked whether the city could prohibit possession of such. City Attorney Israel advised that the city could not prohibit possession but the language could be strengthened by prohibiting the businesses from providing condoms and contraceptives.

**Councilmember Suarez moved to amend the ordinance to prohibit massage establishments from providing condoms and contraceptives, and to introduce and approve the first reading of the proposed Ordinance No. 1122-16. Councilmember Reid seconded the motion which carried by a vote of 5-0 following the city attorney's reading of the ordinance title.**

## **J. ITEMS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

### **Councilmember Report of Attendance at Meetings and/or Events** –see below

The councilmembers all attended the Health, Safety and Pet Fair.

Councilmember Osborne congratulated the new city clerk and others appointed earlier; discussed a new vector control board pamphlet about the West Nile and Zika viruses that was available at city facilities; and reported discussions at a recent South Bay Cities Council of Governments meeting regarding a tax measure sponsored by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to fund projects, warning of the negative impact it could have on Lawndale.

Councilmember Reid attended a Flag Day barbecue in El Segundo at no cost to city and attended a California Contract Cities Association meeting where there were discussions about Metro and the county sheriff's and fire departments.

Mayor Pro Tem Kearney participated in the Special Olympics Torch Run and extended happy 4th of July wishes.

Mayor Pullen-Miles attended a Centinela Youth Services volunteer appreciation dinner; suggested that staff steam clean the main entrance walkway at Hopper Park and polish the sign; and

announced that Assemblywoman Autumn Burke was hosting a "Replace Your Ride" event in Inglewood in conjunction with an Air Quality Management District program that subsidizes the purchase of lower emission vehicles for people with high emission vehicles.

**K. CLOSED SESSION**

**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation** - The City Council conducted a closed session, pursuant to Government Code sections 54956.9(d)(2) and (d)(3), because there was a significant exposure to litigation in one case. The city attorney reported that council was updated and no reportable action was taken.

**L. ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business to conduct, the mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:09 p.m. in memory of Robert A. Haywood.

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Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

Prepared by: Pamela L. Giamario, Asst. City Clerk

Approved: 8/1/16