

**MINUTES OF THE
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 15, 2016**

- A. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** – Mayor Pullen-Miles called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. in the City Hall council chamber, 14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California. The meeting was held concurrently with a meeting of the successor agency to the Lawndale Redevelopment Agency.
- 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 to the City Manager Raylette Felton, Municipal Services Director Deborah Holland, Community Development Director Sean Moore, and approximately 20 audience members
- B. **CEREMONIALS** – Councilmember Reid led the flag salute and Pastor Harbison provided the inspiration.
- C. **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT** – Lieutenant Hocking summarized recent law enforcement activities and responded to Councilmember Osborne's question about a recent operation by Redondo Beach police in Lawndale.
- D. **ITEMS FROM CITY CLERK** – none
- E. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
- Carol Smith – claim about gunshots by renters across the street and damage to her home, request to be allowed to build a front fence five feet high
 - Denise Campos, Southern California Gas public affairs manager – self introduction, a recently launched conservation program and customer assistance programs
 - Pam London – contract with spcaLA, suggestion to raise dog license fees, cars parked in front yards, code enforcement and property values
 - Steve Koonz – overflowing trash cans on Hawthorne Boulevard, wheelchair lifts on the Lawndale Beat buses, suggestion to talk to owners about cleaning up sidewalks in front of their businesses
 - Marge Heinemann – "Today's a good day to have a good day."
 - Gary McDonald – the city's sales tax base, gun activity, substandard housing stock, code enforcement, corruption, appointment of the city clerk
- 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. Ms. Smith was referred to the Sheriff's Department and the Community Development Department. Mayor Pro Tem Kearney suggested that a certain local business be fined because its plastic bags represent a large volume of the trash on the boulevard. Mayor Pullen-Miles asked staff to look for cars parked in yards.

G. CONSENT CALENDAR

Animal Sheltering Services. (Recommendation: that the City Council approve the agreement with the spcaLA for animal sheltering services at a base cost of \$69,600 plus \$25.00 per day for each animal held, at the city's request, in excess of the city's mandatory holding period.)

Mediation of Neighborhood Disputes. (Recommendation: that the City Council approve the agreement with the South Bay Center for Dispute Resolution with a contract sum of \$41,382 and a five percent contingency for a total not to exceed \$43,451.10.)

Donation of Community Center Annex Modular Building. (Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-1608-054, approving the donation of the community center annex modular building to JV Enterprises, LLC and authorizing the city manager to execute an indemnification and hold harmless agreement with JV Enterprises.)

Accounts Payable Register. (Recommendation: that the City Council adopts Resolution No. CC-1608-049, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$199,181.69.)

Obsolete Records. (Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-1608-050, approving the request from the City Clerk Department for authorization to destroy the records listed in exhibit of the resolution.)

Claim Against the City. (Recommendation: that the City Council reject the claim filed by Rose Dantzler and instruct staff to process the appropriate correspondence to the claimant.)

Claim Against the City. (Recommendation: that the City Council reject the claim filed by Arturo Ruiz Jr. and instruct staff to process the appropriate correspondence to the claimant.)

Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – August 1, 2016. (Recommendation: that council approves.)

City Manager Mandoki requested that council remove the item pertaining to the farmer's market for a staff presentation and continue an annual accounting of park development fees to the next meeting. The City Council agreed.

A motion by Councilmember Reid to approve the consent calendar was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kearney and carried by a vote of 5-0.

Use of City Property for a Farmer's Market. Assistant to the City Manager Felton summarized the terms of the new agreement with the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Pullen-Miles noted that the chamber had expressed a desire to move closer to Hawthorne Boulevard, but did not attend the meeting. Councilmember Reid hesitated on taking action in the absence of chamber representatives. Council agreed to his suggestion to invite representatives to attend the next meeting to discuss and to vote on the agreement whether or not they attend that meeting.

Annual Accounting of Park Development Fees. (Recommendation: that the City Council receive and file the report.) Continued to the next meeting.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Disaster Recovery, Hazard Mitigation and Closeout of 2008 Disaster Recovery Initiative Grant. Municipal Services Director Holland reported completion of updates to the General Plan Safety Element, the Emergency Operations Plan, and a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan with grant funded consulting assistance by Michael Baker International.

During the public hearing, Michael Harbison expressed concerns about the city's disaster planning, including plans for providing water to residents and restoration of gas, electricity and telecommunications services.

Councilmember Osborne noted that the fire chief once said that there are not enough resources if a disaster happens and that he emphasized self reliance. Councilmember Suarez focused on informing the public. Mayor Pullen-Miles inquired about written information that can be distributed to residents and the names of planning committee members in the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Councilmember Suarez moved to a) adopt Resolution No. CC-1608-052 to adopt the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and close out the related grant, and b) adopt Resolution No. CC-1608-053 to approve a General Plan amendment to update the Safety Element and the associated negative declaration. Councilmember Reid seconded the motion which carried by a vote of 5-0.

Impacts of Residential and Commercial Property Development on Traffic Congestion.

Community Development Director Moore reported that the city experienced a net increase of only one residential dwelling unit and a 1,241 square foot medical office during the reporting period of June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016.

The public hearing was opened and closed immediately, there being no one wishing to testify.

Councilmember Reid's motion to adopt Resolution No. CC-1608-051 finding the city to be in conformance with the Congestion Management Program and adopting the 2016 CMP local development report was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kearney and carried by a vote of 5-0.

I. ADMINISTRATION

Proposed Veteran's Day Field of Honor Event. The municipal services director sought council input whether to organize a Field of Honor event in which participants would purchase flags for display on the library lawn to honor veterans. She reported that the Kiwanis Club had agreed to provide staffing for this year and would consider sponsoring the event in future years.

Public comment: Gary McDonald suggested it was not appropriate for City Hall to be open on Veteran's Day. Council responded that holidays are determined in labor negotiations.

Councilmember Reid's motion to approve the event and set aside \$6,500 was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kearney and passed by a vote of 5-0.

J. ITEMS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS

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

All councilmembers attended the city's volunteer recognition dinner and praised the city's many volunteers. Councilmember Osborne and Mayor Pro Tem Kearney were scheduled to meet with the mayor of the City of Los Angeles the next day and would report on it at the next council meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Kearney and Councilmember Reid attended a South Bay 25 Club meeting where the Santa Sleigh program was discussed and attended a luncheon with school district officials. Councilmember Reid met with a student ambassador from WestCal Academy. Mayor Pullen-Miles reported a coming meeting with staff of the speaker of the house.

K. CLOSED SESSION

Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – The City Council conducted a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding litigation to which the agency was a party. The title of such litigation was as follows: City of Gardena vs. Regional Water Quality Control Board et al.; Case Number 30-2016-00833722-CU-WM-CJC; Orange County Superior Court. City Attorney Israel reported that council was updated, no action was taken.

L. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to conduct, the mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

/plg.

Approved: 9/6/16