

**MINUTES OF THE  
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
May 20, 2019**

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Pullen-Miles called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 14717 Burin Avenue, Lawndale, California.

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Robert Pullen-Miles, Councilmember Pat Kearney, Councilmember Daniel Reid, Councilmember Bernadette Suarez

Councilmembers Absent: Mayor Pro Tem James H. Osborne

Other Participants: City Clerk Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Manager Stephen N. Mandoki, City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Captain Duane Allen, Assistant to the City Manager/Human Resources Director Raylette Felton, Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes, Finance Director Marla Pendleton, Community Development Director Sean Moore, Assistant City Clerk Matthew Ceballos and approximately 18 audience members

**B. CEREMONIALS**

Councilmember Reid led the flag salute and Doris Hofmann provided the inspiration.

**C. PRESENTATION**

**1. Phyllis Burton and Doris Hofmann awarded Lawndale's 2019 Outstanding Older American as recognized by the County of Los Angeles Commission on Aging**

Mayor Pullen-Miles introduced the award and briefly spoke about the first awardee, Doris Hofmann.

Mayor Pullen-Miles introduced the award and briefly spoke about the second awardee, Phyllis Burton.

Doris Hofmann briefly spoke about receiving the award. The 2019 Outstanding Older American Award was presented to Phyllis Burton and Doris Hofmann by the City Council.

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

Captain Duane Allen summarized recent law enforcement activities.

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

- Angel Tena, Resident, inquired about the possibility for traffic mitigation near Leuzinger High School, he went on to explain the issues caused by the absence of a stop sign or traffic light.

- Pam London, Resident, spoke about port parkway code and policy, past policies, past department heads, and the future of Lawndale central management.
- Jose Padilla, Resident, spoke about the project on Manhattan Beach Blvd. and Hawthorne Blvd., inquired about the developmental progress.

**F. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**

The City Council and Staff responded generally to the comments, but did not request or seek placement of any issues on a future meeting agenda.

**G. CONSENT CALENDAR**

2. **Motion to read by title only and waive further reading of all ordinances listed on the agenda**  
Recommendation: that City Council approve.
3. **Engineering and Traffic Speed Survey for the establishment of the Speed Limits within the City of Lawndale**  
Recommendation: that City Council (a) approve the “Engineering and Traffic Speed Survey for Speed Limits” prepared by RBI Traffic Inc.; and (b) direct the City Clerk to forward a certified copy of the report to the Los Angeles County Sheriff to be used for their traffic enforcement.
4. **Notice of Completion for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-2019 Concrete Repairs Project**  
Recommendation: that City Council accept the Concrete Repairs Project FY 2018-19 by Ruiz Concrete and Paving Inc., as completed and authorize the Public Works Director to file the Notice of Completion to the Los Angeles County Recorder’s Office.
5. **Notice of Completion for the demolition of the Burin House and expansion of the Community Center Parking Lot**  
Recommendation: that City Council accept the demolition of the Burin House and expansion of the Community Center Parking Lot project by NOHO Constructors, Inc. as completed and authorize the Public Works Director to file the Notice of Completion to the Los Angeles County Recorder’s Office.
6. **Notice of Completion for the Marquee sign Demolition Project**  
Recommendation: that City Council accept the Marquee Sign Demolition project by PTM General Engineering Service, Inc. as completed and authorize the Public Works Director to file the Notice of Completion to the Los Angeles County Recorder’s Office.
8. **Cancellation of the July 1, 2019 City Council Meeting**  
Recommendation: that City Council cancel the July 1, 2019 City Council meeting.
9. **Accounts Payable Register**  
Recommendation: that the City Council adopts Resolution No. CC-1905-025 authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$306,764.33.

**10. Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – May 6, 2019**

Recommendation: that City Council approve.

City Council reached a consensus to move item number 7 off of the Consent Calendar.

**A motion by Councilmember Reid to approve the consent calendar excluding item number 7 was seconded by Councilmember Kearney and carried by a vote of 4-0. Mayor Pro Tem Osborne: Absent**

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

**7. Parks, Recreation and Social Services Commission Fireworks Stand Fundraising Program**

Recommendation: that City Council approved the contract services agreement for Parks, Recreation and Social Services Commission Fireworks Stand between the City of Lawndale and American Promotional Events, Inc. West, doing business as TNT Fireworks, for an amount of 50% of gross sales to the City and the remaining 50% of all gross sales to TNT Fireworks.

City Manager Steven Mandoki, briefly updated the Council on the potential staffing situation for the Fireworks stand.

Dan Wood, Parks, Recreation and Social Services Commission, provided an overview and support of the Fireworks stand.

Councilmember Kearney inquired about adequate staffing, Commissioner Wood affirmed that he believed the stand would be adequately staffed.

A dialogue ensued between the Council and Staff regarding the TNT fireworks contract, locations, proper staffing, and the approval of the Parks, Recreation and Social Services Commission.

**A motion by Councilmember Suarez to approve the contract services agreement for Parks, Recreation and Social Services Commission Fireworks Stand between the City of Lawndale and American Promotional Events, Inc. West, doing business as TNT Fireworks, for an amount of 50% of gross sales to the City and the remaining 50% of all gross sales to TNT Fireworks, was seconded by Councilmember Reid and carried by a vote of 3-1.**

**Mayor Pullen-Miles: Yes**

**Mayor Pro Tem Osborne: Absent**

**Councilmember Suarez: Yes**

**Councilmember Kearney: No**

**Councilmember Reid: Yes**

**I. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**11. Amendment to the Lawndale Municipal Code Section 17.84.050 relating to Fences, Hedges and Walls within Residential Zones**

Recommendation: that City Council (a) conduct a public hearing, receive public comment, if any, on the matter; (b) find that this action is categorically exempt from

CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and (c) approve the first reading to introduce Ordinance No. 1161-19, amending the City's height standards for fences, hedges and walls within front yard setbacks for properties on cul-du-sacs without sidewalks in residential zones.

Community Development Director Sean Moore reported on the proposed amendment to the Lawndale Municipal Code Section 17.84.050 relating to Fences, Hedges and Walls within Residential Zones.

At 7:14 p.m. the Public Hearing was opened and the following persons provided testimony after which the public hearing was closed.

Pam London, Resident, spoke in opposition to the ordinance and provided lengthy testimony on the history of the properties that would be affected by the code change, potential issues, and suggestions for future policies.

Randal Abrams, Resident, spoke in opposition to the ordinance and provided testimony regarding code violations, fence and wall issues, ongoing law changes, and potential adjustments to the code.

Johnny London, Resident, spoke in opposition to the ordinance and prior code enforcement cases.

At 7:24 p.m. the Public Hearing was closed.

Councilmember Kearney inquired about the effect of the ordinance on certain properties, Director Sean Moore responded in depth as to what properties would be affected and certain aesthetics.

Councilmember Suarez stated that she had no affiliation with residents who had code cases regarding fencing or those who would be effected by the policy change. This sentiment was also reiterated by Councilmember Reid.

Director Moore spoke about a history the fence policy issues and how the ordinance was tailored to fit the current situations with limited impacts.

**A motion by Councilmember Reid to find that this action is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines and approve the first reading to introduce Ordinance No. 1161-19, amending the City's height standards for fences, hedges and walls within front yard setbacks for properties on cul-du-sacs without sidewalks in residential zones, was seconded by Councilmember Suarez and carried by a vote of 4-0 following City Attorney Israel's reading of the title of Ordinance No. 1161-19. Mayor Pro Tem Osborne: Absent**

**J. ITEMS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

- 12. Re-Naming of the City's Annual Youth Day "Pirate Days" Parade requested by Councilmember Kearney**

Recommendation: that City Council discuss removing the title of "Pirate Days" from the annual Youth Day "Pirate Days" Parade and consider the general theme of Youth Day Parade.

Councilmember Kearney reported on the proposed re-Naming of the City's Annual Youth Day "Pirate Days" Parade.

Mayor Pullen-Miles spoke about re-naming the Parade and the process of selecting a theme and Grand Marshal.

Councilmember Suarez spoke about the potential issues in allowing outside committees to select the theme.

Councilmember Reid spoke in favor of allowing the Youth Advisory Committee and schools to have input in choosing a theme.

A dialogue ensued between Council regarding changing the name, choosing of the theme, attendance, and a need for a parade.

**A motion by Councilmember Kearney to remove the title of "Pirate Days" from the annual Youth Day "Pirate Days" Parade seconded by Councilmember Reid and carried by a vote of 4-0. Mayor Pro Tem Osborne: Absent**

**13. Mayor/Councilmember Report of Attendance at Meetings and/or Events**

Councilmember Reid attended the LA Wolves local soccer club at Rogers Park, California Contract Cites Annual Seminar, Sherriff Lieutenant interview, and promoted the Memorial Day ceremony.

Councilmember Kearney attended the Sherriff's Liability Trust Fund oversight committee meeting and the Centinela Valley Union High School district safety summit.

Councilmember Suarez attended the Leuzinger High School mental health day fair, California Contract Cites Annual Seminar, and the Centinela Valley Union High School district safety summit.

Mayor Pullen-Miles attended, the LA County sanitation district meeting, the City selection committee meeting to appoint a Chair to the METRO board, California Contract Cites Annual Seminar, and promoted the Memorial Day ceremony.

**K. CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:48 p.m. the City Council entered into closed session.

**14. Public Employee Performance Evaluation and Compensation**

The City Council will hold a closed session with the City Attorney, pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957(b) and 54957.6(a), to conduct an employee

performance evaluation of the City Manager and to discuss the salary, compensation and fringe benefits provided to the City Manager.

At 8:03 p.m. the City Council entered back into open session.

**City Attorney Tiffany Israel reported the City Council met in Closed Session to discuss the item listed on the Closed Session agenda. The City Council was updated on the item and there was no reportable action taken.**

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

  
Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

Approved: 6/3/2019