

**MINUTES OF THE  
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
August 17, 2020**

**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.

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

Other Participants: City Clerk Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Manager Kevin M. Chun, City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Lieutenant Chris Lio, Community Services Director Mike Estes, 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 Interim Public Works Director Kahono Oei.

**B. CEREMONIALS**

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez led the flag salute.

**C. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

Lieutenant Chris Lio summarized recent law enforcement activities.

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

- Gary White, Resident, expressed concern for the health and spread of COVID-19 upon those unmasked and was grateful for the reinstatement of street sweeping.

**E. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**

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

**F. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. **Motion to read by title only and waive further reading of all ordinances listed on the Agenda**  
Recommendation: that the City Council approve.
2. **Ordinance to make all violations of the Lawndale Municipal Code subject to Administrative Citation**  
Recommendation: that the City Council approve the second reading and adopt Ordinance 1174-20 to add a new chapter, Chapter 1.11, to the Lawndale Municipal Code which will make all violations of the Municipal Code subject to administrative citation.

3. **Federally Funded Employment and Job Training – South Bay Workforce Investment Board Activities Summary**  
Recommendation: that the City Council receive and file the report.
4. **Accounts Payable Register**  
Recommendation: that the City Council adopts Resolution No. CC-2008-043, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$808,184.64.
5. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – August 3, 2020**  
Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

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

**G. ADMINISTRATION**

6. **Authorizing the Application for and Receipt of a Permanent Local Housing Allocation Grant**  
Recommendation: that the City Council (a) determine that the consideration of Resolution CC-2008-044 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Section 15378 of the CEQA guidelines and (b) approve Resolution No. CC-2008-004 authorizing staff to submit an application for grant funding from the Permanent Local Housing Allocation Grant Program.

Community Development Director Sean Moore, reported on the proposed Authorization and Application for and Receipt of a Permanent Local Housing Allocation Grant

Mayor Robert Pullen-Miles requested clarification how helping a homeowner with code enforcement meets the program requirements. Community Development Director Sean Moore responded accordingly.

Councilmember Kearney inquired if the funds are refundable. Community Development Director Sean Moore and City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel responded they will look further into Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) guidelines.

Councilmember Reid inquired if the grant is one-time funding. Community Development Director Moore responded it will remain ongoing county-wide.

**A motion by Councilmember Kearney to determine that the consideration of Resolution CC-2008-044 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Section 15378 of the CEQA guidelines and approve Resolution No. CC-2008-004 authorizing staff to submit an application for grant funding from the Permanent Local Housing Allocation Grant Program was seconded by Councilmember Osborne and carried by a vote of 5-0.**

7. **Update on the Use of the Best Western Hotel and the Baymont Inn as a Temporary Homeless Shelter through “Project Roomkey”**

Recommendation: that the City Council receive and file this report, and provide direction to staff as appropriate.

Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes provided a report regarding the Use of the Best Western Hotel and Baymont Inn as Temporary Homeless Shelters through “Project Roomkey”

A dialogue ensued between the City Council and staff regarding an increase in homeless individuals throughout the City.

Councilmember Kearney stated that he was informed by Sergeant Nitz there was a death in one of the hotels and the cause was unclear. Municipal Services Director Reyes responded that he would follow up on that issue.

Mayor Pro Tem Bernadette Suarez inquired on the number of increased homeless individuals, Director Reyes responded that he will verify the updated number and noted that he has seen a rise in homeless individuals in Lawndale.

**The City Council received and filed the report by General Consensus.**

8. **Support of the California Citizens for Local Control**

Recommendation: that the City Council approve Resolution No. CC-2008-045 in support of the California Citizens for Local Control.

City Manager Kevin M. Chun reported on the Support of the California Citizens for Local Control.

Councilmember Osborne suggested the city joins in with the other South Bay Cities.

Mayor Pro Tem Bernadette Suarez inquired if other cities outside of Los Angeles County will participate. City Manager Kevin M. Chun responded accordingly.

**A motion by Councilmember Osborne to adopt the Resolution No. CC-2008-045 in support of the California Citizens for Local Control, was seconded by Councilmember Kearney and carried by a vote of 5-0.**

**H. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Kevin Chun reported on the heat wave and the declared stage two energy emergency by Southern California Edison. He went on to explain the two circuit areas, southwest quadrant and east-west streets, in the city may be affected with power outages for 1 hour between the times of 5pm-8pm if a stage three energy emergency was declared.

Councilmember Kearney suggested merging Community Center building staff to other vacant department locations to reduce energy usage and cost. City Manager Chun responded that he and Community Services Director Mike Estes will test air conditioning shutoffs in specific areas in the building prior to considering relocation.

**I. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCILMEMBERS**

**9. Mayor/City Councilmembers Report of Attendance at Meetings and/or Events**

Councilmember Osborne had nothing to report.

Councilmember Reid wanted everyone to stay safe during the heat wave.

Councilmember Kearney attended the Sherriff's Liability Trust Oversight Committee zoom meeting and the special City Council meeting with the Sheriff's department.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez attended South Bay City Council Government Steering committee meeting via zoon and Business Revitalization subcommittee.

Mayor Pullen-Miles attended the special City Council meeting with the Sheriff's Department and the first inaugural meeting of the Business Revitalization subcommittee.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**10. Conference with Legal Counsel — Anticipated Litigation**

~~The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4), because the City is considering whether to initiate litigation in one case against Best Western Plus South Bay Hotel, Baymont Inn, and the County of Los Angeles.~~


**Mayor Pullen-Miles withdrew item number 10, no closed session was conducted.**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

  
Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

Approved: 9/8/2020