

**MINUTES OF THE
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
September 21, 2020**

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Pullen-Miles called the meeting to order at 6:30 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 Captain Duane Allen, 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

Councilmember Daniel Reid led the flag salute.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Captain Duane Allen summarized recent law enforcement activities.

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Pam London, Resident, spoke about administrative fee changes and recent shooting incidents in Lawndale. Ms. London went on to speak about Employment Development Department (EDD) fraud in the city.

E. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

No comments provided.

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. **Biennial Review of the City's Conflict of Interest Code-Amendment**
Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2009-050, approving revisions to the City's Conflict of Interest Code to reflect clean-up, recent staffing, and/or role changes in the City Clerk's, Community Services, Finance, Municipal Services and Public Works Departments.

3. **Youth Advisory Committee Term Extensions**
Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2009-051, extending the terms of the current Youth Advisory Committee members, Kaleb Hafner and Octavio Mendoza for one year, effective October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, and Soraya Whaley for two years, effective October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2022.
4. **Park Development Fee Disclosure Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020**
Recommendation: that the City Council receive and file the report.
5. **Accounts Payable Register**
Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2009-049, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$108,826.37.
6. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – September 8, 2020**
Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

Councilmember Kearney inquired about the check amount of \$9,638.00 to Liebert Cassidy Whitmore in item number 5, Accounts Payable Register. Finance Director Marla Pendleton and Assistant to the City Manager/Human Resources Director Raylette Felton responded accordingly.

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

G. PUBLIC HEARING

7. **Animal Licensing Fee Update**
Recommendation: that the City Council (a) conducts a public hearing to receive testimony regarding dog licensing fee increases; (b) and adopt Resolution No. CC-2009-052.

Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes reported on the proposed Animal Licensing Fee Update.

Mayor Pullen-Miles opened the Public Hearing at 6:42 p.m.

Public Testimony

Pam London, Resident, provided testimony about the necessity of updated fees, unwanted pet births, and also requested licensing for cats.

Mayor Pullen-Miles closed the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Mayor Pullen-Miles requested clarification on the fee increase. Director Michael Reyes responded accordingly.

Finance Director Marla Pendleton informed the Council that the City has put out a Request for Proposals for a City-Wide Fee study and will begin next fiscal year.

Mayor Pullen-Miles inquired as to how many dogs are permitted in one household. Director Michael Reyes responded that a household could have up to four dogs.

A motion by Councilmember Reid to adopt Resolution No. CC-2009-052, updating the Animal Licensing Fees, was seconded by Councilmember Kearney and carried by a vote of 5-0.

8. Amending Lawndale Municipal Code Chapter 17.50, Density Bonus Provisions for Residential Units

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) conduct a public hearing (b) determine that Ordinance No. 1175-20 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and (c) introduce and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1175-20, an Ordinance Amending the Lawndale Municipal Code, Chapter 17.50, regarding density bonus standards for affordable residential units to reflect recent changes in state law

Community Development Director Sean Moore reported on the proposed amendment of Lawndale Municipal Code Chapter 17.50, Density Bonus Provisions for Residential Units

Mayor Pullen-Miles opened and closed the public hearing immediately at 6:52 p.m., there being no one wishing to testify.

Councilmember Kearney inquired how likely it was that a developer will build a homeless shelter in the City of Lawndale. Community Development Director Sean Moore responded a homeless shelter would need to be reviewed and approved by a separate provision.

A motion by Councilmember Reid to approve Ordinance No. 1175-20, Amending the Lawndale Municipal Code, Chapter 17.50, regarding density bonus standards for affordable residential units to reflect recent changes in state law was seconded by Councilmember Kearney and carried by a vote of 5-0, following City Attorney Israel's reading of the title of Ordinance No. 1175-20.

H. ADMINISTRATION

9. Establishing Administrative Citation Fees

Recommendation: that the City Council adopts Resolution No. CC-2009-053, Establishing Administrative Citation Fees.

Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes reported on the proposed adoption of Resolution No. CC-2009-053, Establishing Administrative Citation Fees.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez inquired if warnings will be given prior to citations being issued. Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes affirmatively that noticing would be required in code cases involving property owners prior to the issuing of citations.

Public Comment

Randall Abram, Resident, spoke in favor of approving the Resolution and spoke about the need for a yearly property inspection program for the city.

Pam London, Resident, spoke about the need for a Rental Property Inspection Program for maintenance issues on properties in Lawndale.

Councilmember Kearney inquired about if citations and notices would go to the renter or property owner, City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel responded accordingly.

A motion by Councilmember Kearney to adopt Resolution No. CC-2009-053, establishing Administrative Citation Fees, was seconded by Mayor Robert Pullen-Miles and carried by a vote of 5-0.

10. Amending Lawndale Municipal Code Sections 8.24.115 and 8.24.200, Providing Authority for Recovery of Attorney's Fees and Imposition of Treble Damages in Public Nuisance Abatement Actions

Recommendation: that the City Council introduce and approve the first reading of Ordinance 1176-20, Amending Lawndale Municipal Code Sections 8.24.115 and 8.24.200, Providing Authority for Recovery of Attorney's Fees and Imposition of Treble Damages in Public Nuisance Abatement Actions.

City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel reported on the proposed amendment of Lawndale Municipal Code Sections 8.24.115 and 8.24.200, Providing Authority for Recovery of Attorney's Fees and Imposition of Treble Damages in Public Nuisance Abatement Actions.

Mayor Pullen Miles inquired as to what the difference was with Public Nuisance and Code Violation. City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel responded that a Public Nuisance is defined as a health and safety violation for property violations, where the issues may be dangerous to live in or near the property.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez inquired if this is applied to the property owner or the property. City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel responded a new buyer or owner of the property would not qualify and the process would need to restart.

A motion by Councilmember Reid to approve Ordinance No. 1176-20, Amending Lawndale Municipal Code Sections 8.24.115 and 8.24.200, Providing Authority for Recovery of Attorney's Fees and Imposition of Treble Damages in Public Nuisance Abatement Actions was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Suarez and carried by a vote of 5-0, following City Attorney Israel's reading of the title of Ordinance No. 1176-20

11. Cancellation of the Annual Halloween Haunt Event

Recommendation: that the City Council cancel the upcoming Halloween Haunt event scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 2020, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Lawndale Civic Center Plaza.

Community Services Director Mike Estes reported on the Cancellation of the Annual Halloween Haunt Event.

The Council reached a unanimous consensus to cancel the upcoming Halloween Haunt event scheduled for Saturday, October 31, 2020, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Lawndale Civic Center Plaza.

12. Award of Construction Contract to Shawnan for Inglewood Ave. Phase I Street Improvement Project

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) authorize the Director of Finance to transfer \$46,410 (Prop C Funds) from Phase II (207-310-700.150) to Phase I (207-310-700.151) of the Inglewood Avenue Street Improvement Project, if approved by the Program Administrator; (b) approve and authorize the Director of Finance to increase appropriations from the 2009 TAB Fund in the amount of \$215,123 (307-610-700.151) for the project totaling \$481,468. Increase appropriation another \$46,410 in the 2009 TAB Fund, if the Program Administrator disallows moving Prop C money as outlined in recommendation “(a)” above (i.e., \$481,468 + \$46,410 = \$527,878); (c) award a construction contract in the amount of \$1,177,400.00 to Shawnan for the project with a ten percent (10%) contingency of \$117,740 if necessary to avoid project delays and facilitate timely project completion.

Interim Public Works Director Kahono Oei reported on the Award of Construction Contract to Shawnan for Inglewood Ave. Phase I Street Improvement Project.

Councilmember Reid inquired about the uneven concrete and asphalt on Marine Avenue and 152nd Street. Interim Public Works Director Kahono Oei responded that the concrete will not be removed and they will grind the asphalt to ensure it keeps level.

A motion by Councilmember Kearney to authorize the Director of Finance to transfer \$46,410 (Prop C Funds) from Phase II (207-310-700.150) to Phase I (207-310-700.151) of the Inglewood Avenue Street Improvement Project, if approved by the Program Administrator; approve and authorize the Director of Finance to increase appropriations from the 2009 TAB Fund in the amount of \$215,123 (307-610-700.151) for the project totaling \$481,468. Increase appropriation another \$46,410 in the 2009 TAB Fund, if the Program Administrator disallows moving Prop C money as outlined in recommendation “(a)” above (i.e., \$481,468 + \$46,410 = \$527,878); award a construction contract in the amount of \$1,177,400.00 to Shawnan for the project with a ten percent (10%) contingency of \$117,740 if necessary to avoid project delays and facilitate timely project completion, was seconded by Councilmember Reid and carried by a vote of 5-0.

I. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Kevin Chun announced that City facilities opened today by appointment only. City Manager Chun spoke about Clean-up week event of bulky items on trash day only, the City teaming up with UCLA for a blood drive on October 6, 2020 and went on to commend all staff who participated in the development of today’s agenda and meeting.

J. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

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

Councilmember Osborne had nothing to report.

Councilmember Reid attended the Contract Cities meeting which covered the loss of local control issues.

Councilmember Kearney attended the Sheriff's Liability Trust and Oversight Committee meeting via-zoom.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez attended South Bay Cities Council of Government steering Committee.

Mayor Pullen-Miles attended Sanitation District Board of Directors meeting and South Bay Association of Realtors Mayors' panel where COVID-19 related issues in neighboring Cities were discussed.

Mayor Pullen-Miles spoke of an increase of illegally dumped large items throughout the City and requested staff increase ride arounds to mitigate the items dumped on the street. City Manager Kevin Chun responded that he would remind staff to be on the lookout and pick up illegal dumped items around the City.

K. CLOSED SESSION

At 7:38 p.m. the City Council entered into closed session.

14. Conference with Labor Negotiator

The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6, with the City Manager, the City Attorney and the City's Negotiators, regarding labor negotiations with Local 1895, Council 36, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, representing the City's mid-management and classified employees.

15. Public Employee Performance Evaluation


The City Council will hold a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b), to conduct an employee evaluation concerning the City Manager.

At 8:30 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 two items listed on the Closed Session agenda. The City Council was updated on both items and there was no reportable action taken.

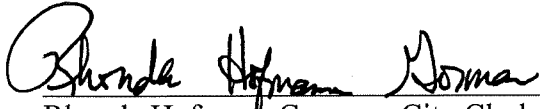
L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.



Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rhonda Hofmanh Gorman, City Clerk

Approved: 10/05/2020