

**MINUTES OF THE
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
November 2, 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 Lea Reis.

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, inquired on the status of "Project Roomkey" program in Best Western Hotel and of the homeless individuals, she then spoke about an intruder on her property and the response from Sheriff's department on public safety concerns.

E. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

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

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Continuation of Emergency Condition and Approving Repairs without Notice for Bids for the Harold E. Hofmann Community Center

Recommendation: that the City Council approve Resolution No. CC-2011-060 extending the emergency condition, a second time, established on October 5, 2020 with the approval of Resolution No. CC-2010-056.

2. **Accounts Payable Register**

Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2011-59, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$1,288,996.19.

3. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – October 19, 2020**

Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

Councilmember Kearney inquired about a line item on the accounts payable registrar, item number 2, payment amounts to Aleshire and Wynder, LLP and to KOA Corporation.

Finance Director Marla Pendleton responded the payment to KOA Corporation was due and another payment is pending for the previous interim Public Work Director. She went on to respond about the attorney fees to Aleshire and Wynder, LLP, budgeted for \$350,000 the whole year. City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel added Lawndale filed a writ against Metro last month and there are several receiverships that are currently in litigation, causing an increase in the monthly billing.

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

G. **ADMINISTRATION**

4. **2021 Residential and Commercial Solid Waste Collection Rates**

Recommendation: that the City Council receive and file the report.

Interim Public Works Director Lea Reis reported on 2021 Residential and Commercial Solid Waste Collection Rates.

Councilmember Kearney informed Interim Public Works Director Lea Reis and staff to prepare for phone calls from residents regarding the increase.

Interim Public Works Director Lea Reis responded the information will be noted on the City website, social media, and Cable TV and added residents are welcome to call anytime.

A motion by Mayor Robert Pullen-Miles to receive and file the report, was seconded by Councilmember Kearney and carried by a vote of 5-0

5. **Cancellation of Angel Tree Lighting and Santa Sleigh Event**

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) cancel the 2020 Angel Tree Lighting event and Santa Sleigh program; and (b) provide direction to staff regarding a potential Angel Tree Lighting program alternative.

Community Services Director Mike Estes reported on cancellation of the Angel Tree Lighting and Santa Sleigh Event.

Councilmember Kearney inquired if Councilmembers are able to participate in the proposed Angel Tree Lighting countdown.

Community Services Director Mike Estes responded that is a possibility and may be discussed.

City Manager Kevin Chun added a virtual event for Angel Tree is something that has been discussed and Cable TV department has been doing some preliminary work already and can have councilmembers to video interviews.

Councilmember Kearney wants all Councilmembers to participate live while keeping a safe distance of 6 feet.

Councilmember Reid concurred with Councilmember Kearney's idea.

City Manager responded he will meet with Tom and Cable Department to work out the idea and will then update Council with the specifics.

City Council came to a consensus and provided staff with a different direction on the Angel Tree Lighting Ceremony and to cancel the Santa Sleigh Event. The Council suggested that the Angel Tree Lighting Ceremony be done as a live virtual event.

6. Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) adopt Resolution No. CC-2011-061 approving the State grant conditions; and (b) authorize staff to file an application titled: "Recreation Facility Security Camera Project" with the State of California to use Proposition 68 grant funding.

Community Services Director Mike Estes reported on Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant.

Councilmember Kearney inquired if surveillance cameras in McKenzie Community Garden are necessary.

Community Services Director Mike Estes responded cameras can be placed in certain strategic areas and added the property has been going without cameras for so long already but it is a risk and necessary to upgrade the risk management program.

A motion by Councilmember Reid to approve Resolution No. CC-2011-061 approving the State grant conditions; and authorize staff to file an application titled: "Recreation Facility Security Camera Project" with the State of California to use Proposition 68 grant funding, was seconded by Councilmember Kearney.

H. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Kevin Chun encouraged everyone to go out and vote. Mr. Chun explained the available voting options in Lawndale and shared the election results will be available on the City website. The City Manager went on to share that the Field of Honor event display will be up, safely, for community walkthroughs or drive-bys.

I. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

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

Councilmember Osborne encourages everyone to vote and explained he voted last week.

Councilmember Reid wanted everyone to go out and vote. He went on wishing everyone a happy Veterans Day.

Councilmember Kearney attended the South Bay Workforce Investment Board 25th Annual Awards virtual ceremony, Herb Wesson's COVID-19 testing and food giveaway. Kearney went on with a follow up to interview the three perspective attorney firms.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez attended Herb Wesson's COVID-19 testing and food giveaway and also followed up on interviews with attorney firms.

Mayor Pullen-Miles attended the California Joint Powers Authority annual meeting, via zoom and L.A. County Sanitation District Board of Directors.

J. CLOSED SESSION

At 7:08 p.m. the City Council entered into closed session.

8. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation. The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code sections 54956.9(d)(2) and (d)(3), because there is a significant exposure to litigation in one case.

9. 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 8:32 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.

K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.



Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

Approved: 11/16/2020