

**MINUTES OF THE  
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
April 6, 2020**

**Consistent with Executive Orders No.-25-20 and No. N-29-20 from the Executive Department of the State of California and the Los Angeles County Health Official's "Safer at Home" Order, this City Council meeting was not physically open to the public as City Councilmembers teleconferenced into the meeting via WebEx Communications.**

**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, and Assistant City Clerk Matthew Ceballos.

**B. CEREMONIALS**

Councilmember Reid led the flag salute.

**C. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

Captain Allen summarized recent law enforcement activities.

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

No public comments were provided.

**E. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**

No comments were 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. Consideration of Claims Against the City**

Recommendation: that the City Council reject the claim filed by Francisco J. Lopez and instruct staff to process the appropriate correspondence to the claimant.

**3. Accounts Payable Register**

Recommendation: that the City Council adopts Resolution No. CC-2004-018, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$648,779.99.

**4. Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – March 16, 2020**

Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

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

**G. ADMINISTRATION**

**5. Authorizing Application For and Receipt of Local Early Action Planning Grant Funding**

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) that the consideration of Resolution CC-2004-017 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines; and (b) adopt Resolution No. CC-2004-017 authorizing staff to submit an application for grant funding from the Local Early Action Planning Grant Program.

Community Development Director Sean Moore reported on the proposed application for grant funding from the Local Early Action Planning Grant Program.

**A motion by Councilmember Osborne to approve the Authorizing Application For and Receipt of Local Early Action Planning Grant Funding with the amendment to have the Community Development Director inserted to authorize the application was seconded by Councilmember Reid and carried by a vote of 5-0.**

**6. Urgency Ordinance Prohibiting Eviction during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Recommendation: that the City Council consider whether to adopt Urgency Ordinance 1170-20, that prohibits residential and commercial evictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, effective immediately.

City Attorney Tiffany Israel reported on the Urgency Ordinance Prohibiting Eviction during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Public Comment (Read aloud by Assistant City Clerk Matthew Ceballos)

Sean Waxman, Resident and Business owner, provided an e-comment in favor of approving the ordinance.

A dialogue ensued between Council about the noticing requirement from tenant to landlord.

**A motion by Councilmember Kearney to approve the Urgency Ordinance Prohibiting Eviction during the COVID-19 Pandemic was seconded by Mayor Pullen-Miles and carried by a vote of 5-0, following City Attorney Israel's reading of the title of Urgency Ordinance No. 1170-20.**

**7. Further Modifications to City Operations and Related Issues Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Recommendation: that the City Council consider and approve (a) Ratification of staff's decision to temporarily suspend parking enforcement for street sweeping, and to dismiss street sweeping related parking citations issued on March 16-17, 2020; (b) Cancellation of the April 25, 2020 Community Bike Ride and Youth Day Parade/Spring Extravaganza; (c) Form a City Council budget subcommittee to work with staff in reviewing revenue and expenditure projections and to develop recommendations for City Council consideration; and (d) Provide direction to staff regarding Transient Occupancy Tax collection, and penalties and interest measures.

City Manager Kevin M. Chun reported on the Further Modifications to City Operations and Related Issues Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, such as: parking enforcement; public events; financial consideration; and the transient occupancy tax.

Public Comment (Read aloud by Assistant City Clerk Matthew Ceballos)

Randall Abram, Resident, provided an e-comment in favor of approving further modifications to city operations and related issues due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

City Manager Kevin M. Chun added an item for ratification, (e) to draft a letter of support to deferral of the L.A. County Sherriff Department rate increase.

A dialogue ensued between the City Council about future events and the financial outlook of the City during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Pullen-Miles nominated Councilmember Kearney and Councilmember Reid to be on a budget sub-committee.

A lengthy dialogue ensued between the City Council and staff regarding the potential waiver of transient occupancy tax, collection of the transient occupancy tax, and other remedies to assist local hotels and motels during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**A motion by Councilmember Osborne to approve the ratification of staffs decision to temporarily suspend parking enforcement for street sweeping, and to dismiss street sweeping related parking citations issued on March 16-17, 2020; the cancellation of the April 25, 2020 Community Bike Ride and Youth Day Parade/Spring Extravaganza; form a City Council budget subcommittee, with Councilmember Kearney and Councilmember Reid, to work with staff in reviewing revenue and expenditure projections and to develop recommendations for City Council consideration; Transient Occupancy Tax collection, and penalties and interest measures would be done pursuant to the Lawndale Municipal Code; and draft a letter of support of a deferral of the L.A. County Sherriff Department rate increase, was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bernadette Suarez and carried by a vote of 5-0.**

**H. CITY MANAGERS REPORT**

No report provided.

**I. ITEMS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

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

Councilmember Osborne wanted everyone to stay safe and thanked staff for setting up the meeting.

Councilmember Kearney thanked staff for the work done, wanted everyone to stay safe, and wished everyone a happy Easter.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez wanted everyone to stay safe and sent well wishes.

Mayor Pullen-Miles wished families and everyone of Lawndale good health.

Councilmember Reid congratulated staff for doing a job well done with a technical meeting and wanted everyone to stay safe and healthy.

**J. CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:31 p.m. the City Council entered into closed session.

**9. 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.

**10. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**

The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), to confer with legal counsel regarding litigation to which the City is a party. The title of such litigation is as follows: WIA/CTIA Petition for Rulemaking and Declaratory Ruling (WT Docket No. 19-250, RM-11849).

At 7:53 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 item listed on the Closed Session agenda. On item number 9, the City Council unanimously voted to authorize the initiation of litigation against Southern California Edison. On item number 10, the City Council unanimously voted to authorize joining the opposition against WIA/CTIA.**

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

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Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

Approved: 4/20/2020