

**MINUTES OF THE  
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
April 20, 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, and Assistant City Clerk Matthew Ceballos.

**B. CEREMONIALS**

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez led the flag salute.

**C. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

Captain Allen summarized recent law enforcement activities.

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

- Johnny Castro, Resident, spoke about the reopening of small businesses in Lawndale and inquired about a plan to reopen Lawndale businesses.
- Randall Abram, Resident, spoke about Project Roomkey housing homeless individuals in Lawndale and inquired about the potential impacts.
- Pam London, Resident, spoke in opposition about Project Roomkey housing homeless individuals in Lawndale.

**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. **Consideration of Claims Against the City**  
Recommendation: that the City Council reject the claim filed by Vista Paint Corporation and instruct staff to process the appropriate correspondence to the claimant.
2. **Project Specifications and Authorization to Bid the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Annual Street Improvements Project**  
Recommendation: that the City Council (a) adopt the plans and specifications (PS&E), and approve the project scope of work, and authorize staff to advertise the project to solicit bids; (b) approve a fifteen percent (15%) contingency of \$97,500 for Grevillea Avenue, 159th Street, and Freeman Avenue- Street Improvement Project SB1-FY 2019-20 to avoid project delays and facilitate timely project completion; and (c) approve a fifteen percent (15%) contingency of \$79,500 for 147th Street-Street Improvement Project CDBG FY 2019-20 to avoid project delays and facilitate timely project completion.
3. **Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget List of Projects, Road Repair and Accountability Act – Senate Bill (SB) 1**  
Recommendation: that the City Council (a) adopt Resolution CC-2004-020, approving the project list of streets: 161<sup>st</sup> Street, from Inglewood Avenue to the Cul De Sac, and 167<sup>th</sup> Street, from Hawthorne Boulevard to Freeman Avenue; and (b) direct staff to include the additional funding necessary for these projects in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget as part of the normal budget process.
4. **Adopting the Los Angeles County Fire Codes by Reference (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**  
Recommendation: that the City Council (a) find the project to be categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; (b) approve the first reading to introduce Ordinance No. 1171-20, adopting the Los Angeles County Fire Codes by Reference; and (c) order a public hearing to be held for the second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 1171-20.
5. **Accounts Payable Register**  
Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2004-019, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$745,037.75.
6. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – April 6, 2020**  
Recommendation: that the City Council approve.
7. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Emergency Meeting – April 13, 2020**  
Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

Councilmember Kearney inquired about two line items on the accounts payable warrant register, agenda item number 5. Recommended suspending the crossing guard and

A lengthy dialogue ensued between the City Council and Staff on the Lawndale Beat and crossing guard usage and payment. The dialogue continued between the City Council and Staff regarding the Lawndale Beat ridership, contractual obligation, possible suspension of services, funding, and alternatives during Covid-19.

Staff indicated it would come back with more information to Council on ridership data and possible alternatives for community transportation.

**A motion by Councilmember Reid to approve the consent calendar 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. 1171-20.**

**G. ADMINISTRATION**

**8. Designation of City's Agents in Applying for Reimbursement from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)**

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) adopt Resolution CC-2004-021, approving the designation of Applicant's Agents Resolution as part of the City Request for Public Assistance from FEMA and Cal OES and (b) authorize the City Manager to take any other necessary action to apply for reimbursement for City costs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Municipal Service Director Micheal Reyes reported on the designation of City's Agents in applying for reimbursement from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)

Mayor Pullen-Miles inquired about if any reimbursement funds and be used for payroll. Director Reyes responded that this was a preliminary request for reimbursement.

**A motion by Mayor Pullen-Miles to adopt Resolution CC-2004-021, approving the designation of Applicant's Agents Resolution as part of the City Request for Public Assistance from FEMA and Cal OES and authorize the City Manager to take any other necessary action to apply for reimbursement for City costs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic was seconded by Councilmember Reid and carried by a vote of 5-0.**

**9. Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2020**

Recommendation: that the City Council receive and file the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2020.

Finance Director Marla Pendleton provided the Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2020.

**The City Council received and filed the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2020 by unanimous consent.**

**H. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Kevin Chun had nothing to report.

**I. ITEMS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

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

Councilmember Osborne inquired if staff could explore other uses for a property sold to a developer and if other nearby City's hotels were being used or sought out as emergency homeless shelters.

City Manager Kevin Chun addressed the property land use and potential uses for it. Community Development Director Sean Moore provided feedback on the property.

City Manager Chun responded as to what other South Bay Cities were being used or sought out as emergency homeless shelters.

Councilmember Reid reported on a phone call with the L.A. County Supervisor's office to request information on homeless sheltering issue.

Councilmember Kearney requested that the budget subcommittee meet as soon as possible and requested the City Council hold a closed session for the employee evaluation of the City Manager at the May 18, 2020 City Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez had nothing to report.

Mayor Pullen-Miles spoke about the cleanliness of the City and inquired about additional efforts that could be made.

City Manager Chun and Interim Public Works Director Kahono Oei provided information on the ongoing street cleaning and the current operations. Interim Public Works Director Oei stated that Public Works would be increasing patrols to assist in picking up abandon trash and keeping the public right-of-way clean.

**J. CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:24 p.m. the City Council entered into closed session.

**11. 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 Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) relating to the I-405 Improvement Project.

At 8:00 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 one item listed on the Closed Session agenda. The City Council was updated on item number 11 and there was no reportable action taken.**

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

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Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

Approved: 5/4/2020