

**MINUTES OF THE
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
August 3, 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 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

Councilmember Daniel Reid led the flag salute.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Captain Allen summarized recent law enforcement activities and provided contact information for the stations on-duty watch commander to report any concerns related to general Department procedures and individual officers.

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Gary White, Resident, described two separate incidents in which he called the Lawndale Sheriff's.
- Bob Clark, Resident, spoke about the resumption of parking enforcement and offered suggestions on initial enforcement of street sweeping parking enforcement.
- Lindsey Pearson, Resident, spoke in support of reinstating parking enforcement and suggested patrolling the alleys and increased code enforcement.
- Dyan M. Davis, Lawndale Chamber of Commerce, spoke in support of safe-and-sane firework sales in Lawndale and their benefit to youth programs.
- Stephanie Esquivel, Resident, spoke in opposition to parking enforcement due the current events in Los Angeles County.

- Matthew Pelzl, Resident, spoke in support of safe-and-sane firework sales in Lawndale and their benefit to the youth baseball program.
- Pam London, Resident, inquired about extending the street sweeping parking enforcement moratorium, inquired about the number of Sherriff's patrolling over 4th of July, and requested information about the residents in "Project Roomkey" hotels.
- Randall Abram, Resident, commented on the rise of COVID-19 cases and the effect it has had on Lawndale. He also spoke in support of extending the street sweeping parking enforcement moratorium and inquired about face mask enforcement in the City.
- Johnny London, Resident, expressed his concerns about the word limit for the temporary public comment policy.

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. **Transfer Agreement between the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and the City of Lawndale, Agreement No. 2020MP44**
Recommendation: that the City Council (a) approve the Transfer Agreement, Agreement No. 2020MP44, and (b) authorize the City Manager to execute said agreement.
3. **Accounts Payable Register**
Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2008-042, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$210,295.99.
4. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – July 20, 2020**
Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

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

G. ADMINISTRATION

5. **League of California Cities Annual Conference**
Recommendation: that the City Council (a) select a delegate and an alternate to represent the city at the League of California Cities Annual Conference and (b) direct the Director of Finance to transfer funds from the applicable City Council discretionary fund(s) into travel expense accounts to cover the conference costs.

City Council reached a unanimous consensus to designate Councilmember Kearney as the voting delegate and have Councilmember Reid as the alternate.

A motion by Councilmember Kearney to approve the designation of Councilmember Kearney as delegate and Councilmember Reid as the alternate to represent the city at the League of California Cities Annual Conference and direct the Director of Finance to transfer funds from the applicable City Council discretionary fund(s) into travel expense accounts to cover the conference costs was seconded by Councilmember Reid and carried by a vote of 5-0.

6. Ordinance to make all violations of the Lawndale Municipal Code subject to Administrative Citation

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) approve the first reading to introduce 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, (b) with direction given on how interest (not to exceed 100% of the original fine) should be handled:

- (i) do not charge penalties for late payments,
- (ii) charge a flat late fee, or as presented in the ordinance, or
- (iii) charge a late fee that is a percentage of the total fine plus any assessed penalties.

Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes, reported on proposed Ordinance 1174-20, to make all violations of the Lawndale Municipal Code subject to Administrative Citation.

Public Comment

Randall Abram, Resident, spoke in support of the Ordinance to create an administrative citation process.

Pam London, Resident, spoke in support for the administrative citation process and offered suggestions to help keep property owners accountable.

Johnny London, Resident, spoke in support of the administrative citation process in order to protect property values.

Councilmember Kearney inquired about the fine schedule ranges. City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel responded that the fine schedule would need to be adopted separately from the process.

Mayor Robert Pullen-Miles requested clarification on page 2 of staff report, "when the responsible party fails to pay the applicable administrative citation fine and any interest owed, a lien can be recorded against the property or the responsible party." City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel and Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes responded accordingly.

A motion by Councilmember Reid to approve the first reading to introduce 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, with interest (not to

exceed 100% of the original fine) being administered as a late fee charge that is a percentage of the total fine plus any assessed penalties 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. 1174-20.

H. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Kevin Chun had nothing to report.

I. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

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

Councilmember Osborne reported the California Contract Cities Association put forward a resolution opposing a Los Angeles County ballot measure to “defund law enforcement”. He requested staff to draft a letter or resolution for Lawndale opposing the ballot measure to “defund the police”. Councilmember Osborne was informed by City of Torrance Councilmember there was an ongoing effort by surrounding cities to take back local control from the County and State, expressed his support that Lawndale would do the same and adopt a Resolution.

Councilmember Reid concurred with Councilmember Osborne on the opposition of the Los Angeles County ballot measure to “defund law enforcement.

Councilmember Kearney concurred with Councilmember Osborne and Councilmember Reid on the opposition of the Los Angeles County ballot measure to “defund law enforcement.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez had nothing to report.

Mayor Pullen-Miles requested the impartial analysis of the proposed Los Angeles County ballot measure to “defund law enforcement” and an explanation on how California Contract Cities Association arrived at their position. The Mayor spoke in opposition of the proposed Los Angeles County ballot measure to “defund law enforcement”. The Mayor went on to report on his attendance of a virtual tour of the Sanitation District of Los Angeles County.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:29 p.m. the City Council entered into closed session.

8. 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.

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.

At 8:08 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.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting in memoriam of Gabriella O'Donnell and Jim Scottini at 8:09 p.m.


Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:


Rhonda Hofmann Gorman, City Clerk

Approved: 8/17/2020