

**MINUTES OF THE
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
November 16, 2020**

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Pullen-Miles called the meeting to order at 6:32 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 Pat Kearney, Councilmember Daniel Reid

Councilmembers Absent: Councilmember James H. Osborne

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 Pat Kearney led the flag salute.

C. PRESENTATION

1. Introduction of Los Angeles County 2nd District Supervisor–elect, Holly J. Mitchell

Supervisor–elect, Holly J. Mitchell, introduced herself and spoke of working with Lawndale and on behalf of the residents in the 2nd District of Los Angeles County. City Council congratulated Supervisor–elect, Holly J. Mitchell, and thanked her for attending the City Council meeting.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Captain Duane Allen summarized recent law enforcement activities.

E. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No comments provided.

F. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

No comments provided.

G. CONSENT CALENDAR

2. General Municipal Election 2020- Unofficial Results

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

3. **First Contract Amendment to the South Bay Landscaping Agreement**
Recommendation: that the City Council approve the First Amendment to the Contract Services Agreement with South Bay Landscaping Inc. for an additional amount of \$19,000 for the remaining term of the agreement beginning December 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.
4. **Update of Community Center Flooding Repair Project and request to Terminate Emergency Conditions Consistent with California Public Contract Code Section 22050**
Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2011-063, terminating the emergency condition established on October 5, 2020, and subsequently extended on October 19, 2020 and November 2, 2020.
5. **Accounts Payable Register**
Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2011-062, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$638,093.78.
6. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – November 2, 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 4-0, Councilmember Osborne being absent.

H. ADMINISTRATION

7. **Budget Update for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2020**
Recommendation: that the City Council receive and file the Quarterly Budget Report as of September 30, 2020 and approve all recommended budget adjustments.

Finance Director Marla Pendleton reported on the Budget Update for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2020.

Mayor Pullen-Miles inquired about the conduit occupancy fee. Finance Director Marla Pendleton responded that the fee is a per square foot fee charged to companies for using fiber optic infrastructure in our City.

Community Development Director Sean Moore added this is the contract that was approved in 2018.

A motion by Councilmember Kearney to receive and file the Quarterly Budget Report as of September 30, 2020 and approve all recommended budget adjustments, was seconded by Councilmember Reid and carried by a vote of 4-0, Councilmember Osborne being absent.

8. Authorization to Protest a Proposed Rate Increase Request file by Golden State Water Company

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) authorize the protest of Golden State's Application No. A2007012 and (b) authorize the Mayor to sign the protest letter.

City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel reported on the Authorization to Protest a Proposed Rate Increase Request file by Golden State Water Company.

Mayor Pullen-Miles inquired if we are the only City partnered with the City of Lakewood. City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel responded we are the only City who objected in the 2nd district of the region.

Councilmember Reid spoke about the rates increasing and noted their excessiveness. He added that any rate increase proposal be brought up after pandemic and requested that language be inserted in the letter. There being no objection, the letter would be updated with the language he suggested.

A motion by Councilmember Reid to authorize the protest of Golden State's Application No. A2007012 and authorize the Mayor to sign the protest letter, was seconded by Councilmember Kearney and carried by a vote of 4-0, Councilmember Osborne being absent.

9. City Attorney Selection Process

Recommendation: that the City Council review the City Attorney selection process and provide direction to staff as appropriate.

City Manager Kevin M. Chun reported on the City Attorney Selection Process.

Councilmember Kearney requested staff contact the firms to know if they are still interested and that the item be on the City Council meeting in January for newly elected councilmembers to be a part of the selection.

City Manager Kevin M. Chun responded the two finalist have been contacted and they are still interested in interviewing.

Councilmember Kearney requested the decision be made in January's 2nd meeting in a Closed Session.

Councilmember Reid concurred with Councilmember Kearney's suggestion.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez inquired if one Councilmember needed to request an item to be placed on the agenda or if it was done by a unanimous consensus.

City Attorney Tiffany J. Israel responded that there was not a written policy for added items to the agenda but historically items have been added with a consensus.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez believed items were placed on an agenda with one councilmember and requested it be looked into further. Mayor Pro Tem went on requesting City Attorney interviews take place in December.

Mayo Pullen-Miles concurred with the selection process moving forward.

The Council reached a unanimous consensus to move forward with interviews and make a City Attorney selection on January 19th, 2021 Council meeting.

I. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Kevin Chun encouraged everyone to continue practicing social distancing, good hygiene, and wear a mask when in public and read a brief excerpt from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health urging everyone to take immediate action to slow the spread of COVID-19. City Manager Chun also wanted everyone to have a happy and safe Thanksgiving. He went on explaining there will be an Angel Tree Lighting Event for the community which will be different and only live streamed on December 8th.

J. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

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

Councilmember Reid wanted everyone to have a safe and happy Thanksgiving Day.

Councilmember Kearney concurred with Councilmember Reid's well wishes.

Mayor Pro Tem Suarez wanted everyone to have a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Pullen-Miles also wanted everyone to have a safe and happy Thanksgiving and announced Assemblymember Autumn Burke will be conducting "Drive-thru Operation Gobble", where she will give out turkeys and grocery store gift cards to the community on Wednesday November 25th at 11:30 am at Lennox Academy 11036 Hawthorne Boulevard, Lennox.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.


Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:


Matthew Ceballos, Assistant City Clerk

Approved: 12/7/2020