

**MINUTES OF THE
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
February 16, 2021**

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 Pat Kearney, Councilmember Bernadette Suarez, Councilmember Rhonda Hofmann-Gorman, Councilmember Sirley Cuevas

Other Participants: City Clerk Erica Harbison, City Manager Kevin M. Chun, City Attorney Gregory M. Murphy, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Lieutenant Christopher 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, Public Works Director Julian Lee

B. CEREMONIALS

Councilmember Rhonda Hofmann-Gorman led the flag salute.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Lieutenant Christopher Lio summarized the recent law enforcement activities.

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

No comments provided.

E. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

No comments were provided by the Council.

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. Updating City Council Policy No. 77-04 (Records and Information Management), Adding Authorization to Destroy Paper after Imaging/Trustworthy Electronic Records Compliance

Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC- 2102-006, Updating City Council Policy No. 77-04 (Records and Information Management), Adding Authorization to Destroy Paper after Imaging/Trustworthy Electronic Records Compliance.

3. **Conditional Approval of 2021 Fireworks Permits**
Recommendation: that the City Council award seven (7) conditional 2021 Fireworks permits to Christian Heritage Church; Foursquare Church of Lawndale, Lawndale Chamber of Commerce, Lawndale Little League, Lawndale Rotary Club, Lawndale Parks, Recreation and Social Services Commission, and Wesleyan Church of Lawndale.
4. **Federally Funded Employment and Job Training – South Bay Workforce Investment Board Activities Summary**
Recommendation: that the City Council receive and file the report.
5. **Accounts Payable Register**
Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2102-005, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$96,912.75.
6. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – February 1, 2021**
Recommendation: that the City Council approve.
7. **Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Special Meeting – February 10, 2021**
Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

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

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8. **Amendment to Title 17 of the Lawndale Municipal Code, Pertaining to the Development Standards for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU), to Reflect Recent Changes in State Law**
Recommendation: that the City Council (a) conduct a public hearing; (b) determine that Ordinance No. 1178-21 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and (c) introduce and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1178-21, amending Lawndale Municipal Code Title 17 regarding Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) development standards to reflect recent changes in state law.

Community Development Director Sean Moore reported on the Amendment to Title 17 of the Lawndale Municipal Code, Pertaining to the Development Standards for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU), to Reflect Recent Changes in State Law

Mayor Pullen-Miles opened and closed the public hearing immediately at 6:40 p.m., there being no one to testify.

A motion by Mayor Pro Tem Kearney to determine that Ordinance No. 1178-21 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and introduce and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1178-21, amending Lawndale Municipal Code Title 17 regarding Accessory Dwelling Units

(ADU) development standards to reflect recent changes in state law, was seconded by Councilmember Cuevas and carried by a vote of 5-0.

9. Amendment to Chapter 17.50 of the Lawndale Municipal Code, Density Bonus Provisions for Residential Units, to Reflect Recent Changes in State Law

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) conduct a public hearing; (b) determine that Ordinance No. 1179-21 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and (c) introduce and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1179-21, amending Chapter 17.50 of the Lawndale Municipal Code, Density Bonus Provisions for Residential Units, to reflect recent changes in state law.

Community Development Director Sean Moore reported on the Amendment to Chapter 17.50 of the Lawndale Municipal Code, Density Bonus Provisions for Residential Units, to Reflect Recent Changes in State Law.

Mayor Pro Tem Pat Kearney inquired about the dimensions of the reduced parking space.

Community Development Director Sean Moore responded it will be a parking space size of 10 x 10.

Mayor Pullen-Miles opened hearing at 6:47 p.m. and closed the public hearing at 6:48 p.m., there being no one to testify.

A motion by Councilmember Suarez to determine that Ordinance No. 1179-21 is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and introduce and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1179-21, amending Chapter 17.50 of the Lawndale Municipal Code, Density Bonus Provisions for Residential Units, to reflect recent changes in state law, was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kearney and carried by a vote of 5-0.

H. ADMINISTRATION

10. Project Development Update

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

City Manager Kevin M. Chun introduced the project development update as a new item for Council review every 6 months.

Community Development Director Sean Moore reported on the Project Development Update.

Mayor Pro Tem Kearney inquired if Lawndale will have bank or credit union businesses in the near future.

Community Development Director Sean Moore responded he is currently working with a potential credit union applicant interested in some sites. Mayor Pullen-Miles added that the financial institutions have also been interested in placing ATM or kiosk machines in Lawndale but he’s hopeful they will settle in a building for walk-in services.

Mayor Pullen-Miles praised the new businesses and development in Lawndale.

Mayor Pullen-Miles inquired if the sign on top of the new business building, Axis Supply, will be utilized. Community Development Director Sean Moore responded it may not be removed, it is leased by the owner and is legal non-conforming but the tenants are allowed to use it.

The Council reached a unanimous consensus to receive and file the report.

11. Award Contract for Solid Waste Consulting Services

Recommendation: that the City Council (a) award the contract for the Solid Waste Consulting Services to HF&H Consultants, LLC in the amount of \$261,000 for the 29 month service period from February 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023; (b) authorize an increase in AB939 contract services appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020-21 in the amount of \$44,289.

Public Works Director Julian Lee reported on the Award Contract for Solid Waste Consulting Services.

A motion by Mayor Pro Tem Kearney to award the contract for the Solid Waste Consulting Services to HF&H Consultants, LLC in the amount of \$261,000 for the 29 month service period from February 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 and authorize an increase in AB939 contract services appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020-21 in the amount of \$44,289, was seconded by Councilmember Cuevas and carried by a vote of 5-0.

12. Illegal Fireworks Suppression Plan for 2021

Recommendation: that the City Council review the proposed Illegal Fireworks Suppression Plan for 2021, and provide direction on the strategies presented in this staff report.

City Manager Kevin M. Chun introduced item number 12 as the response to the challenges Lawndale has faced with the use of illegal fireworks.

Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes reported on Illegal Fireworks Suppression Plan for 2021.

Councilmember Cuevas inquired if the proposed "Progressive Penalties" will include the violators from the previous year. Municipal Services Director Michael Reyes responded it will be difficult and problematic to retroactively apply the penalties as it is newly introduced.

City Manager Kevin M. Chun added criminal citations were issued in the past and administrative citations would be new in the city and applied from this point forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Kearney suggested deployment of Special Assignment Officer's to be reduced to a total of 4 weeks and inquired how long and what the cost would be to set up the Administrative Citations option.

Municipal Services Director Reyes responded it would not cost the City anything and alter the Deputy's shifts to whatever was most beneficial.

A dialogue ensued between Mayor Pro Tem Kearney and Municipal Services Director Reyes regarding the advertising the use of unmarked, undercover deputy cars.

Mayor Pullen-Miles spoke in support of the proposed plans in hopes it will diminish the use illegal fireworks.

Councilmember Rhonda Hofmann-Gorman commended Municipal Services Director Reyes for the report and spoke in favor of the "Progressive Penalties" to 5 years.

Mayor Pullen-Miles requested staff to look further into the fireworks businesses, in the City, to contribute to the additional costs. City Manager responded he will attempt to do so for this year if not for the following year

Public Comment

Randal Abram, Lawndale Resident, spoke in favor of the suppression plan and compared the proposed notions to previous years. Mr. Abram added the city should turn to the fireworks distributors for a percent of the profits to apply to the increased costs.

Councilmember Suarez and City Manager Chun recommended to place this item on the June City Council Agenda.

The proposed Illegal Fireworks Suppression Plan for 2021 was approved with unanimous consensus of the Council, without objection, and would be formalized at a subsequent meeting.

I. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Kevin Chun spoke of the COVID-19 vaccine availability and advised that information regarding the vaccine was on the City's website (vaccinatelacounty.com and myturn.ca.gov). Mr. Chun went on speaking of the General Plan update that is underway and encourages everyone's participation to help Lawndale develop and grow in the future.

J. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

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

Councilmember Suarez attended the first workshop of the General Plan update and also attended the South Bay Cities Council of Governments steering committee meeting.

Councilmember Sirley Cuevas attended the California Contract Cities Association Virtual Sacramento Legislative Tour and attended the General Plan update workshop. Ms. Cuevas inquired how Lawndale Seniors may participate in the General Plan update if they don't have access to the internet. Community Development Director Moore responded that mailers can be provided or that would set up teleconference to expand engagement.

Councilmember Rhonda Hofmann-Gorman attended a meeting with Sherriff Captain Allen, to discuss issues and activities in Lawndale.

Mayor Pro Tem Kearney attended the Sherriff's Liability Trust Oversight Committee where one case was settled and several are pending.

Mayor Pullen-Miles mentioned COVID-19 tests are being administered at Lawndale Urgent Care located at 16818 Hawthorne Blvd. Mr. Pullen-Miles attended the L.A. County Sanitation District Board of Directors meeting and a California Mayors Coalition meeting.

K. CLOSED SESSION

At 7:01 p.m. the City Council entered into closed session.

14. 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: Lawndale vs. Metropolitan Transportation Authority; Case Number 20STCP02875; L.A. County Superior Court.

At 8:37 p.m. the City Council entered back into open session.

City Attorney Gregory M. Murphy reported that the City Council met in Closed Session to discuss the one item listed on the Closed Session agenda. The City Council gave unanimous direction to negotiate out a mutually acceptable settlement agreement.

L. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:

Erica Harbison, City Clerk

Approved: 03/01/2021