

**MINUTES OF THE
LAWNDALE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
July 19, 2021**

A. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Pullen-Miles called the meeting to order at 6:33 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 Manager Kevin M. Chun, City Attorney Gregory M. Murphy, 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, Community Development Director Sean Moore, Assistant City Clerk Matthew Ceballos, Public Works Director Julian Lee

B. CEREMONIALS

Councilmember Bernadette Suarez led the flag salute and Pastor Maximillian Youell and Korra Hightower, Restoration Life Church, provided the inspiration.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Captain Duane Allen summarized the recent law enforcement activities, with an emphasis on fireworks suppression during the July 4th holiday.

D. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Rod Corprue, City Employee, spoke about a hostile work environment with City staff and a pending civil suit.

Randall Abram, Resident, spoke about the citations and reports to Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department from the illegal suppression plan.

Pam London, Resident, spoke about the parkway policy. Ms. London also briefly spoke about an anonymous letter she received, the leave of the Finance Director and illegal fireworks.

Johnny London, Resident, spoke about an anonymous letter sent to his wife and moving away from the City.

E. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

The City Council responded generally to the comments.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Ricoh Copiers One (1) Year Lease Agreement (Extension)

Recommendation: that the City Council approve a one (1) year Lease Agreement with Ricoh USA, Inc. for five (5) leased copiers/printers, for an amount not to exceed \$18,149.76.

2. Accounts Payable Register

Recommendation: that the City Council adopt Resolution No. CC-2107-030, authorizing the payment of certain claims and demands in the amount of \$3,766,257.85

3. Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Regular Meeting – June 21, 2021

Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

4. Minutes of the Lawndale City Council Special Meeting – June 28, 2021

Recommendation: that the City Council approve.

Councilmember Cuevas inquired on item number 1, if staff researched for a lower cost to lease the copiers/printers. Assistant City Clerk Matthew Ceballos responded that the price was reduced, for a 1 year extension, and the contract will later go for a Request for Proposal process for the best price and service to the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Kearney inquired on the cost of graffiti supplies in the accounts payable register and its purpose and about two vehicle batteries.

Public Works Director Julian Lee responded that graffiti has increased since January with a total of 550 new locations to respond to and the batteries are for a heavy utility truck. Mayor Pro Tem inquired if the City is recovering the graffiti cost from the property owners. Public Works Director Lee responded that some property owners supplied the have paint color of their property but the labor has been done by City staff.

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

G. ADMINISTRATION

5. Revision to Personnel Summary for Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget

Recommendation: that the City Council approve the change in the Personnel Summary by Program and Personnel Summary by Division for the 0.48 Full Time Equivalent (FTEs) for the Office Assistant in Public Works Administration.

A motion by Mayor Pro Tem Kearney to approve the change in the Personnel Summary by Program and Personnel Summary by Division for the 0.48 Full Time Equivalent (FTEs) for the Office Assistant in Public Works Administration, was seconded by Councilmember Cuevas and carried by a vote of 5-0.

6. 2021 League of California Cities – Annual Conference

Recommendation: that the City Council select a delegate and an alternate to represent the City at the 2021 League of California Cities Annual Conference.

City Council reached a unanimous consensus to designate Councilmember Cuevas as the voting delegate and Mayor Pro Tem Kearney as the alternate delegate.

A motion by Councilmember Suarez to approve the designation of Councilmember Cuevas as delegate and Mayor Pro Tem Kearney as the alternate to represent the city at the League of California Cities Annual Conference was seconded by Councilmember Hofmann Gorman and carried by a vote of 5-0.

H. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Kevin Chun spoke about the illegal fireworks suppression plan and noted the 32 citations issued and the improved illegal fireworks situation over the 4th of July holiday. City Manager Chun announced he would will debrief with Sherriff Deputies to see what went well and suggest improvements for next year to make the program more successful. City Manager Chun commended and thanked all staff and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for the hard work on the fireworks suppression plan.

I. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

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

Councilmember Suarez attended a virtual meeting with the South Bay Cities Council of Government Steering Committee and commended the outgoing chairperson Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Valentine from the City of Hawthorne and welcomed new chairperson Mayor Drew Boyles from the City of El Segundo.

Councilmember Cuevas recommended the owners of the fireworks stand subsidize the cost of the illegal fireworks suppression plan and requested a report which tracks the repeated graffiti areas. City Manager Kevin Chun responded staff will explore the idea next year to reach out to the companies of the fireworks stand to supplement the plan and that a report of the graffiti locations can be generated.

A dialogue lengthy ensued between the Council and staff regarding graffiti citations, upfront cost to the property owner for graffiti removal, and code enforcement policy recommendations for commercial and residential property.

Councilmember Hofmann Gorman attended the meeting with Metro and spoke of the harm fireworks cause and recommended various items to enhance the suppression of illegal fireworks.

Mayor Pro Tem Kearney attended the Sherriff's Liability Trust and Oversight Committee and commented on Councilmember Hoffman Gorman's recommendations on added illegal fireworks measures.

Mayor Pullen-Miles attended a joint special meeting with the L.A. County Sanitation Districts.

J. CLOSED SESSION

At 7:29 p.m. the City Council entered into Closed Session.

8. Conference with Labor Negotiator

The City Council will conduct a closed session, pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6, with the city manager, the city attorney and the City's negotiators, regarding labor negotiations with Local 1895, Council 36, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, representing the City's mid-management and classified employees.

At 8:10 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 item listed on the Closed Session agenda. The City Council was updated on the item and there was no reportable action taken.

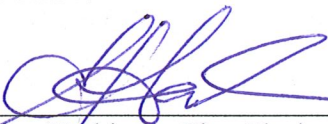
K. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m. in memory of Shirley Bennett, Lawndale Elementary School Board Member, and Councilmember Hofmann Gorman shared a few words in Ms. Bennett's memory.



Robert Pullen-Miles, Mayor

ATTEST:



Erica Harbison, City Clerk

Approved: 08/02/2021