

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the La Mesa City Council  
Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California

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This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City Council minutes are prepared and ordered to correspond to the City Council Agenda. Agenda Items can be taken out of order during the meeting.

The Agenda Items were considered in the order presented.

Mayor Arapostathis called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mayor Arapostathis; Vice Mayor Baber; Councilmembers Alessio, Parent, and Weber.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: City Manager Humora; City Attorney Sabine; Assistant City Manager Tomaino; City Clerk Wiegelman.

**INVOCATION – COUNCILMEMBER WEBER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION – CITY ATTORNEY**

There were no reports.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

City Manager Humora provided an update on the rules and regulations issued by the City in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and summarized the latest health order changes from the State of California and County of San Diego.

City Manager Humora announced a new Finance Director had been hired and thanked Interim Finance Director Waller-Bullock for her many years of service and for postponing her retirement until a new Finance Director was hired.

## **COMMUNITY BULLETIN REPORTS**

The Mayor, Council and staff made announcements and reported on various events taking place in the City. No action was taken.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **PROCLAIMING JULY 2020 AS PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH**

Mayor Arapostathis read the Proclamation proclaiming July 2020 as Parks and Recreation Month.

### **PRESENTATION BY CLIMATE ACTION CAMPAIGN ON THE SAN DIEGO REGION CLIMATE ACTION PLAN REPORT CARD**

Maleeka Marsden, Co-Director of Policy for Climate Action Campaign, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the San Diego Region Climate Action Plan Report Card highlighting the grading criteria and areas in which La Mesa excelled and needed improvement. Maleeka Marsden, Co-Director of Policy for Climate Action Campaign, stated La Mesa had received a silver medal designation for its Climate Action Plan.

### **REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND VETERANS COMMISSION ON THE AUGUST 5, 2020 COMMUNITY CONSERVATION EVENT FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION – Chair Loorya**

Community Relations and Veterans Commission Chair Loorya stated the Commission had considered ways to help the community heal from the pandemic and recent events that occurred in the community. Chair Loorya said the Commission would like to hold a series of community conversations led by a professional facilitator with panelists that have both local ties and expertise in their fields. Chair Loorya announced the first community conversation would be on inclusivity. Chair Loorya requested the Council approve an appropriation of \$2,000 to fund the series of community conversations.

Council questions and comments ensued.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Vice Mayor Baber and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to approve the appropriation of \$2,000 to fund the Community Relations and Veterans Commission's series of community conversations.

**Vote:** 5-0

**Yes:** Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Baber, Councilmember Alessio, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Weber

**No:** None

**Abstained:** None

**Absent:** None

Motion passed.

## **ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

City Manager Humora stated Item 7 would be continued to the City Council Regular meeting of July 28, 2020.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS – (TOTAL TIME – 15 MINUTES)**

City Clerk Wiegelman and Executive Assistant to the City Manager Mackey read aloud the first 300 words of the emailed public comments submitted by 4:00 p.m. the day of the Council meeting.

Kasey Zahner submitted a comment in support of a town hall meeting and regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board and the status of the incidents involving Amaurie Johnson and Leslie Furcron.

Mikaela Smith submitted a comment regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board.

Demetrius Antuna and Family submitted a comment regarding the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department.

Vinton Omaleki submitted a comment regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board.

Kevin Mendez submitted a comment regarding the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department.

Tylor DeLise submitted a comment regarding the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department and defunding the La Mesa Police Department.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment regarding the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department.

Kristen Miller submitted a comment regarding her conflict with the La Mesa Spring Valley School District.

Missy Solis submitted a comment regarding the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department, reallocating the La Mesa Police Department budget, and the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board.

Nicole Chenelle submitted a comment in support of a town hall meeting and regarding the formation of a Citizen Police Oversight Board and reallocating the La Mesa Police Department budget.

Emily Green submitted a comment regarding a Facebook post by Councilmember Alessio.

Sasha Jonestein submitted a comment regarding police reform, reallocating the La Mesa Police Department budget, and government accountability and transparency.

Heide Oberg submitted a comment regarding the proposed independent Citizen Police Oversight Board and reallocating the La Mesa Police Department budget.

Emily Green submitted a comment regarding the membership and functionality of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board and reallocating the La Mesa Police Department budget.

Patricia Harris submitted a comment regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board and the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department.

Mary Jane Fay submitted a comment regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board.

Gayle Neville submitted a comment regarding reallocating the La Mesa Police Department budget.

Meegan Nolan submitted a comment in support of a town hall meeting and regarding the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department.

Jessyka Heredia submitted a comment regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board, reallocating the La Mesa Police Department budget, the status of the incidents involving Amaurie Johnson and Leslie Furcron, and in support of a town hall meeting.

Andy Trimlett submitted a comment regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board, the status of the incidents involving Amaurie Johnson and Leslie Furcron, and in support of a town hall meeting.

Cheri Robertson submitted a comment regarding the membership and functionality of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board.

Matt Jenkins submitted a comment regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board.

Sarah Young submitted a comment in support of a Citizen Police Oversight Board.

John Harris submitted a comment regarding the membership of the proposed Citizen Police Oversight Board and the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department.

### **CONFLICT DISCLOSURES**

There were no conflict of interest disclosures.

### **BOARD AND COMMISSION INTERVIEWS**

#### **1. ANNUAL INTERVIEW OF APPLICANTS FOR OPENINGS ON THE CITY'S BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

City Clerk Wiegelman briefly explained the interview process. City Clerk Wiegelman stated that Chris Cather, Emon Perrin, Marcia Tolin and Bo Willsey were not able to attend the City Council

meeting due to prior commitments and had provided written statements expressing their interest in being considered for appointment or reappointment to a Commission or Board.

The following applicants spoke regarding their qualifications and interest in being appointed:

Andrea Britland  
Alan "Rich" Gann  
Puett Willcox  
Natalie Clark Addelson  
Matthew Bohan  
Mariko Nakawatase  
Ginger Radenheimer  
Christopher Langdon  
Eugenie Budnik  
Brianna Coston  
Stephen Grooms  
Karen Hill  
Jean Guillaume-Lonjaret  
Richard Williams  
Carmen Pauli  
Gaetano "Tony" Gaipa  
Peter Gregorovic  
Matthew Jenkins  
Michael Agajeenian  
Crystal Arnote  
Ryan Fallica  
Jerry Jones  
Polly Kanavel  
Andrew Torpey  
Ray McEdward  
Tony Ortega

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

(Items 2 through 6)

**2. APPROVAL OF MOTION TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE TEXT OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS AT THIS MEETING**

Approved.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2020**

Approved.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING, LA MESA PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY SPECIAL MEETING, AND CITY OF LA MESA SUCCESSOR AGENCY SPECIAL MEETING HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2020**

Approved.

5. **RESOLUTION APPROVING A REVENUE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ACCOUNT FOR SEWER LATERAL AND BACKWATER VALVE REIMBURSEMENT AND CONSTRUCTION WITH A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$150,000**

Resolution No. 2020-073 was adopted.

6. A. **RESOLUTION APPROVING A TASK ORDER TO HELIX ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING, INC. TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING SERVICES FOR PARKWAY DRIVE AND ALVARADO ROAD TRUNK SEWER PHASE 3 UPGRADE PROJECT; AND**

Resolution No. 2020-074 was adopted.

- B. **RESOLUTION APPROVING A TASK ORDER TO GEOCON, INC. TO PROVIDE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR PARKWAY DRIVE AND ALVARADO ROAD TRUNK SEWER PHASE 3 UPGRADE PROJECT**

Resolution No. 2020-075 was adopted.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Baber and seconded by Councilmember Alessio to approve Consent Calendar Items 2 through 6.

Vote: 5-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Baber, Councilmember Alessio, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Weber  
No: None  
Abstained: None  
Absent: None

Motion passed.

### **STAFF REPORT**

7. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE REPORT WITH THE FINAL DETERMINATION OF SEWER SERVICE CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 TO BE COLLECTED ON THE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX ROLL AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO FORWARD A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE RESOLUTION, TOGETHER WITH A COPY OF THE REPORT TO THE OFFICE OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY AUDITOR**

This item was continued to the City Council Regular meeting of July 28, 2020.

### **HEARING**

8. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE PERMANENT LOCAL HOUSING ALLOCATION PROGRAM FOR FUNDING TO PROVIDE HOMELESS SERVICES IN THE CITY OF LA MESA, ACCEPTING SAID GRANT IF AWARDED AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT**

Notice of the hearing was given in accordance with legal requirements, and the hearing was held on the date and at the time specified in the notice.

Mayor Arapostathis opened the hearing for Item 8.

Senior Management Analyst Dedmon provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) Program highlighting the eligibility, timeline, and requirements of the PLHA Program and the proposed use of the PLHA funding.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Meegan Nolan spoke in support of submitting the grant application to the PLHA Program.

City Clerk Wiegelman read aloud the first 300 words of the emailed public comments submitted by 4:00 p.m. the day of the Council meeting.

Bonnie Baranoff submitted a comment in support of submitting the grant application to the PLHA Program for funding to provide services to the homeless and other vulnerable populations.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Baber and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to close the hearing since there were no more members of the public who wished to speak.

Vote: 5-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Baber, Councilmember Alessio, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Weber

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Baber and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to adopt the Resolution authorizing submittal of a grant application to the Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program for funding to provide homeless services in the City of La Mesa, accepting said grant if awarded and appropriating funds for the project.

Vote: 5-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Baber, Councilmember Alessio, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Weber

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed. Resolution No. 2020-076 was adopted.

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS (3 MINUTE LIMIT)**

The Mayor and Council reported on various outside boards, commissions and committee meetings they attended. No action was taken.

## **AB 1234 REPORTS (GC 53232.3(d))**

There were no reports.

## **COUNCIL INITIATED**

### **9. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION REGARDING HOLDING A TOWN HALL MEETING CONCERNING THE EVENTS OF MAY 30, 2020 – MAYOR ARAPOSTATHIS AND COUNCILMEMBER WEBER**

Mayor Arapostathis requested the Council consider directing staff to plan a town hall meeting in order to listen to the thoughts, recommendations, and concerns of the community regarding the events of May 30, 2020.

Councilmember Weber requested that staff provide information at the town hall meeting regarding the investigation process and timetable for disclosing information for events such as those that occurred on May 30, 2020.

John Moore spoke regarding the events of May 30, 2020.

Jack Shu spoke in support of a town hall meeting and suggested it be held at Harry Griffen Park Outdoor Theater.

City Clerk Wiegelman and Executive Assistant to the City Manager Mackey read aloud the first 300 words of the emailed public comments submitted by 4:00 p.m. the day of the Council meeting.

Cheri Robertson submitted a comment regarding the recent actions of the La Mesa Police Department and reallocating the La Mesa Police Department budget.

The following members of the public submitted a comment in support of a town hall meeting:

Sarah Young  
Matt Jenkins  
Heide Oberg  
Rebecca Antuna  
Demetrius Antuna  
Shaunda Jacobson  
Jeffrey Jacobson  
Patricia Harris  
John Harris  
Mikaela Smith  
Missy Solis  
Vinton Omaleki



Mary Jane Fay  
Melissa Walter  
Emily Green  
Kelly Ryan  
Sasha Jonestein  
Rebecca Littlejohn  
Council questions and comments ensued.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Vice Mayor Baber and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to direct staff to bring back for Council consideration at the July 28, 2020 Council meeting a proposal for holding a town hall meeting that includes the platform to be used, the format, date, and time.

**Vote:** 5-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Baber, Councilmember Alessio, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Weber

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

**CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS**

There were no comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Arapostathis adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Megan Wiegelman, CMC  
City Clerk

Prepared by:  
Piper Richards-Crawford, Deputy City Clerk