

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the La Mesa City Council,  
Special Meeting of the La Mesa Public Financing Authority and  
Special Meeting of the City of La Mesa Successor Agency  
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California

---

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 6:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL: CITY COUNCIL**

PRESENT: Mayor Arapostathis; Vice Mayor Shu; Councilmembers Baber and Parent.

ABSENT: None.

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

**ROLL CALL: LA MESA PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY**

PRESENT: Chairman Arapostathis; Authority Members Baber, Parent and Shu.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Executive Director Humora; General Counsel Sabine; Assistant City Manager Tomaino; Secretary Wiegelman.

**ROLL CALL: CITY OF LA MESA SUCCESSOR AGENCY**

PRESENT: Chairman Arapostathis; Agency Members Baber, Parent and Shu.

ABSENT: None.

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

**INVOCATION – COUNCILMEMBER BABER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

City Manager Humora provided an update on the COVID-19 vaccination distribution process, the extension of the use of public and private outdoor areas by eating establishments for dining, retail and other commercial activities, and the reopening of County and City facilities.

## **COMMUNITY BULLETIN REPORTS**

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

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

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

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

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.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment regarding the allocation of the American Rescue Plan Act (“ARPA”) funds.

Nicole Chenelle submitted a comment regarding the allocation of the ARPA funds.

Andy Trimlett submitted a comment regarding the proposed budget for the Community Police Oversight Board and the allocation of the ARPA funds.

Teri Andre submitted a comment regarding the allocation of the ARPA funds.

Kristen Miller submitted a comment regarding the Mayor and Council's response to public comments and the allegations against the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District.

Craig Reed spoke regarding the continuation of the La Mesa Property Revitalization Grant Program and the need for park improvements.

## **CONFLICT DISCLOSURES**

Councilmember Baber announced he had a potential conflict of interest on Item 6 due to him being a Board Member of the County of San Diego Countywide Redevelopment Successor Agency Oversight Board and announced any vote he made would not be related to any City of La Mesa Successor Agency items.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

(Items 1 through 4)

Councilmember Parent requested Consent Calendar Item 4 be pulled for separate consideration.

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

Approved.

**2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO SIGN AND EXECUTE THE STANDARD AGREEMENT (STD 213 EXHIBITS A THROUGH E) WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, FOR PERMANENT LOCAL HOUSING ALLOCATION FUNDING FOR HOMELESS OUTREACH SERVICES IN SUPPORT OF THE HOMELESS OUTREACH AND MOBILE ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Resolution No. 2021-058 was adopted.

**3. A. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2020-2022 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA MESA AND THE LA MESA CITY EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION;**

Resolution No. 2021-059 was adopted.

**B. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AMENDED CITY OF LA MESA COMPENSATION PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 LISTING POSITIONS, SALARY RANGES/BANDS, AND PAY STEPS; AND**

Resolution No. 2021-060 was adopted.

**C. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CITY OF LA MESA COMPENSATION PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 LISTING POSITIONS, SALARY RANGES/BANDS, AND PAY STEPS**

Resolution No. 2021-061 was adopted.

**4. REMOVED.**

**ACTION:** Motioned by Vice Mayor Shu and seconded by Councilmember Baber to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 3.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Shu, Councilmember Baber, and Councilmember Parent

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

**4. RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT ON ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY**

Councilmember Parent commented on the number of Accessory Dwelling Unit (“ADU”) applicants versus the number of ADU permits issued and inquired about the basis for the difference and what could be done to increase the number of ADU permits issued.

Community Development Director Kusiak explained the reason for the difference between the number of ADU applicants and the number of ADU permits issued and the continued efforts of staff to simplify the ADU permit process.

Council questions and comments ensued.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Councilmember Baber and seconded by Vice Mayor Shu to: (1) receive and file the report on ADU development activity; and (2) direct staff to research: (a) the potential permitting of tiny homes within the City; (b) the time between the submission of an ADU permit and the issuance of the permit; (c) the management of ADU applications compared to other jurisdictions and the California Department of Housing and Community Development; (d) the statistics on how many ADU applicants were being required to complete tasks external to the ADU permitting process that could potentially increase costs for the applicant or delay or prevent the approval of the ADU permit; and (e) modular ADUs and preapproved ADU plans for the City.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Shu, Councilmember Baber, and Councilmember Parent

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

**ORDINANCE: SECOND READING**

**5. CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE LA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE TO DISSOLVE THE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD AND TO DELEGATE THE FUNCTIONS THEREOF TO THE CITY DEPARTMENTS FORMERLY REPRESENTED ON THAT BOARD**

City Attorney Sabine read the title of the Ordinance.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Councilmember Baber and seconded by Councilmember Parent to approve the second reading and adoption of the Ordinance.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Shu, Councilmember Baber, and Councilmember Parent

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed. Ordinance No. 2021-2886 was adopted.

## **STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL – FINANCING AUTHORITY – SUCCESSOR AGENCY**

### **6. A. CONSIDERATION OF THE BIENNIAL BUDGET FOR 2021-2023; AND**

#### **B. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION ADOPTING (1) THE APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, AND (2) THE ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT FACTORS USED TO CALCULATE THE APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT**

City Manager Humora provided a brief overview of the biennial budget process and explained the impact the COVID-19 pandemic had on the City's finances. City Manager Humora stated the largest proposed expenditure increase in the budget was the pension payments of approximately \$1 million in additional funding each year. City Manager Humora reviewed the different actions the City has taken to offset the increased pension costs and the projected General Fund Reserve levels. City Manager Humora summarized the initiatives that would be implemented and those that would continue with the proposed budget.

Finance Director Royales gave an overview of the 2021-2023 Preliminary Budget, highlighting the budget process, the Citywide revenue and expenditure funds, the General Fund revenues and expenditures, CalPERS Retirement contributions, the staffing changes reflected in the Preliminary Budget, the Council's General Fund Reserve Policy, and the General Fund Reserves.

Finance Director Royales also provided background on the Appropriations Limit and discussed the various adjustment factors used in the computations.

Council questions and comments ensued.

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 regarding the proposed budget for housing and homelessness issues.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment regarding the proposed budget for community services.

Demetrius Antuna submitted a comment regarding the proposed budget for community services, the La Mesa Police Department, the Community Oversight Board, and homelessness issues.

Mejgan Afshan spoke regarding the proposed budget being a reflection of the City's values and priorities.

Dianne spoke regarding affordable housing, revenue opportunities, and preventative maintenance.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Mayor Arapostathis and seconded by Vice Mayor Shu to: (1) adopt the 2021-2023 Preliminary Budget as proposed and direct staff to return in August with the 2021-2023 Final Budget; and (2) establish an ad hoc subcommittee comprising of Mayor Arapostathis and Vice Mayor Shu for the purpose of meeting with the City Manager to discuss the potential and best uses of the ARPA funds.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Shu, Councilmember Baber, and Councilmember Parent

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Mayor Arapostathis and seconded by Councilmember Parent to adopt the Resolution pursuant to Propositions 4 and 111, establishing the Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and selecting the growth in the new non-residential construction in the City of La Mesa and the population growth in the City of La Mesa as the annual adjustment factors used to compute the Appropriations Limit.

Vote: 4-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Shu, Councilmember Baber, and Councilmember Parent

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed. Resolution No. 2021-062 was adopted.

Councilmember Baber announced his vote did not pertain to any sections of the 2021-2023 Preliminary Budget or Resolution establishing the Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 that were related to the City of La Mesa Successor Agency or La Mesa Public Financing Authority. Councilmember Baber abstained from voting for all items related to the City of La Mesa Successor Agency and La Mesa Public Financing Authority.

**HEARING**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2021 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (RTIP) TRANSNET LOCAL STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM OF PROJECTS**

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 7.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Firsht gave a brief overview of the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and the amendment to the *TransNet* Local Street Improvement Program of projects.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Dianne spoke regarding arterial management and tree maintenance on the east side of La Mesa near Bancroft Drive and State Route 125.

ACTION: Motioned by Mayor Arapostathis and seconded by Councilmember Baber to close the hearing since there was no one else in the audience who wished to speak.

Vote: 4-0

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

Motion passed.

ACTION: Motioned by Mayor Arapostathis and seconded by Councilmember Baber to adopt the Resolution adopting an amendment to the *TransNet* Local Street Improvement Program of Projects for Fiscal Years 2021 through 2025.

Vote: 4-0

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

Motion passed. Resolution No. 2021-063 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.

**CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS**

There were no remarks.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:36 p.m., Mayor Arapostathis adjourned the meeting in honor and memory of Ed Burr, founder of EDCO Disposal Corporation and founding Board Member of La Mesa Park and Recreation Foundation. Ed Burr was a prominent member of the City of La Mesa community and made many personal and financial commitments to the City of La Mesa and surrounding communities. The City of La Mesa would always remember Ed Burr whose generous and outstanding contributions made La Mesa a better place to live.

Megan Wiegelman, CMC  
City Clerk