

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the La Mesa City Council  
Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.  
La Mesa Arts Academy Auditorium  
4200 Parks Avenue, La Mesa, California 91941

---

From 6:00 to 6:30 p.m., members of the public were encouraged to visit informational displays by the Public Works, City Clerk, Community Development, Community Services, Fire and Police Departments.

Mayor Arapostathis called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

ABSENT: None.

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

**TOWN HALL MEETING**

**A MEETING WITH THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS LA MESA AND ITS FUTURE**

The Mayor and Members of the City Council welcomed everyone to the meeting and made opening comments.

City Manager Garrett made an announcement regarding the City's actions in response to the incident that took place at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Cheri Robertson, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the peaceful protests in response to the incident.

Joe Zulauf, resident, spoke regarding the median improvement project on University Avenue.

Emily Green, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the diversity of the La Mesa Police Department. She also mentioned an article she read about tax dollars being spent to protect the Trump Administration's border wall prototypes.

Harold Tolson, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

Ray Cooper, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

Kathleen Brand, resident, spoke regarding the City's Climate Action Plan and infrastructure.

Carol Biederman, resident, spoke regarding public toilets and a City homeless shelter.

Aeiramique Blake spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the impact it has had on the community.

Gregory Jackson spoke regarding the City's actions in response to the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

Mahamed Abdulahi spoke regarding the City's actions in response to the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

Lee Sandvick, resident, spoke regarding her ideas for the City in the areas of transportation, local business, youth education and the City's website.

Oletha Wade-Matthews, resident, spoke regarding the La Mesa Police Department and the hiring of police officers.

A female resident spoke regarding nextdoor.com, parking, and the Citizens Police Academy.

Nora Pedraza, resident, spoke regarding the City's actions in response to the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

Trevor Johnson, resident, spoke regarding his experience with the La Mesa Police Department and the youth leadership in the City.

Bruce Chase, resident, spoke regarding his appreciation for the City of La Mesa and the City Council and encouraged people to get involved in the community by joining the La Mesa Kiwanis.

Renita Payno, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the response of the community and the City.

Destiny Tuinei spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the response of the community and the City.

Jack Shu, resident, spoke regarding the City's actions in response to the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the creation of a citizen advisory committee. He also spoke on the City's Climate Action Plan.

A female spoke on respecting community members.

Francesca Di Giammarino, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the impact it has had on the community.

Rob Toll, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the City's response to the incident.

Sage spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the City's response to the incident.

D'Jatarya Powell spoke regarding the diversity of the City Council and awareness of others experiences.

Dwayne Harvey spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the City's response to the incident.

Jeff Goettler, resident, spoke regarding his involvement in the City of La Mesa, his relationship with City staff, and traffic concerns.

Dawn Toll, resident, spoke regarding the City's response to the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

A female read a quote by Martin Niemöller.

Akilah Weber, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the City's response to the incident.

Tasha Williamson spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and racial reconciliation.

Curtis Blaisdell, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018

Senior staff members responded to the questions and concerns of the speakers.

The Mayor and Members of the City Council made closing comments.

No action was taken by the Council.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Arapostathis adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Megan Wiegelman, CMC  
City Clerk

