

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the La Mesa City Council  
Tuesday, August 11, 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 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

ABSENT: None.

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

**ANNUAL ROTATION OF THE VICE MAYOR**

Mayor Arapostathis thanked Councilmember Baber for his service as Vice Mayor and announced Councilmember Weber would be the next Vice Mayor.

**INVOCATION – MAYOR ARAPOSTATHIS**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION – CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Sabine announced there were no reportable actions.

**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.

## **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**

### **REPORT FROM THE CITIZEN TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS ON RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION – Chair Baranoff**

Chair Baranoff provided a PowerPoint presentation on La Mesa's homelessness situation, the homeless population, the recommended program areas, the recommended strategic goals and initiatives related to homelessness, and the recommendations to address homelessness.

Council questions and comments ensued.

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.

The following members of the public submitted comments in support of the recommendations of the Citizen Task Force on Homelessness to address homelessness in La Mesa:

Christian DeMent  
Mike Williams  
Rebecca Littlejohn  
Rosa Alcaraz  
Stephanie Murphy  
Suellen Treadwell  
Megan Dunn  
Dave Myers  
Bob Collins  
La Mesa First United Methodist Church  
Mary Kate Miller  
Mari Paul  
Linda Niwinski  
Sharon Smith

Christopher Glenn submitted a comment regarding the impact the shortened timeline for the 2020 Census count would have on the homeless population.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Councilmember Baber and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to (1) receive and file the report from the Citizen Task Force on Homelessness (Task Force); and (2) direct staff to return to Council before January 1, 2021 with an action plan to implement the recommendations of the Task Force to address homelessness in the City of La Mesa.

Vote: 5-0

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

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

### **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

Finance Director Royales reported on the national, state and local economic outlook, state budget issues, the performance of the City's General Fund, and Proposition L benchmarks for quarter ending June 30, 2020.

### **CITY TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT**

City Treasurer Vogt made a presentation regarding the investment earnings and the status of the investment portfolio for the quarter ending June 30, 2020.

### **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 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.

Angela Burke submitted a comment regarding the allocation of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security ("CARES") Act Grant funding, the August 1st protest, and the training curriculum for La Mesa police officers.

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

Andy Trimlett submitted a comment regarding the allocation of the CARES Act Grant funding, La Mesa Police Department (LMPD) demographic data, and the August 1st protest.

Marie McLaughlin submitted a comment regarding the events of May 30, 2020.

Cheri Robertson submitted a comment regarding the August 1st protest and the actions of the LMPD.

Matthew Jenkins submitted a comment regarding the August 1st protest and the actions of the LMPD.

The Antuna Family submitted a comment regarding the August 1st protest and denouncing vigilante groups.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment regarding the actions of the LMPD and creating a better La Mesa.

Eloisa Stafford submitted a comment regarding the COVID-19 related health orders from the State of California and County of San Diego.

An unidentified individual submitted a comment regarding the process to file a police report with the LMPD and the actions of the LMPD.

Emily Green submitted a comment regarding LMPD data, the August 1st protest, and the allocation of the CARES Act Grant funding.

Teri Andre submitted a comment regarding the actions of the LMPD, accountability, and change.

Irene Brookfield submitted a comment thanking City leaders, the LMPD, the Sheriff's Department, and neighboring Police Departments for keeping La Mesa safe.

Stacia Weisbach submitted a comment regarding Kristen Miller's conflict with the La Mesa Spring Valley School District.

Jennifer Grigg submitted a comment regarding the need for direct and transformative reform in La Mesa.

Louis Barnett submitted a comment regarding visiting La Mesa.

Jessica H. submitted a comment regarding the actions of the LMPD and the August 1st protest.

Kasey Zahner submitted a comment regarding the efforts of the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force, denouncing vigilante groups, and the allocation of the CARES Act Grant funding.

### **CONFLICT DISCLOSURES**

There were no conflict of interest disclosures.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

(Items 1 through 6)

Administrative Coordinator Hartman-Salazar read aloud the written statement card submitted by Jeff McGreevy for Item 4 in support of approving the Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the FY19 State Homeland Security Grant Program Grant of \$47,519 for terrorism preparedness.

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

Approved.

**2. ACCEPTANCE OF INVESTMENT POLICY FOR THE CITY OF LA MESA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021**

Approved.

**3. RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR USE OF PERMANENT LOCAL HOUSING ALLOCATION PROGRAM FUNDING TO PROVIDE HOMELESS SERVICES IN THE CITY OF LA MESA**

Resolution No. 2020-086 was adopted.

**4. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE FY19 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (SHSGP) GRANT OF \$47,519 FOR TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS**

Resolution No. 2020-087 was adopted.

**5. A. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO; AND**

Resolution No. 2020-088 was adopted.

**B. RESOLUTION APPROVING A TASK ORDER TO INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING CORPORATION TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO'S MID-CITY PROJECT PHASE 2**

Resolution No. 2020-089 was adopted.

**6. RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR BID NO. 20-21, UNIVERSITY AVENUE CORRIDOR – BIKE NETWORK AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS TO MIRAMAR GENERAL ENGINEERING**

Resolution No. 2020-090 was adopted.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilmember Baber and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 6.

Vote: 5-0

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

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF RFP 21-03 FOR CONSULTING SERVICES FOR AFTER-ACTION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON LAW ENFORCEMENT PRACTICES RELATED TO THE EVENTS OF MAY 30, 2020 TO HILLARD HEINTZE, LLC AND FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS**

City Manager Tomaino provided a PowerPoint presentation on the request for proposals (RFP) process, Hillard Heintze's background and experience, the services to be performed by Hillard Heintze, the project timeline, and the cost schedule.

Council questions and comments ensued.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Councilmember Baber and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to adopt the Resolution awarding a contract to Hillard Heintze, LLC to prepare an After Action Report and Policy Review of the events that occurred on May 30, 2020 and appropriating sufficient funds for the project.

Vote: 5-0

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

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed. Resolution No. 2020-091 was adopted.

### **8. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CORONAVIRUS AID RELIEF AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ("CARES") ACT STATE AND COUNTY EXPENDITURE ALLOCATIONS**

City Manager Tomaino provided a PowerPoint presentation on the State and County CARES Act Grant funding deadlines, the CARES Act funding goals, the proposed allocation of the State and County CARES Act Grant funding, the proposed rental assistance program, the proposed business assistance program, and the proposed cost recovery for City expenditures related to COVID-19.

Council questions and comments ensued.

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.

The following members of the public submitted a form correspondence of identical content in support of allocating \$748,408 of the CARES Act Grant funding for a business assistance program:

Angela Olivo

Athena Hernandez

Autumn Stoff  
Beatrix Farhat  
Beverly Mascari  
Brea Garrison  
David Smyle  
Debbie Hilterbrandt  
Deborah Wermers  
Diana Silvas  
Elizabeth Ranta  
Gabriel Hernandez  
Gloria Carrillo  
Greg Melvin  
Heidi Pigeon  
Ida Postyan  
Joe Paraiso  
John Huey  
Kathy Wackrow  
Kerrie-Ann Stidum  
Kristie Facto  
Linda Hayes  
Marsella Stadille  
Marie McLaughlin  
Mary Arellan  
Mary Jane Bailey  
Michelle Huey  
Nancy J. Smith  
Paul S. Adams  
Peggy Toby  
Unidentified individual  
Praba and Nadia  
Scott Favero  
Steve Browne  
Unidentified individual  
Audrey Clements

Bonnie Kane submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Linda McWilliams submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Brad Boswell submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Mary England submitted a comment in support of allocating a significant portion of the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program.

Aaron Amerling submitted a comment in support of allocating a portion of the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Len Steinbarth submitted a comment in support of allocating a significant portion of the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Cathie Ticknor submitted a comment in support of allocating a significant portion of the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Lois Knowlton submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a rental assistance program, business assistance program, and City expenses related to COVID-19.

Chris Ryan Miller submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Marcia Tolin submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Craig Maxwell submitted a comment in support of allocating CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Meegan Nolan submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a rental assistance program, business assistance program, and City expenses related to COVID-19.

Demetrius and Rebecca Antuna submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to rental and business assistance programs.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to rental and business assistance programs.

Dena Shamoo submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Emily Alessio submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Stephanie Saathoff submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Karen Gordon submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

LaDreda Lewis submitted a comment in support of allocating a significant portion of the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Karen Maxwell submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Jeane Petree submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.



Linda Niwinski submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a rental assistance program, business assistance program, and City expenses related to COVID-19.

Ted Christensen submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Kimberly Zierman submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Jim Butcher submitted a comment in support of allocating a significant portion of the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Jonathan Baron submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Leah Lively submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

Kim Purchase submitted a comment in support of allocating a significant portion of the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

D. Beason submitted a comment in support of allocating the CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program for local small businesses.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilmember Parent and seconded by Vice Mayor Weber to (1) approve the allocation of \$600,000 of the State CARES Act Grant funding for a rental assistance program, \$600,000 of the County CARES Act Grant funding for a business assistance program, and the remaining \$600,000 of the State and County CARES Act Grant funding for City expenses related to COVID-19. The business assistance program was to incorporate the following protections: (a) the entity tasked with awarding grants must affirm and structure the program to ensure that it would not preference its own members for awards; and (b) the program must include a prohibition of funds being awarded to businesses owned by any person or their direct family members who was a: (i) decision-maker employed by or serving as a volunteer for the entity tasked with awarding relief grants; (ii) City of La Mesa staff person; or (iii) City of La Mesa elected official; and (2) authorize the City Manager to execute a contract not-to-exceed \$80,000 for program administration of a rental assistance program.

ACTION: Substitute Motion - Motioned by Councilmember Alessio and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to (1) approve the allocation of \$1 million of the State and County CARES Act Grant funding to a business assistance program, \$600,000 to a rental assistance program, and \$200,000 for City expenses related to COVID-19. If there were funds left over from the business assistance program, the funds were to go to the rental assistance program; if there were funds left over from the rental assistance program, the funds were to go to the business assistance program; and if there were funds left over from both the business and rental assistance programs, the funds were to go to the City cost recovery related to COVID-19. The business assistance program was to incorporate the following protections: (a) the entity tasked with awarding grants must affirm and structure the program to ensure that it would not preference its

own members for awards; and (b) the program must include a prohibition of funds being awarded to businesses owned by any person or their direct family members who was a: (i) decision-maker employed by or serving as a volunteer for the entity tasked with awarding relief grants; (ii) City of La Mesa staff person; or (iii) City of La Mesa elected official; (2) direct staff to cap the rental assistance program applications at 300 and seek to limit the cost of the rental program administration to \$10,000; and (3) authorize the City Manager to execute a contract not-to-exceed \$80,000 for program administration of a rental assistance program.

Vote: 3-2

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Councilmember Alessio, and Councilmember Baber

No: Vice Mayor Weber and Councilmember Parent

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

### **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**

Mayor Arapostathis adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Megan Wiegelman, CMC  
City Clerk