

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the La Mesa City Council  
Tuesday, February 9, 2021 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 Weber; Councilmembers Baber, Parent, and Shu.

ABSENT: None.

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

**INVOCATION – COUNCILMEMBER PARENT**

**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, summarized the latest health order changes from the State of California and County of San Diego, and reported on the COVID-19 vaccination distribution process.

City Manager Humora provided an update on the Chief of Police recruitment.

## **COMMUNITY BULLETIN REPORTS**

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

## **PRESENTATION**

### **2021 BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS WORK PLANS**

Community Relations and Veterans Commission Chair Doug Kappel presented the Commission's 2021 Work Plan.

Community Services Commission Chair Kathleen Brand presented the Commission's 2021 Work Plan.

Youth Advisory Commission Chair Maya Sellers presented the Commission's 2021 Work Plan.

Environmental Sustainability Commission Chair Andrea Beth-Damsky presented the Commission's 2021 Work Plan.

Following Council questions and comments, 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.

Emily Green submitted a comment regarding the Chief of Police recruitment, the City's Community Engagement Plan, the Community Police Oversight Board, and in support of allocating Community Development Block Grant funds for homeless housing solutions and a housing stability program.

Demetrius Antuna submitted a comment regarding the City declaring a climate emergency, the appointments to the Community Police Oversight Board, and wished Vice Mayor Weber luck on her campaign for the 79<sup>th</sup> State Assembly District.

John Bottorff submitted a comment regarding the climate crisis and taking steps to protect the citizens of La Mesa from pollution and toxic chemicals.

Suzanne Hume submitted a comment regarding taking steps to reduce greenhouse gases and air pollution.

Cadence C. submitted a comment regarding taking steps to reduce greenhouse gases and air pollution.

### **CONFLICT DISCLOSURES**

There were no conflict of interest disclosures.

### **BOARD AND COMMISSION INTERVIEWS**

#### **1. INTERVIEW OF APPLICANTS FOR TWO VACANCIES ON THE MOBILITY COMMISSION**

City Clerk Wiegelman briefly explained the interview process and the requirements for the two vacancies. City Clerk Wiegelman stated that Mary Nooristani and Grant Yamada were not able to attend the City Council meeting due to prior commitments but had provided written statements expressing their interest in being considered for appointment to the Mobility Commission. City Clerk Wiegelman announced that Dorcas Hermsmeier had withdrawn their application.

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

Cristina Angeles  
Jarrod Gerardot  
Tyler Hamman  
Janice Hardy  
David Nichols  
Jane Peterson  
Jana Schwartz

Following the interviews, no action was taken.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

(Items 2 through 7)

Councilmember Shu requested Consent Calendar Item 7 be pulled for separate consideration.

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.

Dianne Osterling submitted a comment on Item 5 regarding installing electric car charging stations near mass transit stops.

Angela Deegan submitted a comment on Item 7 in opposition of the purchase of three 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles and recommended the purchase of electric bicycles or electric vehicles as an alternative.

Tim Robinson submitted a comment on Item 7 in opposition of the purchase of three 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles and recommended the purchase of electric bicycles, electric vehicles, or smaller vehicles as an alternative.

Mairs Ryan submitted a comment on Item 7 in opposition of the purchase of three 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles.

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

Approved.

**3. RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 FOR BID NO. 21-05, STREET RESURFACING PROJECT TO EAGLE PAVING COMPANY, INC. DBA TORO ENGINEERING**

Resolution No. 2021-010 was adopted.

**4. RESOLUTION AWARDING A TASK ORDER TO NASLAND ENGINEERING, INC. TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING DESIGN CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE BOULEVARD DRIVE STORM DRAIN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Resolution No. 2021-011 was adopted.

**5. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM THROUGH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO FUND THE LA MESA BOULEVARD COMPLETE STREETS PLAN SEGMENT 2, AND IF AWARDED, ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS; AND APPOINTING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE ALL AGREEMENTS AND ANY AMENDMENTS FOR THE PROJECT**

Resolution No. 2021-012 was adopted.

**6. A. RESOLUTION ALLOCATING AND APPROPRIATING \$368,000 FROM WASTEWATER FUND RESERVES TO NEW WASTEWATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ACCOUNT NO. 301212SF; AND**

Resolution No. 2021-013 was adopted.

**B. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TASK ORDER TO NV5 FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ENGINEERING DESIGN OF INFLOW AND INFILTRATION MITIGATION PROJECT, PHASE 6**

Resolution No. 2021-014 was adopted.

**7. REMOVED.**

**ACTION:** Motioned by Councilmember Parent and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to approve Consent Calendar Items 2 through 6.

Vote: 5-0

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

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

**7. A. RESOLUTION TO AWARD PURCHASE OF THREE 2021 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES TO KEARNY MESA FORD**

**B. RESOLUTION TO AWARD OUTFITTING OF THREE 2021 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES TO AEP CALIFORNIA, LLC**

Councilmember Shu inquired about the type of vehicles that were to be purchased, the urgency to replace the current vehicles, and the expiration of the bid price for the three 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles.

Acting Police Chief Sweeney provided information on the type of vehicles used by the La Mesa Police Department, the issues with the current police vehicles, and the purpose for the purchase of one standard and two hybrid 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles.

Council questions and comments ensued.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Councilmember Shu and seconded by Vice Mayor Weber to delay the purchase of the three 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles and direct staff to research the feasibility of purchasing electric or a combination of electric and hybrid Police Interceptor Utility vehicles and return to Council within 30 to 60 days with their findings.

Vote: 5-0

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

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

**HEARING**

**8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION APPROVING A SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM TO PROGRAM CDBG**

**CORONAVIRUS (CDBG-CV3) FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)**

Senior Planner Kinnard provided a PowerPoint presentation on the CDBG Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (“CARES”) Act, the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 CDBG Annual Action Plan, the allocation of CDBG-CV1 funds, and the proposed allocation of CDBG-CV3 funds. Senior Planner Kinnard said staff recommends the Council: (1) adopt the Resolution approving an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Action Plan for HUD-funded activities and authorizing submittal to HUD; and (2) authorize the Mayor to execute agreements for specialized professional services with Professionals Assisting the Homeless (“PATH”) and Home Start.

Council questions and comments ensued.

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

Vote: 5-0

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

Motion passed.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilmember Shu and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to: (1) adopt the Resolution approving a substantial amendment to the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Annual Action Plan for the CDBG Program to Program CDBG-CV3 funds and authorizing submittal to HUD; and (2) authorize the Mayor to execute agreements for specialized professional services with PATH and Home Start.

Vote: 5-0

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

Motion passed. Resolution No. 2021-015 was adopted.

**COUNCIL INITIATED**

- 9. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE CITY SIGNING ON AS A CO-SPONSOR AT THE \$500 LEVEL FOR THE SAN DIEGO ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION’S “OPEN HOUSE – LA MESA” SCHEDULED FOR**

**MARCH 5 – 12, 2021 – COUNCILMEMBER PARENT AND COUNCILMEMBER BABER**

Councilmember Parent explained the purpose for the request and provided information on the potential benefits of co-sponsoring the San Diego Architectural Foundation’s “Open House – La Mesa” event.

ACTION: Motioned by Mayor Arapostathis and seconded by Councilmember Parent to approve the City signing on as a co-sponsor at the \$500 level for the San Diego Architectural Foundation’s “Open House – La Mesa” scheduled for March 5 – 12, 2021.

Vote: 5-0

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

Motion passed.

**10. CONSIDERATION OF EXPANDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BEFORE AND AFTER THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY – COUNCILMEMBER PARENT AND COUNCILMEMBER BABER**

Councilmember Parent recommended that public comment be expanded to allow for live audio testimony at Council meetings during the public health emergency and that a Council subcommittee be created to work with staff to establish an expanded public comment policy for after the public health emergency.

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.

Dianne Osterling submitted a comment in support of expanding public participation.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilmember Parent and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to: (1) direct staff to implement remote live audio public comment as soon as practically possible; and (2) establish an ad hoc subcommittee comprising of Mayor Arapostathis and Councilmember Parent for the purpose of developing a broader public comment policy to allow for remote public participation during and after the public health emergency.

Vote: 5-0

Yes: Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Weber, Councilmember Baber, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Shu  
No: None  
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 7:49 p.m.

Megan Wiegelman, CMC  
City Clerk