

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the La Mesa City Council  
Tuesday, February 23, 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 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mayor Arapostathis; Vice Mayor Weber (arrived at 6:01 p.m.); 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.

City Manager Humora announced the City's biannual Community Survey had begun and the public may receive an email, phone call or letter from the City Manager requesting participation.

## **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**

### **PRESENTATION BY SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER**

Bill Carnahan, San Diego Community Power (“SDCP”) Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”), and Cody Hooven, SDCP Chief Operating Officer (“COO”), provided a PowerPoint presentation on SDCP, highlighting SDCP’s implementation timeline, goals, financing, key statistics, organization structure, startup activities, rates, products, marketing, accomplishments and next steps.

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.

David Harris submitted a comment in support of SDCP and its efforts to provide La Mesa with clean energy.

Wendy Mihalic submitted a comment in support of SDCP and its efforts to provide La Mesa with clean energy.

Following Council questions and comments, no action was taken.

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

Historic Preservation Commission Chair Carmen Pauli presented the Commission’s 2021 Work Plan.

Mobility Commission Chair Mike Calandra presented the Commission’s 2021 Work Plan.

Planning Commission Chair Andrew Torpey presented the Commission’s 2021 Work Plan.

La Mesa Community Parking Commission Chair Melissa McCune presented the Commission’s 2021 Work Plan.

Following Council questions and comments, no action was taken.

### **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

Finance Director Royales reported on the national, state and local economic outlook, sales tax revenues, and the performance of the City’s General Fund for quarter ending December 31, 2020.

Following Council questions and comments, no action was taken.

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

City Treasurer Vogt made a presentation regarding the investment earnings for the quarter ending December 31, 2020.

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.

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

Dianne Osterling submitted a comment wishing Vice Mayor Weber luck in her campaign for the 79<sup>th</sup> State Assembly District.

John Schmitz submitted a comment regarding the La Mesa Community Survey by True North and the La Mesa library.

An unidentified person submitted a comment regarding the property located at 8336 La Mesa Boulevard.

Angela Deegan submitted a comment regarding SDCP, the Resolution declaring a climate emergency, updating the Environmental Sustainability Commission's non-voting members, and allowing for live comments during Council meetings.

## **CONFLICT DISCLOSURES**

Councilmember Parent announced he would recuse himself for Item 1 because he had a potential conflict of interest under Government Code Section 87100 due to one of the applicants being a colleague.

Councilmember Baber announced he would recuse himself for Item 6 because he had a potential conflict of interest under Government Code Section 87100 due to the proximity of his home to Collier Park.

## **BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

### **1. RESOLUTION APPOINTING TWO MEMBERS TO THE MOBILITY COMMISSION**

Mayor Arapostathis nominated Cristina Angeles as the Experience with Climate or Environmental Issues Representative and David Nichols as the Vulnerable Road User Representative for appointment to the Mobility Commission.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Mayor Arapostathis and seconded by Vice Mayor Weber to approve the appointment of Cristina Angeles as the Experience with Climate or Environmental Issues Representative and David Nichols as the Vulnerable Road User Representative to the Mobility Commission and adopt the Resolution confirming the appointments.

Vote: 4-0-1

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

No: None

Abstained: Councilmember Parent

Absent: None

Motion passed. Resolution No. 2021-016 was adopted.

## **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 SPECIAL MEETINGS HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 26 AND FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

Approved.

### **4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETINGS HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 26 AND FEBRUARY 9, 2021**

Approved.

### **5. RESOLUTION DIRECTING STAFF TO NEGOTIATE A BUY/SELL AGREEMENT AT FAIR MARKET VALUE FOR A 0.27 ACRE REMNANT OF VACANT LAND AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF BOULEVARD DRIVE AND 69<sup>TH</sup> STREET AND BRING THE AGREEMENT BACK TO CITY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION**

Resolution No. 2021-017 was adopted.

**6. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A GRANT APPLICATION THROUGH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR STATEWIDE DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS FOR THE COLLIER PARK RENOVATION PROJECT; ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS IF AWARDED; AND APPOINTING THE CITY MANAGER, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE ALL AGREEMENTS AND ANY AMENDMENTS**

Resolution No. 2021-018 was adopted.

ACTION: Motioned by Mayor Arapostathis and seconded by Councilmember Baber to approve Consent Calendar Items 2 through 5.

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 Mayor Arapostathis and seconded by Councilmember Shu to approve Consent Calendar Item 6.

Vote: 4-0-1

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

No: None

Abstained: Councilmember Baber

Absent: None

Motion passed.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION CONFIRMING AND RATIFYING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS AS ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY AND DISASTER PURSUANT TO LA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.56.060 FOR THE DIRECT PROTECTION AND BENEFIT OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF LA MESA (EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 6-2021 – TEMPORARY CAP ON FEES THIRD-PARTY DELIVERY COMPANIES MAY CHARGE RESTAURANTS)**

City Manager Humora stated the action issued was too temporarily cap fees third-party delivery companies may charge restaurants.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Councilmember Parent and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to adopt the Resolution confirming and ratifying the rules and regulations as issued by the Director of Emergency and Disaster pursuant to La Mesa Municipal Code Section 2.56.060 for the direct protection and benefit of the citizens of the City of La Mesa.

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. 2021-019 was adopted.

**8. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE 2021-2026 HOMELESS ACTION PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR PHASE 2 OF THE HOMELESS OUTREACH AND MOBILE ENGAGEMENT (“HOME”) PROGRAM**

Assistant City Manager Tomaino provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2021-2026 Homeless Action Plan, highlighting the 2020 homeless efforts, the Citizen Task Force on Homelessness’ efforts and recommendations, and the 2021-2026 Homeless Action Plan’s metrics, focus areas, implementation efforts and ongoing efforts.

Captain Nicholass provided a PowerPoint presentation on the implementation plan for phase 2 of the HOME program, highlighting the HOME program benefits, the HOME program phase 1 successes, the phase 2 objectives, staffing and implementation timeline, the partnerships and communication efforts, the importance of transitional housing, the evaluation and reporting for the HOME program, and the milestones being tracked.

Council questions and comments ensued.

City Clerk Wiegelman and Administrative Office Assistant Farr 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 approving the proposed 2021-2026 Homeless Action Plan and implementing phase 2 of the HOME program:

Anna Marie Piconi Snyder

Gene Carpenter

Ryan Purdy on behalf of Sharp Grossmont Hospital

Rick Wilson and Pat Howard on behalf of San Diego Regional East County Chamber of Commerce, San Diego East County Chamber Foundation, and East County Homeless Task Force

Zachary Schlagel on behalf of People Assisting the Homeless

Suellen Treadwell

Rosa Alcaraz

Rev. Christian DeMent

Pam Barclay

Nancy Ryan

Bonnie Baranoff

Anne Pacheco  
Anne-Marie Roach  
Jim Roach  
Christopher Glenn  
Mary Kate Miller  
Danean LeNoir  
Diane Hartley  
Dr. Janet Castaños  
Mari Paul  
Lois Knowlton on behalf of La Mesa First United Methodist Church Community Outreach Ministry  
Melissa Walter  
Mike Williams

Dianne Osterling submitted a comment regarding publicly recognizing organizations that assist with the homeless issue in La Mesa.

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Mayor Weber and seconded by Mayor Arapostathis to adopt the 2021-2026 Homeless Action Plan and direct staff to implement phase 2 of the HOME program.

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 INITIATED**

#### **9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND DIRECTING THE CITY TO TAKE ACCELERATED AND COMPREHENSIVE ACTION TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE CRISIS – COUNCILMEMBER SHU**

Councilmember Shu thanked the Council and City staff and commissioners for their efforts in updating the Resolution to fit the needs of the City.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Andrea Beth Damsky spoke in support of adopting the Resolution declaring a climate emergency.

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.

The following members of the public submitted comments in support of adopting the Resolution declaring a climate emergency:

Andrea Monk  
Angela Deegan  
Joe Britton on behalf of San Diego Gas & Electric  
Melissa Walter  
Dianne Osterling

ACTION: Motioned by Councilmember Shu and seconded by Councilmember Baber to adopt the Resolution declaring a climate emergency and directing the City to take accelerated and comprehensive action to address the climate crisis.

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. 2021-020 was adopted.

**10. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING LA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.85.010, CREATION-MEMBERS-VOTE, TO ADD A SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY POWER REPRESENTATIVE AS A NON-VOTING MEMBER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION – COUNCILMEMBER BABER AND COUNCILMEMBER SHU**

Councilmember Baber explained the purpose for adding a SDCP representative to the Environmental Sustainability Commission as a non-voting member.

Andrea Beth Damsky spoke in support of amending the La Mesa Municipal Code to add a SDCP representative as a non-voting member of the Environmental Sustainability Commission.

Council questions and comments ensued.

ACTION: Motioned by Councilmember Baber and seconded by Councilmember Shu to direct staff to bring back for Council consideration an Ordinance amending La Mesa Municipal Code Section 2.85.010, Creation-Members-Vote, to add a SDCP representative as a non-voting member of the Environmental Sustainability Commission.

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 8:18 p.m.

Megan Wiegelman, CMC  
City Clerk