

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

September 17, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Goodman called the Regular Meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tem Kim

INVOCATION: Pastor Jim Riggan, La Palma Christian Center

ROLL CALL: Council and Commission Members

Council members present: Council Member Goedhart, Mayor Goodman, Mayor Pro Tem Kim, Council Member Patel, and Council Member Steggell

Council Members absent: None

City Officials present: Laurie Murray, City Manager  
Ajit Thind, City Attorney  
Mike Belknap, Community Services Director  
Scott Hutter, Planning Manager  
Terry Kim, Police Chief  
Sea Shelton, Administrative Services Director  
Ryan Hallett Hinton, Assistant to the City Manager  
Kimberly Kenney, Deputy City Clerk

PRESENTATIONS

None Scheduled.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Zoe Yun, La Palma Library Branch Manager, addressed the City Council regarding upcoming Library Events including the 50th Anniversary on October 3, the October Teenfest, the Read to a Therapy Dog program, and bilingual story time; and she spoke about the Library remodel project.

Jerry Lomeli, a La Palma resident, addressed the City Council regarding bringing Term Limits back onto a future agenda for discussion; support to propose a maximum term limit; and whether this could be placed on the October 15 Agenda.

Mayor Goodman asked City Attorney Thind to respond to making this an agenda item. City Attorney Thind noted that although members of the public are welcome to request something to be placed on the agenda, it is up to the City Council to make the decision;

Wally Zimmerman, a La Palma resident, inquired as to how a member of the community can place an item on the City Council's Agenda.

City Attorney Thind responded that any matters to be placed on the Agenda are at the discretion of and decision of the City Council and the City Manager.

RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE CITY OF LA PALMA AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE DISSOLVED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AT 7:09 P.M.

Deputy City Clerk Kenney stated, "The City Council will now recess and convene as the Successor Agency to the Dissolved Community Development Commission of the City of La Palma. Members of the La Palma City Council receive no compensation or stipend as a result of convening or participating in either the Successor Agency or otherwise as serving as members of the Successor Agency."

CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Successor Agency Minutes

Minutes of the September 3, 2019, Regular Meeting of the Successor Agency.

Mayor Pro Tem Kim made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Item A.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Patel and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Council Member Goedhart, Mayor Goodman, Mayor Pro Tem Kim, Council Member Patel, and Council Member Steggell

NOES: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

REGULAR ITEMS

None Scheduled.

ADJOURN THE CITY OF LA PALMA AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE DISSOLVED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND RECONVENE AS THE CITY COUNCIL AT 7:10 P.M.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Waive the Reading of All Ordinances

Waive the reading of all Ordinances in their entirety and read by title only.

2. Approval of Council Minutes

Minutes of the September 3, 2019, Regular Meeting.

3. Approval of Register of Demands

Resolution No. 2019-40 approving the Register of Demands for September 17, 2019.

Mayor Pro Tem Kim announced that he had a financial conflict of interest on Item 3. Mayor Pro Tem Kim did not participate in the vote on this item.

Council Member Patel made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 3.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Steggell and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Council Member Goedhart, Mayor Goodman, Mayor Pro Tem Kim, Council Member Patel, and Council Member Steggell

NOES: None

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

## REGULAR ITEM (2 Items)

### 4. League of California Cities Voting Delegates and Resolutions

Assistant to the City Manager Hallett Hinton gave the Staff Report.

Council Comments and Questions:

Discussion ensued regarding the length of time it took to accumulate \$120,000; support for looking at the fire hazard zone mitigation as a community problem; that our accumulation could benefit the state to deal with this situation; Council's position to not vote against this measure; that there may be more information about this resolution during the conference to help make a more informed decision; and support to give the Mayor and Alternates the discretion to vote on the items taking into consideration information they receive at the conference.

Public Input:

No members of the public wished to speak.

- a) Designate Mayor Goodman as the City of La Palma's Voting Delegate at the League of California Cities' (LOCC) Annual Conference;
- b) Designate Council Members Patel and Steggell as the City of La Palma's Alternate Voting Delegates at the League of California Cities' (LOCC) Annual Conference;
- c) Provide direction to the LOCC Annual Conference Voting and Alternate Voting Delegates as to the City's position on a Resolution of the League of California Cities calling on the California Public Utilities Commission to amend Rule 20A to add projects in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones to the list of eligibility criteria and to increase funding allocations for Rule 20A projects; and
- d) Provide direction to the LOCC Annual Conference Voting and Alternate Voting Delegates as to the City's position on a Resolution calling upon the federal and state governments to address the devastating impacts of international transboundary pollution flows into the southernmost regions of California and the Pacific Ocean.

Council Member Patel made a motion to designate Mayor Goodman as the City of La Palma's Voting Delegate at the League of California Cities' (LOCC) Annual Conference; designate Council Members Patel and Steggell as the City of La Palma's Alternate Voting Delegates at the League of California Cities' (LOCC) Annual Conference; and that Mayor Goodman and Alternate Voting Delegates will have full discretion as to the City's position on the Resolution of the League of California Cities calling on the California Public Utilities Commission to amend Rule 20A to add projects in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones to the list of eligibility criteria and to increase funding allocations for Rule 20A projects and to the City's position on a Resolution calling upon the federal and state governments to address the devastating impacts of international transboundary pollution flows into the southernmost regions of California and the Pacific Ocean.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kim and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Council Member Goedhart, Mayor Goodman, Mayor Pro Tem Kim, Council Member Patel, and Council Member Steggell

NOES: None

5. Central Park Parking Lot Southern Driveway Analysis

Community Services Director Belknap gave the Staff Report.

Council Comments and Questions:

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility to replace bollards with reflective plastic sticks; that the reflective sticks by Kennedy High School were knocked down every day and driven over; that park attendees complain that the bollards make the turn radius narrow; that the tight radius is intentional in order to slow traffic down because it is a pedestrian pathway; that there is no history of any vehicle hitting the bollards; understanding that the area is used for pedestrians; support to improve the reflective component; and appreciation for the report.

Public Input:

Abe Waheed, a La Palma resident, asked if these reports are available online; and support for making the Central Park sign more visible and readable.

Community Services Director Belknap responded that the Staff Reports are always available the Thursday before a City Council meeting on the City's website, and the presentation will be posted tomorrow.

Jerry Lomeli, a La Palma resident, addressed the City Council regarding whether the proposed signal in Option 2 is warranted; the number of events at the park that actually call for the removal of the bollards; and that the bollards are supposed to be kept there for pedestrian safety.

Community Services Director Belknap responded that the MUTCD does not warrant a signal there; that the bollards intent was for pedestrian safety; and that the City has about 10 events a year.

Jim Vaughn, a La Palma resident, addressed the City Council regarding support for keeping the bollards up to protect the pedestrians; that although it's a tight turn, it's supposed to cause the driver to slow down; and support to not remove them.

Further discussion ensued regarding the original intent for the bollards was so that they could be removed during an event; that they are not being removed during events; that residents have complained about them and that's why the City Council brought it up for discussion; that it was designed to allow for traffic to exit, but because of the size of the bollards, they're difficult to remove and Staff has gotten hurt in the process due to the weight of the bollards; and support for not having the bollards removed or replaced.

Mayor Pro Tem Kim made a motion to receive and file the Central Park Parking Lot Southern Driveway Analysis.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Patel and carried on the following vote:

AYES: Council Member Goedhart, Mayor Goodman, Mayor Pro Tem Kim, Council Member Patel, and Council Member Steggell

NOES: None

COUNCILMEMBER AB1234 REPORTS, REPORTS FROM CITY-AFFILIATED COMMITTEES, AND COUNCIL REMARKS

**Council Member Goedhart** announced that he attended the Swearing-In ceremony for Officer Kim.

**Council Member Patel** attended the Orange County Fire Authority's (OCFA) simulated event "Feel the Heat"; attended the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Civic Center; the La Palma Community Foundation fundraising dinner; and announced that he will be attending the American Council of Young Political Leaders delegation in Cambodia and Malaysia.

**Council Member Steggell** attended the Swearing-In ceremony for Officer Kim; attended the OCFA's simulated event "Feel the Heat"; and the OCFA Human Relations meeting.

**Mayor Pro Tem Kim** attended the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) Legislative and Public Affairs Committee meeting; the OCSD Administration Committee meeting; and the La Palma Community Foundation fundraising dinner.

**Mayor Goodman** attended the California Association of Joint Powers Authorities (CAJPA) meeting; the La Palma Community Foundation fundraising dinner; and congratulated Officer Kim on his Swearing-In.

#### CITY MANAGER REMARKS

**City Manager Murray** announced that yesterday she informed the City Council that she will be retiring on December 19, 2019; that it has been her great honor to serve the citizens of La Palma these past 13 years with the last four as City Manager; she stated that La Palma will always hold a piece of her heart and that she appreciates the opportunities she has been afforded here.

#### CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

**City Attorney Thind** had nothing to report.

Discussion ensued regarding congratulatory remarks to City Manager Murray on her announcement of retirement; that they should find a consensus for a meeting date to discuss recruitment options; and whether the City Council is allowed to add this as an urgency item to discuss a personnel matter; and that City Attorney Thind responded that its preferable to schedule a special meeting for this item; that the Deputy City Clerk can coordinate a date and time, and that can be discussed by the City Council in Open Session; a consensus to meet on Monday, September 23, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. to conduct a Special Meeting with a Closed Session for this personnel matter; and that members of the public are invited to speak on the matter at this meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

CS-1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Consideration of whether to initiate litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4): (1 case)

Mayor Goodman recessed to Closed Session at 7:53 p.m.

Mayor Goodman reconvened in Open Session at 8:18 p.m. and asked for a report.

City Manager Murray announced that there were no reportable actions out of Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Goodman adjourned the Regular Meeting of the La Palma City Council at 8:18 p.m.

---

Marshall Goodman  
Mayor

Attest:

---

Kimberly Kenney, CMC  
City Clerk