

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LA PALMA CITY COUNCIL

April 6, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Patel called the Regular Meeting of the La Palma City Council to order at 5:58 p.m. in the Council Chambers of La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street, La Palma, California with all members present.

ROLL CALL: Council and Commission Members

Council Members present: Council Member Baker, Council Member Goodman, Mayor Patel, Mayor Pro Tem Steggell, and Council Member Waldman

Council Members absent: None

City Officials present: Conal McNamara, City Manager  
Ajit Thind, City Attorney  
Mike Belknap, Community Services Director  
Ryan Hallett-Hinton, Assistant to the City Manager  
Scott Hutter, Planning Manager  
Terry Kim, Police Chief  
Mike Matsumoto, Finance Consultant  
Kimberly Kenney, City Clerk  
Marion Cubero, Business License Officer

CLOSED SESSION

CS-1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6.

Agency Designated Representatives: Conal McNamara, City Manager  
Ryan Hallett Hinton, Assistant to the  
City Manager

Employee Organizations: La Palma General Employees  
Association  
La Palma Police Association  
La Palma Professional Employees  
Association

Unrepresented Employees: Executive Management

CS-2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – INITIATION OF LITIGATION:

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

Mayor Patel recessed to Closed Session at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Patel reconvened in Open Session at 6:40 p.m. and announced there were no reportable actions out of Closed Session.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Council Member Baker

INVOCATION: Father Aaron Galvizo, St. Irenaeus

PRESENTATIONS

1. Mayor Patel presented a proclamation to Donate Life-One Legacy Ambassador John Whalen in recognition of Donate Life Month.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Anthony Kim, owner of Wholly Smokes BBQ, addressed the City Council regarding his opposition to the circumstances that have delayed his business opening to the public and requested that the City Council approve his applications that will allow him to open for business.

Mr. Johnson, a friend to Mr. Kim, addressed the City Council regarding his support for allowing Mr. Kim's business to be open to the public.

RECESS THE CITY COUNCIL AND CONVENE AS THE CITY OF LA PALMA AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE DISSOLVED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AT 6:51 P.M.

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 March 2, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Successor Agency.

B. Successor Agency Register of Demands

Resolution No. SA 2021-04 approving the Register of Demands for April 6, 2021.

Council Member Goodman made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Items A and B.

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

AYES: Council Member Baker, Council Member Goodman,  
Mayor Patel, Mayor Pro Tem Steggell, and Council  
Member Waldman

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 THE CITY COUNCIL  
AT 6:52 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 March 2, 2021, Regular Meeting of the City Council.

3. Approval of Register of Demands

Resolution No. 2021-11 approving the Register of Demands for March 16, 2021, and April 6, 2021.

4. Destruction of Obsolete Records

Resolution No. 2021-09 authorizing the destruction of obsolete records pursuant to the California Government Code Section 34090.

5. Award of Contract to T.E. Roberts, Inc. for the Water Main Interconnect Project (Thelma Avenue), City Project No. 21-WTR-02

a) Rescind Award of Contract to J.A. Salazar Construction & Supply Group for City Project No. 21-WTR-02, awarded on March 2, 2021.

b) Approve Award of Contract in the Amount of \$436,871 to T.E. Roberts, Inc. for the Water Main Interconnect Project (Thelma Avenue), City Project No. 21-WTR-02.

6. Additional Business Assistance Update

Receive and file the report.

7. The Road Repair and Accountability Act List (SB 1) of Projects for Fiscal Year 2020-21

Resolution No. 2021-10 identifying a list of projects to be funded by SB 1, The Road Repair and Accountability Act, for Fiscal Year 2020-21.

8. Approve Mutual Aid Memorandum of Agreement between County of Orange and City of La Palma for COVID-19 Vaccination Staffing

Authorize the City Manager to execute the attached Mutual Aid Agreement for the COVID-19 Vaccination Effort with the County of Orange, pertaining to mutual aid assistance provided under the Orange County Operational Area Agreement.

9. Resolution Designating Authorized Agents of the City of La Palma for Cal OES (State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services) Public Assistance Grants.

Approve Cal OES 130 Resolution form designating Authorized Agents to execute on behalf of the City of La Palma for the purpose of obtaining disaster public assistance grants from Cal OES and FEMA.

10. COVID-19 Update/Implications for Upcoming City Events

Receive and file the report.

Council Member Goodman made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 10.

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

AYES: Council Member Baker, Council Member Goodman, Mayor Patel, Mayor Pro Tem Steggell, and Council Member Waldman

NOES: None

### PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Scheduled.

### REGULAR ITEMS

11. The sale of "Safe and Sane" Fireworks within City limits.

Receive the report and provide direction, as appropriate.

Mayor Patel introduced the item and opened up the floor to Council Comments and Questions:

Discussion ensued regarding Mayor Pro Tem Steggell being approached by members of the La Palma Community's non-profit organizations who contacted her to sell fireworks within the City in order to raise funds; that this subject matter was addressed at numerous Goal Setting sessions and public meetings; that this City Council Goal was adopted last year and this year; that her intent was never to upset the residents, but solely to help these non-profits; and that there were an additional 16 other public comments received in opposition to the sales of fireworks after the Agenda was posted.

Mayor Pro Tem Steggell made a motion to rescind the action to move forward with allow the sale of Safe and Sane Fireworks.

City Manager McNamara noted that a formal motion is not necessary, that there is no legal obligation to rescind the decision as the City Council will simply not spend the money on preparing an ordinance.

A point of order was made to remove the motion from the floor to allow public input before the vote is taken. Mayor Pro Tem Steggell agreed to remove the motion from the floor.

Public Input:

Teddy Faile, a 45 year La Palma resident addressed the City Council regarding his support for the sales and use of safe and sane fireworks and the need to support local non-profit sports groups.

Council Comments and Questions:

None.

City Manager McNamara clarified that no motion means Staff is not moving forward with an Ordinance to allow safe and sane fireworks as the staff does not have the support.

City Attorney Thind noted that the direction was to bring back an Ordinance on today's date; that since then, the City council is not going to move forward; that if the Council wants to direct staff at some point in the future, they can chose to do so, but at this point there is no need to pursue this option; and that if there is no motion, there is no vote.

Mayor Patel made a motion to rescind the City Council original vote to move forward on the direction of preparing an Ordinance that approved the sale of "Safe and Sane" Fireworks within City limit; and not to move forward with the sale of "Safe and Sane" Fireworks.

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

AYES: Council Member Baker, Council Member Goodman, Mayor Patel, Mayor Pro Tem Steggell, and Council Member Waldman

NOES: None

12. Council Member Request: City Council Policy 3 Update

Discuss amending City Council Policy 3: City Committees.

Mayor Patel requested to have this item Agendized so that just the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem could form a Committee to conduct the interview, selection, and appointment of Citizen Committee members.

Council Member Goodman noted his support for this Item as he was interviewed for the Community Activities and Beautification (CAB) Committee originally by a two member committee made up of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem; and that the City Council has the authority to change their decision on this policy as desired.

Mayor Pro Tem Steggell made a motion to have the standing Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem conduct the interviews and select citizens to the City's Citizen Committees.

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

AYES: Council Member Baker, Council Member Goodman, Mayor Patel, Mayor Pro Tem Steggell, and Council Member Waldman

NOES: None

13. Home Based Business License Study Session: Review of Municipal Code Section 22-80 License Required for Home Occupation.

Receive and file this report and provide any desired direction.

Council Member Goodman introduced the Item as his request, to enable a discussion on how COVID-19 has impacted the Home Based Business Licensing operations.

Planning Manager Scott Hutter gave the Staff Report.

Business License Officer Cubero continued the presentation detailing the types of Home Bases Businesses the City currently licenses.

Public Input:

No members of the public wished to speak.

Council Comments and Questions:

Discussion ensued regarding appreciation for the Staff work on the Report and Presentation; encouraging the public to contact the Business License department if they're interested in opening up a home-based business; and a review of the home based business license fees.

By consensus, the City Council agreed to received and file the report.

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

**Council Member Waldman** attended the Metropolitan Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) annual meeting.

**Council Member Baker** attended the Starbucks Groundbreaking Ceremony; the League of California Cities (LOCC) Parks & Rec Roundtable; the LOCC 2021 Bill Introduction Briefing; Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva's Virtual Breakfast Club; the Bridges at Kraemer Place Community Advisory Board Meeting; the LOCC Mayors and Council Members Roundtable; the LOCC API Caucus Membership Check In Session; toured the Buena Park Navigation Center; the LOCC Women's Caucus; the Session on Women in Government - Facebook Safety & Best Practices; the Placentia Navigation Center One Year Anniversary Celebration; toured City Hall to see the progress of the renovation; the MWDOC Elected Officials Forum; the LOCC Parks & Rec Roundtable; the LOCC Solid Waste Discussion; and a teleconference with Congresswoman Linda Sanchez.

**Council Member Goodman** attended the Starbucks Groundbreaking Ceremony; the toured City Hall to see the progress of the renovation; the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD) Legislative and Public Affairs Committee meeting; the OCSD Administration Committee meeting; the LOCC Orange County Division meeting; the OCSD Strategic Planning Meeting; the OCSD Board of Directors meeting; the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA) Executive Committee meeting; and the LOCC Housing and Economic Development Policy Committee meeting.

**Mayor Pro Tem Steggell** attended the Starbucks Groundbreaking Ceremony; the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) Executive meeting; the OCFA Board of Directors meeting; and toured the Buena Park Navigation Center.

**Mayor Patel** attended the Starbucks Groundbreaking Ceremony; the Orange County Vector Control District (OCVCD) Finance Committee meeting; and inquired to Staff about whether the City can reopen the Council Meetings to the public in June.



CITY MANAGER REMARKS

**City Manager McNamara** responded to Mayor Patel's inquiry by noting that the tier structure is looking good; that although the COVID-19 numbers look good, the construction at City Hall will not be completed by June, but hopefully sometime in July; that Recreation and Community Services is planning to start a Cinema Event every Friday in July followed by Concerts in the Park on Saturdays in August; noted the plentiful availability of the vaccine; that the next meeting will include the study session on the City's Budget; and that he will be out of town next week with Assistant to the City Manager Hallett-Hinton serving in his absence.

CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

**City Attorney Thind** thanked the City Clerk for sending out the AB1234 Ethics Training to Council and Staff and encouraged everyone to complete it by April 22, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Patel adjourned the Regular Meeting of the La Palma City Council at 7:37 p.m.

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Nitesh P. Patel  
Mayor

Attest:

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Kimberly Kenney, CMC  
City Clerk