



La Mesa City Council

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: August 13, 2024, 6:00 pm
Location: City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue
La Mesa, California

Present: Mayor Mark Arapostathis
Vice Mayor Patricia N. Dillard
Councilmember Laura Lothian
Councilmember Colin Parent
Councilmember Jack Shu

Staff: City Manager Greg Humora
Assistant City Manager Amanda Lee
City Attorney Glenn Sabine
City Clerk Megan Wiegelman

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

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.

1.1 **INVOCATION - MAYOR ARAPOSTATHIS**

1.2 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

2. **ANNUAL ROTATION OF VICE MAYOR**

Mayor Arapostathis thanked Councilmember Lothian for her service as Vice Mayor and announced Councilmember Dillard would be the next Vice Mayor.

3. **CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

City Manager Humora announced that street resurfacing would be taking place throughout the city, with daily updates on social media platforms to inform

residents about which streets were scheduled for work next, including the major project on Jackson Drive between Murray Drive and La Mesa Boulevard, which was scheduled for August 28th.

4. COMMUNITY BULLETIN REPORTS

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

5. ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 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 the quarter ending June 30, 2024.

Following Council questions and comments, no action was taken.

6.2 CITY TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT

City Treasurer Strabone made a presentation regarding the investment earnings and the status of the investment portfolio for the quarter ending June 30, 2024.

6.3 POLICE CHIEF'S QUARTERLY OPERATIONS REPORT

Captain Runge presented the crime statistics for the quarter ending June 30, 2024, explained the statistics in the various crime categories and highlighted recently solved cases. Captain Runge briefly discussed the Department's proactive operations and strategic enforcement to help reduce crime and also reviewed various community outreach activities that took place. Captain Runge announced the recent graduations and recognitions of service of Police Department team members and provided an update on the Police Department's staffing vacancies.

Following Council questions and comments, no action was taken.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS – (TOTAL TIME – 15 MINUTES)

Billy Beltz voiced his concerns about a house on Bellflower Drive and discussed implementing traffic calming measures on the street.

Janet Castanos spoke on remote public comment.

William Pruitt addressed the issue of nonworking street lights.

Barbie Wheeler voiced her concerns about a house on Bellflower Drive and discussed implementing traffic calming measures on the street.

Brenda Hammond emphasized the importance of the "see something, say something" approach.

Alice Wang spoke on the enforcement of parking and lot size standards.

Dianne Osterling spoke and submitted a comment regarding remote public comment.

Mairs Ryan submitted a comment regarding remote public comment.

8. CONFLICT DISCLOSURES

There were no conflict of interest disclosures.

9. BOARD AND COMMISSION INTERVIEWS

9.1 INTERVIEW OF APPLICANT FOR A VACANCY ON THE MOBILITY COMMISSION

City Clerk Wiegelman stated Alex Mueller was not able to attend the City Council meeting due to a prior commitment. City Clerk Wiegelman said the appointment would be made at the September 10, 2024, City Council meeting.

10. BOARD AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

10.1 RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE CITY'S COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD

Mayor Arapostathis nominated Denise Carlson as the Police Beat 4 representative on the Community Police Oversight Board.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Councilmember Shu stated he would be voting no on the motion because an effective Community Police Oversight Board should be made up of individuals with differing opinions and backgrounds and not only those that support the police department.

Resolution No. 2024-095

Moved By Mayor Arapostathis

Seconded By Vice Mayor Dillard

Appoint Denise Carlson as the Police Beat 4 representative on the Community Police Oversight Board and adopt the Resolution.

For (4): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Lothian, and Councilmember Parent

Against (1): Councilmember Shu

Approved (4 to 1)

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

Dianne Osterling spoke on Items 12.11, 12.14, and 12.16.

Dianne Osterling submitted a comment on 12.11.

12. CONSENT CALENDAR

(Items 12.1 through 12.17)

*If a public hearing item is part of the Consent Calendar, the public hearing shall be deemed held if the item is not removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion and possible action (Item 12.11).

Moved By Councilmember Parent

Seconded By Councilmember Shu

Approve Consent Calendar Items 12.1 through 12.17.

For (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Lothian, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Shu

Approved (5 to 0)

12.1 APPROVAL OF MOTION TO WAIVE THE READING OF THE TEXT OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS AT THIS MEETING

Approve.

12.2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETINGS HELD TUESDAY, JULY 9, AND TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2024

Approve.

12.3 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2024

Approve.

12.4 INTRODUCTION AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA CORRECTING SCRIVENER'S ERROR IN AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO EXTENDING THE EXISTING TRANSACTION AND USE TAX (LA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 5.28: PROPOSITION "L") ADOPTED ON JULY 9, 2024 (THE "ORDINANCE")

Ordinance No. 2024-2910

Approve the introduction and adoption of the Ordinance.

12.5 ACCEPTANCE OF INVESTMENT POLICY FOR THE CITY OF LA MESA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

Receive and file.

12.6 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR BONDED INDEBTEDNESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

Resolution No. 2024-096

Adopt Resolution.

12.7 RESOLUTION APPROVING SALARY ADJUSTMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 COMPENSATION PLAN FOR FIRE MANAGEMENT STAFF AND THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT ASSISTANT CLASSIFICATION

Resolution No. 2024-097

Adopt Resolution.

12.8 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY SHERRIF'S DEPARTMENT FOR THE OPERATION STONEGARDEN GRANT

Resolution No. 2024-098

Adopt Resolution.

12.9 HOMELESS OUTREACH AND MOBILE ENGAGEMENT (HOME) PROGRAM QUARTERLY REPORT (APRIL 2024 - JUNE 2024)

Receive and file.

12.10 APPROVAL OF SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA,

CALIFORNIA, RELINQUISHING ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY OF THE MOBILEHOME PARKS ACT TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Ordinance No. 2024-2911

Approve the second reading and adoption of the Ordinance.

12.11 *APPROVAL OF SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 24 (ZONING) OF THE LA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA AMENDING THE LA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADD A NEW SECTION 24.05.020(A)(6) TO AUTHORIZE BY-RIGHT APPROVAL FOR PROJECTS WITH 20% AFFORDABLE UNITS ON REUSE SITES AS DEFINED PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65583.2 AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE 6TH CYCLE HOUSING ELEMENT, IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM 8

Ordinance No. 2024-2912

Approve the second reading and adoption of the Ordinance.

12.12 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE STANDARD SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA MESA AND SOLANA CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION FOR EDIBLE FOOD RECOVERY EDUCATION AND COMPLIANCE CONSULTANT SERVICES

Resolution No. 2024-099

Adopt Resolution.

12.13 RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES FOR THE 2024-2025 CIVICSPARK PROGRAM

Resolution No. 2024-100

Adopt Resolution.

12.14 RESOLUTION AWARDDING A TASK ORDER TO HARRIS AND ASSOCIATES FOR WASTEWATER UTILITY BILLING, ANNUAL ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED SERVICES

Resolution No. 2024-101

Adopt Resolution.

12.15 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO.1 FOR THE BOULEVARD DRIVE STORM DRAIN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, BID NO. 24-16, TO SC VALLEY ENGINEERING, INC.

Resolution No. 2024-102

Adopt Resolution.

12.16 RESOLUTION RENEWING THE AGREEMENT FOR PLAN REVIEW SERVICES FOR BUILDING AND FIRE PERMITS TO BPR CONSULTING GROUP, LLC

Resolution No. 2024-103

Adopt Resolution.

12.17 RESOLUTION APPROVING A RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA MESA AND PACIFIC WYERD LLC FOR THE INSTALLATION, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF FIBER OPTIC COMMUNICATION LINES IN CITY STREETS

Resolution No. 2024-104

Adopt Resolution.

13. STAFF REPORT

13.1 CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF CONCEPT DESIGNS FOR PUBLIC ART FOR THE WALKWAY OF THE STARS MURAL PROJECT

Director of Community Services Richardson provided a PowerPoint presentation on the five proposed mural designs for the Walkway of the Stars. The presentation covered the proposed mural locations, the City's public art policy, and the design and theme of the murals.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Moved By Mayor Arapostathis

Seconded By Councilmember Parent

Approve the five concept designs for the Walkway of the Stars public mural project.

For (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Lothian, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Shu

Approved (5 to 0)

14. ORDINANCE: SECOND READING

14.1 CONSIDERATION OF SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA MESA ADDING LA MESA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 10.30, REGULATING THE RESIDENTIAL STORAGE OF FIREARMS

Council Ad Hoc Subcommittee: Vice Mayor Dillard and Councilmember Shu

City Attorney Sabine read the title of the Ordinance.

The following members of the public spoke or submitted a comment in support of the Ordinance regulating the residential storage of firearms:

Dianne Osterling

Ron Marcus

Sandy Housley

Lori Van Orden

John White

Cindi Phallen

Victoria Koenitzer

Therese Hymer

Carol Landale

Ordinance No. 2024-2913
Moved By Councilmember Shu
Seconded By Vice Mayor Dillard

Approve the second reading and adoption of the Ordinance.

For (3): Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Shu

Against (2): Mayor Arapostathis, and Councilmember Lothian

Approved (3 to 2)

15. **COUNCIL INITIATED**

15.1 **CONSIDERATION OF DIRECTING STAFF TO ADD A STAFF POSITION DEDICATED TO LITTER COLLECTION THROUGHOUT THE CITY - MAYOR ARAPOSTATHIS AND VICE MAYOR LOTHIAN**

Councilmember Lothian and Mayor Arapostathis explained the purpose for requesting the Council consider directing staff to add a staff position dedicated to litter collection throughout the City.

Council questions and comments ensued.

Mairs Ryan submitted a comment suggesting that businesses adopt sustainable food packaging and that the City invest in butt cans as a solution to the litter problem, instead of creating a new staff position focused on litter collection.

Moved By Councilmember Lothian

Seconded By Mayor Arapostathis

Direct staff to create a new position to address litter removal in the city and return to the City Council within 60 days with a detailed report on the fiscal impacts and any necessary resolutions for formal approval.

For (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Lothian, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Shu

Approved (5 to 0)

16. **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.

16.1 **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ADJUSTMENT TO THE RESPECTIVE CONTRACTS FOR THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY**

Council Ad Hoc Subcommittee: Mayor Arapostathis and Vice Mayor Dillard

Mayor Arapostathis and Vice Mayor Dillard explained what was considered when determining the proposed adjustments to the contracts for the City Manager and City Attorney.

a. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Mayor Arapostathis read the following statement in to the record: "In compliance with the Government Code this action specifically does the following:

- Authorizes a 3.5% Cost-of-Living Adjustment ("COLA") increase and 5% market increase in salary; and
- Authorizes a near retirement leave bank conversion up to fifty percent (50%)."

Resolution No. 2024-105
Moved By Mayor Arapostathis
Seconded By Councilmember Parent

Adopt Resolution.

For (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Lothian, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Shu

Approved (5 to 0)

b. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE CITY ATTORNEY EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Mayor Arapostathis read the following statement into the record: "In compliance with the Government Code this action specifically does the following:

- Authorizes a 3.5% COLA increase and 5% market increase in salary; and
- Authorizes a near retirement leave bank conversion up to fifty percent (50%)."

Resolution No. 2024-106
Moved By Mayor Arapostathis
Seconded By Vice Mayor Dillard

Adopt Resolution.

For (5): Mayor Arapostathis, Vice Mayor Dillard, Councilmember Lothian, Councilmember Parent, and Councilmember Shu

Approved (5 to 0)

c. RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AMENDED CITY OF LA MESA COMPENSATION PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 LISTING POSITIONS, SALARY RANGES/BANDS, AND PAY STEPS

This Item was not required and was deleted from the agenda.

17. AB 1234 REPORTS (GC 53232.3 (d))

There were no reports.

18. CITY ATTORNEY REMARKS

There were no remarks.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Arapostathis adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

City Clerk