

## MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

THESE MINUTES ISSUED FOR  
INFORMATION ONLY AND ARE  
SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT AND  
APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING.

### ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING – February 18, 2015

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council met in Adjourned Regular Session at 5:04 p.m., Wednesday, February 18, 2015, in the Council Chamber, 3191 Katella Avenue, Mayor Murphy presiding.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

**Present:** Council Members: Grose, Hasselbrink, Kusumoto,  
Mayor Pro Tem Edgar, Mayor Murphy

**Absent:** Council Members: None

**Present:** Staff: Bret M. Plumlee, City Manager  
Cary Reisman, City Attorney  
Jason Al-Imam, Admin. Services Director  
Tony Brandyberry, Pub. Works Superintendent  
Dave Hunt, City Engineer  
Corey Lakin, Community Services Director  
Todd Mattern, Police Chief  
Steven Mendoza, Community Development Director  
Cassandra Palmer, Support Services Manager  
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

#### 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Hasselbrink led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 4. INVOCATION

Council Member Grose gave the invocation.

#### 5. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

##### A. Presentation by Kerry Worgan, CalPERS Senior Pension Actuary, Regarding the Annual Valuation Report and Actuarial Office (ACTO) Update

Mr. Worgan gave a PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the City Council.

Mr. Worgan and the Council discussed the pool relief on slide 15, the negative impact the unfunded liability payment would cause, the affordability of payments and the possibility of advocating to PERS for relief.

Mayor Murphy pulled Item 8 forward.

**8. WARRANTS**

Motion/Second: Edgar/Hasselbrink

Unanimously Carried: The City Council approved the Warrants for February 18, 2015, in the amount of \$172,457.71, ratify the Warrants for January 21, 2015, to February 17, 2015, in the amount of \$839,081.97, and authorized the City Manager to approve such expenditures as are legally due and within an unexhausted balance of an appropriation against which the same may be charged for the time period February 19, 2015, to March 17, 2015.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Member Grose	Aye
Council Member Hasselbrink	Aye
Council Member Kusumoto	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Edgar	Aye
Mayor Murphy	Aye

**7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Murphy opened Oral Communications.

Craig Durfey, Zero Tolerance for Fatalities representative, spoke regarding the General Plan and urged Council to delay approval to compare bike and walk ability to surrounding cities.

Seth Ecker spoke regarding the upcoming Run Seal Beach event on March 21, 2015, and complimented the Council on providing the PERS information to the public.

John Underwood, Cable Television Commissioner, spoke regarding the Commission's accomplishments over the past year.

JM Ivler, resident, spoke in opposition to the Los Alamitos Boulevard project.

Stephen Hammond, Cable Television Commissioner, spoke regarding producer insurance requirements, referred to item 10B and suggested recording Cable Television Commission instead of the Planning Commission, and opposition to his view that the Cable Commission had a limited role in the Request for Qualifications regarding LATV.

Mayor Murphy closed Oral Communications.

**RECESS**

The City Council took a brief recess at 5:57 p.m.

## RECONVENE

The City Council reconvened at 6:11 p.m.

### 6. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Presentation of the Deuce Award by Silas Miers, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), to Detective Samantha Mathias**  
Mr. Miers introduced the award and presented the Deuce Award to Samantha Mathias.
- B. Presentation of a Certificate of Recognition to Detective Mathias for Exemplary Work in Driving Under the Influences Apprehension**  
Mayor Murphy and the Council presented a Certificate of Recognition to Detective Mathias. Police Chief Mattern and Detective Mathias spoke briefly.
- C. Presentation of a Certificate of Recognition to Nesi Stewart, Print Masters, for Completion of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program**  
Mayor Murphy and the City Council presented a Certificate of Recognition to Ms. Stewart. Ms. Stewart spoke briefly.

### 9. CONSENT CALENDAR

All Consent Calendar items may be acted upon by one motion unless a Council Member requests separate action on a specific item.

Mayor Murphy pulled Item 9B.

Council Member Grose pulled Item 9C and 9E.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar pulled Item 9F.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Murphy

Unanimously Carried: The City Council approved the following Consent Calendar Items:

- A. Approval of Minutes** (City Clerk)  
Approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 20, 2014.
- D. Approval of Plans and Specifications, and Authorization to Bid for Old Dutch Haven Neighborhood Streets and Catalina Truck/Fork Lift Crossing Rehabilitation Project (CIP No. 14/15-02)** (Engineering)  
This report recommended action to begin facilitating the construction of the Old Dutch Haven Neighborhood Streets and Catalina Truck/Fork Lift Crossing Rehabilitation Project (CIP No. 14/15-02).

The City Council:

1. Approved the plans and specifications for the construction of the Old Dutch Haven Neighborhood Streets and Catalina Truck/Fork Lift Crossing Rehabilitation Project (CIP No. 14/15-02); and,
2. Authorized Staff to advertise and solicit bid proposals.

**G. Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report – December 2014  
(Administrative Services)**

The item was for City Council consideration and receipt of the Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report.

The City Council received and filed the Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report – December 2014.

**End of Consent Calendar**

**Items Pulled from Consent Calendar**

**C. Purchase of Street Name Signs (Public Works)**

This item is to authorize the City Manager to purchase new Street Name Signs. This item has been placed on the agenda because the material cost exceeds the purchasing limitation of the City Manager.

Council Member Grose spoke regarding the possibility of implementing a program that would allow for the purchase of old street signs.

Council consensus was received.

Motion/Second: Grose/Edgar

Unanimously Carried: The City Council authorized the City Manager to purchase new Street Name Signs as described in the attached bid from Hi-Way Safety, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00.

**E. Police Department Succession Plan (Police)**

The Chief of Police, Captain, and Support Services Manager are eligible to retire in 2015. To mitigate the impact of the anticipated staffing changes, some challenges in the Police Department's Succession Planning and subsequent recruitments have been identified.

City Manager Plumlee introduced the item. Police Chief Mattern summarized the Staff report, referring to the information contained therein, and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Grose advised his concerns were no reflection of the Police Department or current personnel. He questioned why this had not

been discussed during the last year's Police Department planning session. He gave a brief background on the civilian position that was created as a cost saving measure in 1998 and was unsure adding more positions for possible Chief promotion later on was justified. He stated support for finding novel ideas that would save money and indicated La Palma had potentially proposed sharing a part-time Police Chief. He stated concern for the requested \$75,000 to promote from within when Council was aware of upcoming PERS issues. He indicated he would have a hard time supporting this item as he did not believe the issue had been properly vetted from a policy level. He indicated that many in the community did not know the City was part of West-Comm which eliminated city borders for Seal Beach, Cypress, and Los Alamitos. He believed the partnership allowed the City to receive support from all three cities and equated to one police department. He believed efforts were duplicated at the administrative level and urged Council not to support the item at this time until further information could be provided.

Council Member Hasselbrink referred to the ideas of a part-time Chief through the City of La Palma and did not see how the City could entertain the idea, pointing out the current Police Chief was not part-time. Los Alamitos is known for its School District and Police Department. She stated she could not support cutting safety related costs. She indicated support for the fully educated Police Department, implementing a more traditional management model for cities of Los Alamitos' size, and being able to promote from within. She indicated a possibility such as La Palma would require a great deal of vetting out and the City currently had three top officers retiring soon. She questioned being able to find another civilian that could be as successful as the Support Services Manager.

Council Member Kusumoto questioned the urgency of the item.

City Manager Plumlee stated timeliness is important. This would allow for the opportunity to promote from within and if needed, allow for a stronger external recruitment. He indicated the succession planning has been outstanding and the City was in a good position to promote from within. He indicated the goal was to have someone train with the Support Services Manager and reiterated timing was important to allow for as many months of training as possible.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar gave a brief background of the City's consolidation of departments and outsourcing to save money. He spoke briefly about when Chief Mattern was promoted and brought community policing to the City. He spoke in favor of the positive culture in the Police Department and cautioned how that may change with the upcoming retirements. He spoke positively regarding Support Services Manager Palmer and supported having someone train beside her. He stated support for preserving and

reinforcing the culture. He stated opposition to consolidating Police Departments at this time. He indicated the proposed structure would allow for the Police Department to continue growing. He indicated the \$75,000 was a concern, but he was supportive of the process.

Mayor Murphy understood the urgency of needing an additional Captain and the ability to change the position back to civilian later on if needed. He indicated there was a good core in place that had provided stability over the years. He stated he was supportive of the item and providing an opportunity for training with the current Support Services Manager. He referred to the many responsibilities of the Support Services Manager position and questioned if a civilian would be capable of stepping in.

City Manager Plumlee indicated it would be difficult to replace the position with non-sworn personnel; however, there was good personnel throughout the organization. He felt it would be a very difficult transition for a civilian to fill.

Police Chief Mattern stated it would be difficult to find the same quality and talent. He stated there was a possibility a civilian manager could adequately do the job, but it would be a challenging process. He cautioned the command structure could change with outside promotions and promotions from within would help ensure culture stability.

Council Member Grose indicated this was not a matter of individuals or culture as everyone was replaceable. He stated Support Services Manager Palmer had excelled in her position because she had helped to create it and took on responsibilities cheerfully as management had changed. He felt there was no way of knowing if promoting a sergeant would guarantee the same capabilities and qualities. He stated opposition to not recruiting and exploring other cost saving possibilities. He reiterated the community was not upset with the combined Police services and that Police Chief Mattern was the first internal promotion for that position. He questioned the timeliness and establishing a policy for combined management and training. He gave a brief history of the Police Department. He stated there was no money for the additional \$75,000 and questioned if the money wouldn't be better spent on body cameras. He indicated the City had several upcoming financial challenges and cautioned that public safety had different financial obligations.

Council Member Hasselbrink asked if the Support Services Manager position was kept civilian, if internal Staff could be promoted.

City Manager Plumlee indicated if the position was civilian, any one could apply.

Council Member Kusumoto questioned the likelihood that internal Staff would apply.

Police Chief Mattern indicated the possibility exists.

Council Member Hasselbrink assumed it would be more likely to promote for the position if it were sworn.

Motion/Second: Hasselbrink/Edgar

Carried 4/1 (Grose cast the dissenting vote): The City Council:

1. Confirmed the intent of the Tier 2 language "appointed" in City Council Resolution No. 2014-22, relates to newly hired employees and not promotions; and,
2. Adopted Resolution No. 2015-04, entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SALARIES AND BENEFITS FOR NON-REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES AND AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2014-22," which clarified the retiree medical benefit for sworn non-represented is consistent with the Police Officers' Association MOU 2014; and,
3. Authorized the Police Department to fill the Support Services Manager position with a second Police Captain.

**F. Fiscal Year 2013/14 Audit Reports (Administrative Services)**

The item for City Council consideration is receipt of the Fiscal Year 2013/14 audit reports.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam summarized the Staff report, referring to the information contained therein, and answered questions from the City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar spoke briefly regarding his concerns for two findings. One was related to cash receipts in Recreation and Community Services which had been corrected with the new system. Two was the segregation of duties and he cautioned Council against consolidating too drastically.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Grose

Unanimously Carried: The City Council received and filed the annual audit reports for the Fiscal Year 2013/14: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Report on Appropriations (Gann) Limit, and Management Report and Auditor Communication Letter.

**B. Installation Innovation Conference in Monterey, California and Council Meeting Date Change (Administration)**

This report sought authorization for City Manager, Bret Plumlee, Community Development and Public Works Director Steven Mendoza, and a Council Member to attend the Installation Innovation 2015, in Monterey, California from March 15, 2015 – March 17, 2015, and subsequently change the March Council Meeting Date.

Mayor Murphy proposed Council Member Grose attend the conference.

City Manager Plumlee summarized the Staff report referring to the information contained therein and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Kusumoto stated support for Staff being more informed and a Council Member attending.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar indicated he was fully supportive. He stated mid-week Council meetings were difficult for him to make and suggested the following Monday.

City Manager Plumlee advised there were no scheduling conflicts for Monday, March 23.

Mayor Murphy stated support for March 23.

Council Member Hasselbrink was supportive of March 23 and Council Member Grose attending.

Motion/Second: Kusumoto/Hasselbrink  
Unanimously Carried: The City Council:

1. Authorized the City Manager and Community Development / Public Works Director to attend the Conference; and,
2. Designated Council Member Grose to attend the Conference; and,
3. Authorized all associated travel expense in an amount not to exceed \$3,600; and,
4. Scheduled the March Council Meeting for Monday, March 23, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.

**RECESS**

The City Council took a brief recess at 7:19 p.m.

## RECONVENE

The City Council reconvened in Regular session at 7:32 p.m.

### 10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### A. **Mid-Year General Fund Budget Review for Fiscal Year 2014/15 and Fiscal Year 2015/16 Financial Forecast (Administrative Services)**

This report provided the City Council with a Mid-Year General Fund budget and financial update for the Fiscal Year 2014/15. The report also makes recommendations for budget amendments, both to estimated revenues and to expenditures and provides a financial forecast for Fiscal Year 2015/16.

City Manager Plumlee introduced the item. Administrative Services Director Al-Imam gave a PowerPoint presentation and indicated it followed the flow of the Staff report, summarized the Staff report referring to the information contained therein, and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Grose referred to the Utility Users Tax (UUT) for electricity and gave a brief history of previous temporary reductions. He suggested in light of the possible electric rate increase, the Council consider a temporary reduction for electrical UUT.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar referred to the UUT for telecommunications and pointed out it never increased or went over the base amount. He believed the bigger issue was Southern California Edison's request for a rate increase.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar pointed out the PERS reserve had a mechanism in place to create reserves based on a percentage of the budget. He cautioned Council to adhere to the reserve policy and not be tempted to spend the fund.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the PowerPoint presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to SCE's increases and reiterated support for providing relief to the tax payers on a temporary basis. He referred to the process used for Laurel Park and suggested a similar process.

Council Member Kusumoto indicated a gradual rate increase was not of the same magnitude. He referred to solar panels and their low UUT and believed that was something the City should be looking into.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the PowerPoint presentation.

City Manager Plumlee referred to the parking meter project and stated additional expenses had been included. He advised this was a fluid, conservative number.

Council Member Hasselbrink asked if 3.5 months was realistic for project implementation.

Community Development Director Mendoza indicated it was realistic the project would be implemented close to July 1. He gave a brief outline of the project to date.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated support and advised this was a difficult decision, but necessary.

City Manager Plumlee advised the City of Seal Beach had been supportive in helping Staff with outreach and potential mitigation efforts. He advised the expenditure estimate for Fiscal Year 2015/16 included all aspects and Staff had been conservative with its estimates.

Council Member Grose asked if the rationale behind this project was to establish a revenue source that would also eliminate some parking issues throughout the City.

City Manager Plumlee advised the project was more about improving traffic circulation and moving parking more so than revenue enhancement.

Council Member Hasselbrink indicated it was a good idea.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar clarified the recommendation for the \$400,000 retirement cost was to take half from operating cost and the other half out of reserves.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam gave a brief explanation and clarified \$288,000 was the actual estimated impact in the current year.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar confirmed that was to come directly out of the General Fund.

Mayor Murphy referred to slide 19 and indicated there was a 10% increase to expenditures and this was not sustainable. He cautioned even

with increased revenue, the budget would still be short as things currently stand.

Council Member Grose stated concern regarding the increased spending and cautioned against using onetime expenses as justification. He referred to last year's budget closure items and could not recall if they had been implemented. He was unsure how Council could consciously justify spending just because revenue had come in higher.

Mayor Murphy indicated the PERS payments would be difficult and pointed out it was unseen and not predicted. Council Member Grose questioned qualifying for a hardship. Mayor Murphy outlined the different options and advised it could not just be applied for; processes had to take place through the unions and supporting information would be needed. He stated the problem was the increased expenditures.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar cautioned against sending an inconsistent message. He referred to the ad hoc committees that were formed to discuss the possible relocation and financing of City Hall and felt discussion regarding reducing UUT should be addressed in the same manner. He stated the importance of changing the revenue line and did not believe reducing the UUT was advisable. He spoke briefly regarding changing the revenue trajectory of the City and the possibility of a bond that would focus on economic development which could include financing for relocating City Hall. He indicated Council needed to be patient and look towards the next five to ten years as finances would not be solved this year.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam advised of the \$390,000 budget gap; \$309,000 was one time cost and expenditures were not expected to grow at the current rate.

City Council and Staff discussed the different option for repaying PERS unfunded liability, PERS regular contributions, and the available opportunities to apply for a hardship.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar advised the Budget Standing Committee had requested an evaluation of Worker's Compensation contribution to ensure the City was paying the right rates.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the PowerPoint presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to the parking meter program and inquired when the City would start to recover cost for the \$140,000 investment.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam advised \$250,000 was budgeted for revenue and the project should pay for itself some point during mid year.

City Manager Plumlee discussed the potential to expand the project over time and advised as revenues increased, so would expenditures.

Council Member Grose stated interest in a program for a volunteer citizen patrol similar to the cities of Seal Beach and Cypress.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar cautioned against using internal service funds to balance the budget and urged Council to adhere to the established reserve policies.

City Manager Plumlee added the internal service funds would need to be continually replenished as well.

Council and Staff briefly discussed the history of the Garage Fund.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the PowerPoint presentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated that although he was supportive of Staff's suggestions to pay PERS, this issue was his biggest concern. He stated support for investing in ways to generate revenue, but did not see any short term solutions.

Council Member Hasselbrink agreed Council was not committing to spending reserves and this was only acceptable as a short term solution. The long term goal was to increase revenue.

The City Council:

1. Received and filed the mid-year budget report for Fiscal Year 2014/15 and approved the budget amendments to the Fiscal Year 2014/15 Operating Budget as discussed and recommended in this report; and,
2. Reviewed the projected financial forecast for Fiscal Year 2015/16 and directed Staff regarding the potential use of reserves and related replenishment of reserves as discussed in this report.

**B. Consideration of Cable Television Broadcast of the Planning Commission Meetings (City Manager)**

Mayor Murphy requested Council consideration of recording Planning Commission meetings for broadcast on LATV-3.

City Manager Plumlee summarized the Staff report, referring to the information contained therein, and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Hasselbrink supported the idea, but questioned starting with the Planning Commission as the General Plan had just concluded. She suggested starting with the Traffic Commission as they will be discussing a study related to traffic around the high school.

Council Member Kusumoto indicated support. He stated the Planning Commission was a different entity and had authority to approve resolutions. He was supportive of the Planning Commission as the test case and felt a public record would be beneficial should an appeal come before Council.

Mayor Murphy agreed with Council Member Kusumoto's assessment and indicated he would like to see all Commissions recorded and had asked for a pilot program to streamline the process. He stated the approximate cost for all Commissions was \$400 per month.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar indicated there were many concerns already with the Cable Television Commission and did not want to add to the responsibilities. He questioned the elective action in light of the budget concerns and questioned if there would be an increased public benefit. He stated the Cable Television Commission needed clear direction and he felt this was sending an inconsistent message. He stated he was not supportive at this time as he could not see the public benefit.

Council Member Grose did not feel televising the Planning Commission would be a job for the Cable Television Commission. He stated the Planning Commission was one of the most confusing Commissions to the general public and stated support with a six month trial period.

Mayor Murphy envisioned one fixed camera to record the meetings, similar to the school board. The meetings would not be aired live, but would be available after on LATV-3 and the City's website via YouTube. He stated the recordings would be a valuable resource.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar questioned how the Council would determine if the program was successful.

Mayor Murphy believed feedback would be provided from the Commission and residents. He stated it was important to have the information available for the residents.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar questioned showing favoritism to one Commission by televising it. He stated if all Commissions were televised, it would provide transparency, but added it was an elective decision. He stated concern Council was unsure of LATV-3's future and this would require effort to maintain.

Council Member Hasselbrink indicated support for the pilot program and agreed all Commissions should be recorded. She clarified this was an annual expense of approximately \$6,000 that would be reviewed during the budget process.

Mayor Murphy confirmed that was the goal.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar questioned if defined criteria for success should be established or if this project would be done for the sake of transparency.

City Manager Plumlee stated having an archived record available to the public would be an additional benefit.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar questioned why the Council would televise the meetings when the minutes were not on the website.

Council Member Grose indicated feedback would be received, Staff could attest if Commissions operated differently, and how attendance was affected. He stated support for starting with one Commission to see if it provided value before moving on to other Commissions.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar again questioned how the Council would determine if the program was successful.

Council Member Grose referred to streaming the meetings online and felt this would be a step in the right direction. He referred to past issues with Commission minutes being behind and felt this would be beneficial.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar indicated he could support the item if Commission minutes online could be included.

Motion/Second: Kusumoto/Edgar  
Unanimously Carried: The City Council:

1. Authorized the City Manager to record the Planning Commission meetings for broadcast on LATV-3 until the end of June; and,

2. Bring the item back for review and discussion after the trial period ends in June; and,
3. Appropriate the funding accordingly in an amount not to exceed \$200 per meeting; and,
4. Directed Staff to post the meeting minutes and recordings on the City's website.

## 11. MAYOR AND COUNCIL INITIATED BUSINESS

### A. Council Announcements

**Council Member Kusumoto** spoke regarding his attendance at Orange County Fire Authority's Best and Bravest Award Ceremony.

**Council Member Hasselbrink** spoke regarding attendance at the following events: Orange County Library Advisory Board; upcoming Literacy Orange event on April 11, 2015; upcoming Front Porch Dedication event; meeting with Michelle Steel and Mayor Murphy to discuss the I-405 toll lanes; ACC-OC reception and State of the City for Cypress and Los Alamitos; Youth Center's Night Among the Stars; 79<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Support Command Change of Responsibility; OCTA West Connector Project Dedication; and, Casa Youth Shelter's Flag Dedication Ceremony.

**Council Member Grose** spoke regarding the following topics: events listed on [www.losal.net](http://www.losal.net); congratulated Mayor Murphy on the State of the City; attendance at West-Comm Board of Directors meeting and his selection as Chairman; interview with CJPIA for the Executive Committee Member; and, nomination for the California Coastal Commission. He requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of local businessman Dave Taylor.

**Mayor Pro Tem Edgar** spoke regarding the following topics: attendance at the Casa Youth Shelter's Flag Dedication Ceremony, Monte Carlo Night, Youth Center's Night Among the Stars, and Budget Standing Committee; upcoming Americana Awards; gave a brief update on the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy project; well attended State of the City; and, upcoming fundraising for Casa Youth Shelter by purchasing Valentino's pizza on Mondays for the month of March.

**Mayor Murphy** spoke regarding the following topics: encouraged by Council's improved attendance with ACC-OC; attendance at the Youth Center's Night Among the Stars and Monte Carlo Night; congratulated Council Member Grose on being Chair for West-Comm; thanked Staff for the State of the City; meeting with Michelle Steel and Council Member

Hasselbrink to discuss the I-405 toll lanes; upcoming Front Porch event and Americana Awards; and, requested Staff monitor Long Beach Airport's intent to go international.

**12. ITEMS FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Plumlee congratulated Mayor Murphy on a job well done and thanked Staff for their hard work during the State of the City. He advised of the upcoming Race on the Base, February 28<sup>th</sup> and the Police Officer Appreciation Lunch, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

**13. CLOSED SESSION**

City Attorney Reisman read the items aloud.

Mayor Murphy advised the meeting would be adjourned in memory of David Taylor, Shirley Bailey, and former Police Chief, Robert Cabot, and spoke briefly about each person.

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**  
Pending litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(4) of Section 54956.9. Two potential cases.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar recused himself from one case due to a conflict of interest.

- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**  
Pending litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9. One Case: Wagner v City of Los Alamitos

**RECESS**

The City Council Recessed into Closed Session at 9:38 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

The City Council reconvened in Adjourned Regular session at 10:48 p.m.

City Attorney Reisman advised there was no reportable action for one case under Item 13A, Council provided direction to Staff regarding one case under item 13A, and there was no reportable action for Item 13B.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council adjourned at 10:48 p.m. in memory of David Taylor, Shirley Bailey, and former Police Chief, Robert Cabot.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard D. Murphy, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS**

THESE MINUTES ISSUED FOR  
INFORMATION ONLY AND ARE  
SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT AND  
APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING.

**SPECIAL MEETING – February 23, 2015**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council met in Special Session at 5:03 p.m., Monday, February 23, 2015, in the Council Chamber, 3191 Katella Avenue, Mayor Murphy presiding.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Council Members: Grose, Hasselbrink, Kusumoto,  
Mayor Pro Tem Edgar, Mayor Murphy

**Absent:** Council Members: None

**Present:** Staff: Bret M. Plumlee, City Manager  
Cary Reisman, City Attorney  
Jason Al-Imam, Admin. Services Director  
Dave Hunt, City Engineer  
Corey Lakin, Community Services Director  
Steven Mendoza, Community Development Director  
Cassandra Palmer, Support Services Manager  
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

Mayor Murphy pulled item 4A forward for public comment.

**4. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY**

**A. Los Alamitos Boulevard Beautification**

Mayor Murphy opened the item for public comment.

Randy Hill, resident, thanked Council Member Hasselbrink for being a candidate for Queen.

Sherry Kropp, Superintendent Los Alamitos Unified School District, spoke regarding the adult transition program.

Josh Wilson, Chamber Board Member, spoke in support of the item, indicated he had concerns regarding traffic, and encouraged continued partnership as the project moves forward.

Mayor Murphy closed the item for public comment.

Mayor Murphy closed item 4A at this time and continued to Item 3A.

### 3. PUBLIC HEARING

#### A. **Extension of Urgency Ordinance Adopting a Citywide Moratorium on the Establishment, Expansion, Intensification or Relocation of New and Existing Massage Establishments and Massage Practitioners**

Staff recommended extending the 45 day moratorium on Massage Establishments that was originally adopted January 20, 2015. A Moratorium provides the necessary "time out" wherein the City can draft appropriate codes to address the newest laws without new applicants filing applications. This extension would be for 10 months, 15 days or until the new ordinance takes effect.

Community Development Director Mendoza summarized the Staff report, referring to the information contained therein, and answered questions from the City Council.

Mayor Murphy opened the Public Hearing. There was no one present wishing to speak.

City Attorney Reisman read the title of Ordinance No. 2015-02 aloud.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Hasselbrink

Unanimously Carried: The City Council: Adopted Ordinance No. 2015-02, entitled, "AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, EXTENDING URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2015-01, ADOPTING A CITYWIDE MORATORIUM ON THE ESTABLISHMENT, EXPANSION, INTENSIFICATION OR RELOCATION OF NEW AND EXISTING MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS AND MASSAGE PRACTITIONERS."

### 4. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### A. **Los Alamitos Boulevard Beautification**

Since 2009, the City of Los Alamitos has worked on improving the Los Alamitos Boulevard Commercial Corridor. Toward that end, the Draft General Plan will solidify that vision into Goals and Policies which have been through Stakeholder interviews, Focus Group Meetings, Community Open Houses, and over 28 study sessions including those of Commissions meeting jointly. Support for beautifying Los Alamitos Boulevard is clearly documented. The next step is to decide what public improvements are necessary to implement that vision.

City Manager Plumlee introduced the item. Community Development Director Mendoza gave a PowerPoint presentation, summarized the Staff report referring to the information contained therein, and answered questions from the City Council.

Mayor Murphy opened the item for public comment.

JM Ivler, resident, spoke in opposition to the project and stated concerns for the lack of parking and funding.

Mayor Murphy closed the item for public comment.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar spoke in support of the project and the opportunity to positively change the future revenue of the City. He gave a brief history of the project's last introduction and the lack of support. He indicated the City had fallen behind neighboring cities and advised the traffic study had indicated this project would improve traffic circulation. He indicated the timing for the project was important as it would take 3-5 years to complete the process. He reiterated support for the project and moving forward.

Council Member Kusumoto questioned the funding and what the \$40,000 was allocated for this year.

Community Development Director Mendoza indicated the outreach was to gain public input on the created documents.

City Engineer Hunt added outreach would be based on the traffic study and conceptual design. He advised the intersections at Katella and Cerritos on Los Alamitos Blvd. both needed improvements to help with traffic. He indicated the traffic study had many options including double turn lanes and increasing to six lanes. Traffic would improve by adding more straight through traffic; however, in 2008 the businesses rejected the idea of a third lane right next to the curb and gutter.

Council Member Kusumoto recalled being on the Traffic Commission at that time, questioned the Measure M funding received, and the reason the project wasn't completed.

City Engineer Hunt indicated the City had received roughly \$500,000 to install median islands and restripe, but the project was rejected. To his knowledge, businesses did not want the traffic restriction of no left turns into their businesses. He clarified the City had applied for a Special Fund for the grant money. When the striping was canceled, Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) approved a revised plan, but the project was canceled when the businesses rejected the center medians.

Council Member Kusumoto expressed frustration the median project had been delayed since 2008 and was surprised the business rejected plans approved by the Traffic Commission to improve traffic flow. He asked how traffic would be affected.

City Engineer Hunt stated traffic flow would improve with medians because they prevent left turns and allow traffic to flow smoothly.

Council Member Grose stated support for moving the project forward and agreed the City should begin to look at assisting with the improvement of businesses in the City. He stated concern there was not enough information to take to the public at this time and preferred having a plan in place to present to the public for input and direction. He hoped that the traffic study data would still be reasonably

usable and the study around the High School would dovetail into this project. He pointed out that developers and landowners were beginning to invest in their properties and felt Council needed to move forward to create an identity for the City since it would take several years to complete. He was appreciative of the Chamber's support and felt improvements may attract a new restaurant or theater in the vacant lots. He reiterated support for moving forward.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated concern for the current traffic flow and stated support for moving forward. She agreed the project would take several years and wanted to ensure bike-ability was addressed sooner rather than later. She stated opposition to increasing the speed of traffic and wanted to ensure businesses and residents weren't negatively affected. She stated support for attracting businesses and residents to Los Alamitos.

Mayor Murphy believed Los Alamitos was falling behind neighboring cities and any project would take several years. He questioned if outreach would be necessary for medians only as a starting point.

Community Development Director Mendoza indicated outreach would not be needed for medians only as there was documented evidence of support in the General Plan and Compass Blueprint. He suggested saving the outreach money to inform citizens when construction would be coming.

Mayor Murphy reiterated his concern Los Alamitos was falling behind. He stated if the City made improvements, it would attract interested parties to Los Alamitos. He suggested an incentive program to encourage property owners to reinvigorate their buildings.

City Engineer Hunt indicated the two options for medians were curvilinear or straight. Curvilinear medians allowed for expanded sidewalks in front of some businesses, but outreach was never done to see which businesses would get additional sidewalk space. He advised it would be visually unappealing to install curvilinear medians without redoing the sidewalks. Either type of median would help improve traffic.

Mayor Murphy did not see the need for curvilinear medians. He suggested two phases; phase 1 would include the medians and planters and phase 2 would be the sidewalks and bike-ability. He questioned if sidewalks could be done with the straight medians and questioned if there was a benefit to another study.

Community Development Director Mendoza indicated it would be ideal to include lighting on the medians and clarified sidewalks were not being discussed as of yet. He stated the project would be added to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) spreadsheet so Council would be aware of all the necessary steps and timeline. Community Development Director Mendoza advised he did not see an advantage for doing an additional study for the center median project and suggested using the \$40,000 outreach funding for the sidewalk phase.

Mayor Murphy asked if medians would negatively impact parking and questioned what the process would be to move forward with medians.

Community Development Director Mendoza answered in the negative and indicated medians helped with the flow of traffic.

City Manager Plumlee stated if Council chose to do the medians, the \$40,000 for outreach would be held until the next phase and Council would need to decide on straight or curvilinear medians.

Community Development Director Mendoza advised a CIP worksheet for straight center medians would be compiled to show year 1 of design, year 2 of construction, and where funding would come from. Staff would also begin working with OCTA for funding.

Mayor Murphy asked for an approximate cost and where the funding would come from.

City Engineer Hunt stated basic median islands with restriping would be approximately \$500,000 and the entire Boulevard Design with all the upgrades would be approximately \$4 million. He indicated OCTA had special project funding the City could apply for and that OCTA would approve of improving the traffic flow through the City. He advised Council to commit to a project before Staff was directed to negotiate with OCTA for funding.

Council Member Kusumoto questioned the speed limit from Katella to Cerritos, if double turn lanes were part of the study, challenged Staff to consider using medians for parking versus green space, and indicated expanded sidewalks would be beneficial to businesses.

City Engineer Hunt advised it was 35 mph and would not change. He indicated double turn lanes were part of the traffic study that went to the Downtown Subcommittee but had not gone before the Traffic Commission. Currently, the Traffic Commission was studying the high school traffic and double left turn lanes were being recommended.

Community Development Director Mendoza indicated parallel parking on the medians was not recommended for Los Alamitos Blvd. He indicated straight medians provided equality for all businesses by providing the same opportunity to all.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar believed the project would qualify through OCTA because of the improved arterial flow. He stated concern for dividing the project and questioned if cities apply for bonds for major capital improvement projects.

City Engineer Hunt answered in the affirmative.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar recalled issuing a bond for the purchase of Laurel Park and suggested combining the relocation of City Hall with the second phase of the

project into a bond. He stated he was supportive of making improvements and gave a brief overview of the past design ideas. He pointed out the challenge would be to educate the community on what the project really is. He stated support for doing the medians first and saving the outreach for future phases.

Council Member Grose stated concern regarding the curvilinear sidewalks and how much sidewalk each business would have; however, he did not want to eliminate the City's ability to do curvilinear sidewalks later on by installing straight medians. He questioned parking and the opportunity to partner with the Plaza to create a parking structure. He stated support for the medians and reiterated he did not want to limit future opportunities.

Council and Staff discussed the possibilities for sidewalks, medians, and bike lanes.

Mayor Murphy questioned if anyone favored curvilinear medians. Council consensus was not in favor of curvilinear.

Community Development Director Mendoza stated it was a stakeholder issue. City Engineer Hunt advised the project was simplified with straight medians.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated support for focusing on medians only for Phase 1. She stated focusing on the project as a whole would stop the project from moving forward. She believed this was a great start and gave Council and Staff time to coordinate the next phases.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar agreed. He stated the messaging for the project was critical and Council should decide on talking points before moving forward so the wrong message is not sent. It was important to convey how each step connected to the bigger picture.

Council Member Kusumoto stated support for researching available funding for medians as a first step. He believed the challenge would be to find funding. Staff could then research stakeholder concerns, parking, and the impacts of curvilinear medians. He challenged Staff to come up with innovative ways to improve traffic at peak times.

City Manager Plumlee suggested addressing the project during the budget process. Staff could bring forward a design idea and timeline to receive Council feedback and direction for moving forward.

City Engineer Hunt summarized the process for OCTA's yearly call for projects and advised an approved concept was all that was needed to submit for project funding. He indicated it could take several years to receive funding as it was competitive.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar pointed out there was \$200,000 assigned, but not appropriated, funds in the budget should matching be required.

**5. CLOSED SESSION**

City Attorney Reisman read item 5A aloud.

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Pending litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(4) of Section 54956.9. One potential case.

**RECESS**

The City Council recessed into Closed Session at 6:26 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

The City Council reconvened in Special Session at 7:40 p.m.

City Attorney Reisman advised no formal votes were taken or requested.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council adjourned at 7:40 p.m. to March 23, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., for the purpose of holding an Adjourned Regular meeting.

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Richard D. Murphy, Mayor

Attest:

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Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS**

**SPECIAL MEETING – March 2, 2015**

THESE MINUTES ISSUED FOR  
INFORMATION ONLY AND ARE  
SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT AND  
APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council met in Special Session at 5:02 p.m., Monday, March 2, 2015, in the Council Chamber, 3191 Katella Avenue, Mayor Murphy presiding. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (b), this meeting included teleconference participation by Mayor Pro Tem Troy Edgar from Hilton Dallas/Plano Granite Park, Technology Lounge, 5805 Granite Parkway, Plano, Texas, 75024.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Council Members: Grose, Hasselbrink, Kusumoto,  
Mayor Pro Tem Edgar, Mayor Murphy

**Absent:** Council Members: None

**Present:** Staff: Bret M. Plumlee, City Manager  
Cary Reisman, City Attorney  
Jason Al-Imam, Admin. Services Director  
Tony Brandyberry, Pub. Works Superintendent  
Taylor Conley, Community Svcs. Coordinator  
Rachel Jarvis, Community Svcs. Coordinator  
Corey Lakin, Community Services Director  
Todd Mattern, Police Chief  
Steven Mendoza, Community Development Director  
Emeline Noda, Recreation Manager  
Ron Noda, Recreation Manager  
Cassandra Palmer, Support Services Manager  
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

Mayor Murphy pulled Item 4A forward.

**4. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Pending litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(4) of Section 54956.9. One potential case.

Mayor Murphy opened the item for public comment. There being no one present wishing to speak, Mayor Murphy closed the item for public comment.

City Attorney Reisman read item 4A aloud.

**RECESS**

The City Council recessed into Closed Session at 5:02 P.M.

## **RECONVENE**

The City Council reconvened in Special Session at 6:41 p.m.

City Attorney Reisman stated that no formal votes were taken or requested and Council had provided direction to himself. The item was continued to March 20, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

### **3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY**

#### **A. Recreation and Community Services Department Budget Overview**

The City Council requested to take a closer look at each Department's expenditures and revenues to better understand how the Departments are spending and receiving funds. The first Department for discussion was Recreation and Community Services.

Community Services Director Lakin gave a PowerPoint presentation, summarized the Staff report, referring to information contained therein and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Grose referred to Day Camps. He understood there was a lot of competition with Los Alamitos Unified School District (LAUSD) and the Youth Center, but questioned if the attendance number was low and if there was anything that could be done to increase attendance.

Community Services Director Lakin agreed there was a lot of competition that provided parents with a lot of different opportunities. He indicated enrollment has been relatively consistent. He pointed out 50% of the Youth Center's participants receive full scholarships, in comparison to the City that offers 50% scholarships. He added the expenses were offset by revenues and highlighted the benefits of the City's program included a dedicated facility and a low student to Staff ratio of 10:1. Staff receives positive feedback and returning registrants.

Community Services Director Lakin continued the presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to Race on the Base (ROTB) and the difference between revenue and maintenance and operations (M&O). He questioned if that was the net amount.

Community Services Director Lakin answered in the affirmative and clarified personnel costs were not included in M&O. Revenue over direct expenditures was typically \$90,000-\$100,000.

Community Services Director Lakin continued the presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to the budget detail and questioned the rationale for choosing a six year time span.

Community Services Director Lakin stated the time period was representative of when the current Staff first became involved in the budget and provided a benchmark for Staff.

Community Services Director Lakin continued the presentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar recalled a policy decision to apply excess revenue from the ROTB to the pool fund. He questioned if the City was in compliance with this policy.

A technical error occurred and connection was lost with Mayor Pro Tem Edgar. City Clerk Quintanar reconnected with Mayor Pro Tem Edgar and confirmed he was present.

Community Services Director Lakin advised Council direction on May 3, 2010, was to apply excess surplus from the ROTB to the pool fund. During the 2011 Midyear Budget discussion, Council moved the pool fund into the General Fund and established a CIP Pool Fund. It was not clarified at that time where the excess ROTB revenue would go.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar questioned how much revenue over direct expenditures was received since that time.

Community Services Director Lakin indicated approximately \$90,000 - \$100,000 per year.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar believed the Council had not recognized they had indirectly canceled this policy and stated support for formalizing such policies in the future.

City Manager Plumlee suggested having the Budget Standing Committee address the issue to bring to Council for consideration. He recalled ROTB revenue was not discussed specifically when the Reserve Policy was established.

Council and Staff discussed various possibilities for continued funding and the reserve policy.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar agreed the Budget Standing Committee should develop a direct policy regarding for the pool. He questioned the City's strategy for spending money on the pool when it was unclear if the lease would be extended.

Community Services Director Lakin believed the pool could be maintained at this time and all big items would be postponed as long as the pool remained safe for participants. He indicated Staff was hopeful to receive a lease agreement with the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) so continued maintenance could occur.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar suggested a short term extension of the lease, while longer term negotiations took place. He didn't believe Council had prepared a strategy for the future of the pool and questioned if lobbying efforts should be considered for the pool lease and the potential increase of \$200,000 in charges.

Community Services Director Lakin advised a review of the pool would be discussed with Council on March 23, 2015. At that time, Council will discuss the preliminary proposal received from the JFTB and develop a strategy.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar requested the Staff report include a timeline of Council and Staff actions.

Council Member Grose stated support for reinstating eliminated programs such as Community Pride. He believed such a program would positively affect the community and suggested the Chamber's involvement. He stated support for creative ways to fully implement holiday decorations and suggested partnering with neighboring cities. He referred to the pool and stated concern for its aging infrastructure and a long term lease. He advised the JFTB used the pool 20% of the time and should have a stake in its future as well. He stated support for creating a policy that would put a certain percentage of ROTB proceeds towards pool maintenance. He suggested building maintenance into the pool fund versus using general fund money and cautioned that the City could lose the pool based on upcoming lease negotiations. He questioned if the City would move forward with a different program should the current patriotic banners be deemed unusable.

Community Services Director Lakin stated he had spoken with Nancy, Banners of Honor, and she had expressed an interest in continuing with the program. He referred to the holiday decorations and agreed the lighted banners had not been successful. He advised the City had 44 banners that could be used and there would be additional cost to create, develop, and add additional hardware should the Council desire additional banners.

Council Member Grose questioned if a partnership could be made with surrounding cities to find a creative way to spread the cost.

Community Services Director Lakin advised he would research the possibility. He pointed out the expensive portion was the upfront cost to buy the hardware and create the banners. Changing the banners was inexpensive.

Mayor Murphy apologized to Staff for the wait while Council was in Closed Session. He thanked Community Services Director Lakin for the overview. He stated the Department was doing a great job on self-sustaining big events and obtaining sponsorships. He questioned if anything could be done to expand and promote the classes.

Community Services Director Lakin indicated there was always a profit margin from the classes because the City retained a percentage. He stated there was a dedicated Staff person to work on expanding the classes and camps; the difficult part was the competition as all cities provide classes. He outlined several of the outlets Staff utilizes to promote the classes including bus bench advertising, assisting contractors develop literature, identifying incentives to increase participation, and sending thank you notes. He indicated word of mouth was the biggest draw for registration and Staff would continue to expand and promote the classes.

Mayor Murphy stated the Activity Guide was tremendous and provided a variety of activities for all age groups.

Community Services Director Lakin pointed out the Activity Guide was developed, created, and published in house now as a cost savings measure and has been working great.

City Manager Plumlee thanked Council for the opportunity to provide the overview and for the positive feedback. He thanked Community Services Director Lakin and his Staff for its outstanding work. He stated that in his experience, the amount of revenue generated was very rare and he was very thankful to have such great Staff.

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

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Richard D. Murphy, Mayor

Attest:

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Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk