

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

**ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING – July 21, 2015**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council met in Adjourned Regular Session at 6:00 p.m., Monday, July 21, 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 S. Reisman, City Attorney  
Jason Al-Imam, Administrative Services Director  
Tony Brandyberry, Pub. Works Superintendent  
Dave Hunt, City Engineer  
Corey Lakin, Recreation and Community Services Director  
Todd Mattern, Police Chief  
Steven Mendoza, Development Services 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. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Presentation of a Proclamation to Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Commission Chair, Emil Jorge, for Parks Make Life Better Month**  
Mayor Murphy and the Council presented a Proclamation to Chair Jorge. Chair Jorge spoke briefly.

**B. Presentation of a Certificate of Recognition to the Los Alamitos Stampede for Winning Tournament Champions at the Cooperstown's All Star Village Baseball Park**

Mayor Murphy and the Council presented Certificates of Recognition to the Los Alamitos Stampede. Los Alamitos Stampede Coaches spoke briefly and the team introduced themselves.

**C. Presentation of a Proclamation to Police Chief Mattern for National Night Out**

Mayor Murphy and the Council presented a Proclamation to Chief Mattern. Chief Mattern spoke briefly.

**D. Presentation of a Retirement Plaque to Support Services Manager Cassandra Palmer for 17 Years of Dedicated Service**

Mayor Murphy, the Council, Police Chief Mattern, City Manager Plumlee and the Police Officers in attendance presented a Retirement Plaque to Support Services Manager Palmer. Police Chief Mattern and City Manager Plumlee spoke briefly. Support Services Manager Palmer spoke briefly.

**6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Murphy opened Oral Communications.

Nick Carman, Sprint Telecommunications, advised a fully operational Sprint is now open in the Radio Shack at 10877 Los Alamitos Blvd.

Stephen Hammond, resident, spoke regarding the following topics in regards to item 9F: stated opposition to eliminating public access; Commission had voted 3-1 to maintain training facilities and production; Commission played an important role as the Council's extended eyes and ears; and, support for the Commission having the opportunity to discuss the study.

Steve Armanino, Olson Company, thanked Council and Staff for working with them during the General Plan Update.

Jared Dever, Orange County Vector Control District, spoke regarding the following topics: update on the District's recent activities; surveillance and control methods in communities with outbreaks; eliminating potential breeding grounds for mosquitoes; and, the recent rate increase.

Shelley Henderson, Cypress Festival, invited everyone to attend the Cypress Festival and 5K/10K/Run/Walk on Saturday, July 25.

James Maine, resident, presented a petition in support of maintaining the public access operation and LATV in the City of Los Alamitos.

Anthea Bramlett, resident, thanked the Council for attending Suburbia's 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and spoke in favor of maintaining LATV and upgrading equipment. Robert Deamasis, American Legion, spoke in favor of having a studio for LATV and American Legion's desire to produce information for Veterans.

JM Ivler, resident, spoke in support of the new firework show and suggested reaching out to other communities for financial support. He thanked Chief Mattern for his service to the community. He stated support for joining in the lawsuit with the City of Long Beach in opposition to the 405 expansion.

Georgia Sutherlin, Rossmoor representative, spoke in favor of maintaining LATV. As a member of the Rossmoor Women's Club and a docent at the Los Alamitos Museum, she encouraged everyone to visit the Los Alamitos Museum.

Mayor Murphy closed Oral Communications.

## 7. **WARRANTS**

Council Member Grose stated he would be voting in opposition to the invoice for the cable consultant, Skyline Media, to remain consistent with his previous votes.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Kusumoto

Unanimously Carried: The City Council approved the Warrants for July 21, 2015, in the amount of \$324,048.42, ratified the Warrants for June 16, 2015, to July 20, 2015, in the amount of \$2,548,226.27, 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 of July 22, 2015, to August 23, 2015.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

## 8. **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 advised Item 8I would not be considered.

### **I. Third Amendment to Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) Joint Powers Authority Agreement (City Manager)**

This agenda item requested approval of the Orange County Fire Authority's Third Amendment to the Amended Joint Powers Authority Agreement to eliminate alternate directors.

City Attorney Reisman pulled Item 8C.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar pulled Item 8D.

Council Member Kusumoto pulled item 8G.

Council Member Grose pulled Item 8E.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Kusumoto

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

**A. Approval of Minutes (City Clerk)**

1. Approved the Minutes of the Special meeting of June 1, 2015.
2. Approved the Minutes of the Regular meeting of June 15, 2015.
3. Approved the Minutes of the Special meeting of June 23, 2015.

**B. Second Reading of Zoning Ordinance Amendment (ZOA) 15-01 to Amend the Zoning Map of the City to Rezone Certain Parcels in the City to Comply with the 2035 General Plan (City initiated)**

**(Community Development)**

At its regular meeting of October 20, 2014 the City Council conducted a first reading of Ordinance No. 2015-04. This Zoning Ordinance Amendment began conforming the City's Zoning Map to the requirements of the 2015-2035 General Plan (Citywide) (City initiated).

The City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2015-04, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT (ZOA) 15-01 TO REZONE VARIOUS PARCELS IN THE CITY TO CONFORM TO THE 2035 GENERAL PLAN (CITY INITIATED)."

**F. Orange County Vector Control District (OCVCD) Update**

This report provided an update on the Orange County Vector Control Board.

The City Council received and filed the report.

**H. The League of California Cities' 2015 Annual Conference and Expo**

The League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo will be held in San Jose, California, Wednesday, September 30, 2015 to Friday, October 2, 2015.

The City Council:

1. Authorized the City Manager attend the 2015 League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo; and,
2. Authorized all associated travel expense in an amount not to exceed \$1,437.00.

- J. City Hall Copier Lease (Administrative Services)**  
This report addresses the lease of new copier equipment for use by the departments in City Hall.

Recommendation: Authorize the Administrative Services Director to execute a 60-month lease agreement between the City of Los Alamitos and Konica Minolta to provide for a Bizhub 754E high-volume black and white multifunction copier for City Hall and a Bizhub C454E color multifunction copier for Administration.

### **End of Consent Calendar**

#### **Items pulled from the Consent Calendar**

- D. Approval of Notice of Completion for Coyote Creek Park (CIP No. 12/13-04) (City Engineer)**

The facilitation of the construction of Coyote Creek Park was complete, and in compliance with the plans and specifications. Staff recommended that City Council accept the work as complete, direct filing of the Notice of Completion, and authorize retention release as prescribed by the Public Contracts Codes.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar advised of the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony earlier at Coyote Creek Park. He thanked Council, Staff, and the Mayor for the event.

Mayor Murphy thanked everyone that was involved in completing the project.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Grose

Unanimously Carried: The City Council:

1. Accepted as complete the construction contract by PIMA Corporation for the Coyote Creek Park Improvement Project; and,
2. Directed the City Clerk to record the Notice of Completion/Final Report with the County Recorder's office; and,
3. Authorized Staff to release the 5% retention to the contractor, in the amount of \$31,522.52, thirty-five (35) days after recordation of the Notice of Completion.

- E. Amendment to City Manager Employment Agreement (City Attorney)**  
A market evaluation survey was conducted for the City Manager's position and it was determined that the salary should be increased and the term of employment extended.

Council Member Grose advised Council had discussed this item in Closed Session and stated as a steward for the City's money he had concerns with the proposal. He outlined the recommended changes. He stated objection to the City continuing to pay the City Manager's PERS. He indicated a salary survey had been done with surrounding cities and it had been identified that the salary was not on par, but he the City Manager did receive a \$700/month car allowance. He stated he could not support these costs and wanted the public to understand he believed it was in the best interest of the citizens.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar spoke regarding the importance of stability for the City long term. He stated the City Manager recruitment had taken close to a year with the final challenge being salary. He advised City Manager Plumlee had taken a decrease in salary to come to Los Alamitos. He believed it was a great benefit to the City to have a City Manager that lived in the community. He advised employees had been given a pay increase as part of picking up their PERS and Council had not seen the sense of increasing the City Manager's salary at this time. He reiterated the importance of stability, appreciated Council Member Grose's financial points, and thanked City Manager Plumlee for his service.

Council Member Hasselbrink advised in addition to the survey she had contacted cities with similar populations and discovered the City Manager's salary was well under the market for cities of like size. She stated appreciation for City Manager Plumlee's involvement in the community and stated support for the increase.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Murphy

Carried 4/1 (Grose cast the dissenting vote): The City Council authorized the Mayor to execute the Amendment to City of Los Alamitos Employment Agreement for Non-Represented Employee (City Manager).

**G. 28<sup>th</sup> Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks Spectacular (Community Services)**

This agenda item provided the City Council with an overview of the 28th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular. This year's 4th of July celebration was similar to past years, with the addition of larger fireworks, attendance counts and a license agreement with the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) for use of the installation.

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

Council Member Kusumoto thanked Staff for the show and Mayor Murphy for his leadership in suggesting the additional funding. He stated support for continued funding to maintain the show as is.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated support for the show and believed it improved every year, but stated concern for the ongoing cost especially in light of the \$15,000 from Republic Services coming to an end. He stated support for discussing a solution and possible alternatives. He stated concern the City was not supportive of spending \$10,000 for a settlement in one neighborhood, but would spend \$15,000 for fireworks in another neighborhood.

City Manager Plumlee thanked Staff and the Joint Forces Training Base for the successful event. He advised the item would come forward at mid-year to discuss future funding.

Recreation and Community Services Director Lakin briefly addressed future funding for the event and Staff's plan to continue looking for sponsors and community partners.

Council and Staff briefly discussed their understanding of Cypress' plans to discuss the event in October.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar thanked everyone for the great show, but stated he would not be able to support future events without a revenue source; especially since the majority of attendees were not from the community.

Council Member Hasselbrink received clarification the 2015 fireworks had been budgeted, but the 2016 fireworks were not budgeted and could be discussed as part of the 2016/17 Budget. She stated support for the event and suggested partnering with local Chambers of Commerce for possible funding.

The City Council received and filed the report.

**C. Resolution Consenting to Transfer Control of Cable Television Franchise (City Manager)**

This Resolution authorizes and consents to the Change in Control of the Cable Franchisee from Verizon California, Inc. to Frontier Communications Corporation subject to certain conditions of approval.

City Attorney Reisman summarized the Staff report, referring to the information contained therein, and answered questions from the City Council. He requested the City Council postpone the item to August 10 to ensure Verizon has complied with the build out requirements of the franchise and to include a condition of approval that Frontier will accept the assumption of any and all financial obligations from Verizon. He advised the Resolution could be modified tonight, but he preferred to postpone ensuring a clean execution.

Steve Crosby, Frontier, advised to his knowledge Verizon had met all the requirements. He indicated he would need to discuss the other condition with management and advised Frontier was committed to the City and was a financially sound company.

Mayor Murphy questioned if Frontier would have a local office or service centers available.

Mr. Crosby advised Frontier had a philosophy for local engagement and there would be a General Manager for the City.

Council Member Grose discussed the following concerns: unclear on the third party, Newco; Verizon's resistance to building out for commercial properties that wanted internet access; and, questioned if there was a possibility to negotiate PEG fees. He stated he would like to have a positive partnership with Frontier and hoped they could provide some additional assistance to customers moving forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar advised he was familiar with Frontier and believed it was a respectable company. He understood the consent to transfer was contractual and administrative. He received confirmation from Mr. Crosby that Newco was being used to keep the assets clear and that most cities had approved the item without discussion due in part to the pre-meetings with Frontier. He stated he would like the relationship to start on the right path.

Council Member Hasselbrink questioned if the bundled packages would be different.

Mr. Crosby advised that was still being worked out and Council would be advised as soon as the details were available.

City Attorney Reisman believed there was no real immediacy and asked Mr. Crosby to agree on behalf of Frontier for an additional 60 days for Council consideration on September 21, 2015.

Mr. Crosby stated a preference for August 10<sup>th</sup> and advised he would work diligently to ensure Staff receives all the information needed.

City Attorney Reisman stated he would prefer approval at Regular meeting and requested Mr. Crosby's commitment to extend the deadline to September 22, with the understanding if all questions were answered to satisfaction it would come to Council at the August 24 meeting.

Mr. Crosby agreed.

Council Member Kusumoto thanked Mr. Crosby for attending and thanked him for allowing extra time for all parties involved to do their due diligence.

Council Member Grose clarified he was not certain the build out had not occurred, but had recalled a previous issue and wanted to ensure this provision was met.

City Attorney Reisman clarified the existing franchise did not require Verizon to provide service to all commercial buildings.

Mr. Crosby clarified the issues at hand were to ensure Verizon had completed the build out and assurance that Frontier would assume the financial obligations of Verizon.

City Attorney Reisman recommended the Council continue the matter and accept Frontier's agreement to extend the deadline to act on the application to September 22, 2015.

Douglas Study, outside counsel for Verizon, advised Verizon had complied with the build out and pointed out this was a cable franchise and does not address internet access in commercial areas. He advised they would work hard to meet the August 10 deadline and he had no authority to grant an extension.

City Attorney Reisman revised his recommendation to deny the transfer at this point in time. He believed it was an uncooperative approach for Verizon not to agree to a short extension when the application did not have to be approved until March 2016.

Mr. Study clarified he was not given the authority. He stated Verizon would like to work with the City to make the August 10 meeting. He requested Council not deny the request at this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar did not agree with Staff's direction. He understood the agreement was residential and found it illogical Staff had not researched the build out requirement beforehand.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Kusumoto

Motion: Approve transfer as is.

Council Member Kusumoto was supportive of discovering whether or not Verizon had met the build out requirement and believed Frontier would do its due diligence. He indicated at this point information just needed to be verified and he was ready to vote.

Mayor Murphy stated a preference to reschedule the item to August 10 to ensure the proper information had been gathered.

City Attorney Reisman advised Council include a provision requiring the assumption of obligations of Verizon by Frontier.

Mr. Study clarified this was a transfer of control request for a franchise and requested consideration by August 10.

Council Member Kusumoto stated there was a concern that the build out requirements had not been met.

City Attorney Reisman clarified the City was not demanding internet access be provided in commercial areas, but suggested if cable services were provided, internet access may be able to accompany it.

Substitute Motion: Murphy

Motion: Continue the item to August 10 to allow time for questions to be answered.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar called for the question.

Motion/Second: Edgar/Kusumoto

Carried 4/0 (Murphy abstained: The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2015-18, entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, CONSENT TO TRANSFER CONTROL OF THE CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE FROM VERIZON CALIFORNIA, INC. TO FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION."

Mayor Murphy pulled item 13A forward.

### **13. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR**

City Negotiator: Bret M. Plumlee, City Manager  
Unrepresented employees: Executive Management, Middle Management and Non-Management Employees  
Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6 (a)

City Attorney Reisman read the item aloud.

### **RECESS**

The City Council recessed into Closed Session at 7:52 p.m.

### **RECONVENE**

The City Council reconvened in Adjourned Regular session at 8:14 p.m.

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

## 9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. **Designation of Voting Delegate and Alternate for the League of California Cities' 2015 Annual Conference & Expo** (City Clerk)

The League of California Cities' Annual Conference & Expo will be held in San Jose, California, September 30 – October 2, 2015. The League is requesting City Council designation of a Voting Delegate to the Annual Business Meeting.

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

Council Member Grose advised he had requested his flight be booked in advance to take advantage of the discounted air fare. He stated it was unknown if the Administrative Services Committee would meet at the Conference and did not expect to attend and would agree with the Council's pleasure.

Council Member Hasselbrink advised the Community Services Policy Committee would not be meeting and she was unable to attend.

Motion/Second: Kusumoto/Edgar

Unanimously Carried: The City Council:

1. Appointed Council Member Grose to serve as the City's Voting Delegate and approved all associated travel expenses for the League of California Cities 2015 Annual Business Meeting; and,
2. Appointed Mayor Murphy and Council Member Kusumoto to serve as the City's Alternate Voting Delegates in the event of the Voting Delegate's absence.

### B. **Appointment of Interim Police Chief** (City Manager)

This report sought approval to appoint Todd Mattern as the Interim Police Chief upon his retirement on October 17, 2015.

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

Council Member Grose questioned if the recruitment would be through an outside agency or done in house. He suggested the recruitment period start immediately so that an interim position would not be needed for as long.

City Manager Plumlee advised he planned to start recruitment closer to Chief Mattern's retirement date. He stated it was his responsibility to complete the recruitment and Chief Mattern would assist in the transition and helping find a replacement.

Council Member Grose stated a preference for taking advantage of the lead time and starting recruitment as soon as possible and not wait until October.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar thanked Chief Mattern for his years of service and the stability that has been brought to the Department. He indicated it was anticipated Chief Mattern would retire in October and spoke about the recent transitions with Staff and potential retirements. He stated City Manager Plumlee was responsible for the appointment and indicated a preference for a transparent process and community involvement. He stated the importance of having the community engaged. He stated opposition to changing the culture and stated support for the item.

Mayor Murphy agreed the process should start immediately. He did not see any advantages to waiting and speculated there would be issues regarding pay.

Mayor Murphy opened the item for public comment.

JM Ivler, resident, stated support for the recommendation. He stated support for community involvement and starting the recruitment process immediately.

Mayor Murphy closed the item for public comment.

Motion/Second: Murphy/Hasselbrink

Unanimously Carried: The City Council approved the appointment of Todd Mattern as Interim Police Chief and authorized the City Manager to execute the employment agreement for the Interim Police Chief for the City of Los Alamitos.

**C. Prioritization of Bond Funded Projects (Administrative Services)**  
Discuss the prioritization of projects the City Council desires to fund with bond proceeds.

City Manager Plumlee and Administrative Services Director Al-Imam 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, requested prioritization of the Purple Pipe Project as he felt it would be a benefit to the City in the long and short term.

Mayor Murphy closed the item for public comment.

Council Member Grose asked for clarification of the Council action needed tonight.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam advised prioritization would be helpful and advised a firm prioritization would be needed by August 10.

Council Member Grose reviewed the projects and discussed the following topics: parks covered by the grant for rubberized surfaces; low priority for the Cottonwood septic tank; interest in the striping projects near the High School on Cerritos; and, interest in potential grants for Safe Routes to School. He stated his top two priorities were the Los Alamitos Blvd. Project and the Purple Pipe Project.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated support for the Los Alamitos Blvd. Project and the Purple Pipe Project.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated she had picked projects that would solve issues, could be completed in three years, and would impact the most people. She stated support for all 12 projects. She stated her top priorities were the projects around the High School and the Los Alamitos Blvd. Project that would improve traffic and could realistically be completed in three years.

Council Member Kusumoto stated support for the Purple Pipe Project as it would benefit the community and the region. He indicated the other items were acceptable and believed there was still more discussion to be had regarding the High School traffic issues. He stated his priorities would be sustainability and reclaimed water.

Mayor Murphy pointed out items 3 and 4 would eventually be taken care of with park fees. He stated concern that there was a healthy reserve, but none of these projects had previously come forward for funding. He stated support for projects that would include grant funding and generate revenue.

Mayor Murphy and Staff discussed the potential grant funding available for the Los Alamitos Blvd. Project and estimated project costs.

Mayor Murphy Stated support for the Los Alamitos Blvd. Project.

Council and Staff discussed prioritizing the list of projects on August 10 and including potential grant funding that could be used towards the projects within a three year period. Council requested an analysis of the potential grants Staff has been successful in obtaining, but understood there was no guarantee for grant funding.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated concern the community would see the Council spending money freely and stated preference for a packaged theme. He suggested sending a clear message and only including projects that would help to beautify and sustain the City (i.e. Los Alamitos Blvd. Project, High School traffic issues and Purple Pipe Project).

Council Member Hasselbrink stated support for projects with an emphasis on sustainability and traffic.

Council Member Grose was supportive of projects that could use grant funding, but stated concern that some grants required a long processing period that may go over the three years.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam stated the list could remain as is unless Council made a formal motion to move specific projects.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated concern the list was too broad and urged Council to use the bond money specifically for projects that would promote sustainability and economic revitalization. He stated support for the traffic issues at the High School and Cerritos Ave. and the Purple Pipe Project.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated concern the High School traffic issues and Purple Pipe Project only amounted to \$1.2 million.

Council Member Grose suggested moving the other items to the bottom of the list instead of completely removing them.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated support for prioritizing the Purple Pipe Project, Los Alamitos Blvd. Project, and High School traffic issues and moving the remaining projects to the bottom of the list.

Council Member Kusumoto stated he would like to see two additional columns added to the list to include available grant money and expiration dates.

City Manager Plumlee clarified there would be a top tier and bottom tier for projects that would include everything listed.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam stated the total project amount would be listed since grant money was not guaranteed.

Council Member Grose stated the Purple Pipe Project was a priority and requested Staff stop looking for obstacles and figure out the solution.

City Manager Plumlee confirmed the priority and advised Staff would be attending the upcoming call for grants by the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.

**D. Role of the Budget Standing Committee (Administrative Services)**  
Discuss and define the role of the Budget Standing Committee.

City Manager Plumlee introduced the item and answered questions from the Council.

Council Member Grose stated concern the Standing Committee had met on items that should be brought forward to the entire Council, such as Closed Session personnel items. He thanked the Standing Committee for its work, but felt the roles needed to be defined. He offered the following, from the City of Long Beach, as a potential guide: "This is a Budget Oversight Committee" and is responsible for reviewing the annual budget as proposed by the City Manager, and recommending changes to the City Council to reflect the priorities of the community".

Mayor Murphy advised it was the intent of the Standing Committee to provide guidance to the City Manager. He indicated the Standing Committee would avoid any issues the Council objected to.

Council Member Grose stated opposition to the Committee reviewing personnel items in Closed Session.

Council Member Kusumoto indicated the Standing Committee was not a body that should meet in Closed Session and stated support for Closed Session items and any gray areas to come before the entire Council. He thanked the Standing Committee for their dedicated service and helping to provide stability.

City Manager Plumlee stated understanding all personnel items were to be removed from the Standing Committee's purview. He added the Committee had been an outstanding tool for Staff.

Council Member Kusumoto and Staff discussed the importance of having all personnel items come to the entire Council. An item should not be heard by the Standing Committee if the intent was to bring it to the full Council for approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar thanked his colleagues for having the opportunity to be on the Standing Committee. He pointed out as a Standing Committee

all meetings are noticed and open to the public. He advised the Standing Committee had self governed and not participated in discussion of items that should come to the full Council. He encouraged his colleagues to consider participation in the future.

**E. Discuss and Provide Direction Regarding Alternatives to Fire Services Provided by Orange County Fire Authority Joint Powers Authority (City Manager)**

Due to the introduction of Assembly Bill 1217 and the adverse effects it will have on the City of Los Alamitos, Council Member Kusumoto, the City's Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) representative, has requested Council discussion of continued membership in OCFA and possible alternative fire services.

Council Member Kusumoto, OCFA Board Representative, summarized the Staff report, referring to the information contained therein, and answered questions from the City Council.

Council Member Kusumoto stated an interest in having Staff or potentially a consultant, begin a study to evaluate possible revenue streams, costs to provide fire services, and potentially joining with the Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB), Seal Beach, La Palma, and Cypress. He questioned if it was in the City's best interest to stay a member of OCFA with no representation and pointed out there was infrastructure in place with West-Comm.

Mayor Murphy stated this was excellent long term planning and asked if there were any objections to Staff spending time on this topic.

Council Member Grose indicated it was apparent this is a Union driven Bill and believed there would be significant impacts if cities started to withdraw from OCFA. He supported Staff researching available options and stated preference for a cost effective solution that would minimize escalating costs. He suggested looking into partnering with the City of Long Beach or Garden Grove.

Council Member Kusumoto indicated the City did have some equity in the Fire Authority per the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). He indicated the City had until July 1, 2018 to make a decision. He was hopeful enough data could be gathered to make an informed decision to do what was best for the community.

City Manager Plumlee advised Staff had begun talking to surrounding cities and gathering information. There was speculation surrounding cities may share the cost of a consultant to provide the analysis.

Council Member Hasselbrink suggested Council Member Kusumoto remove himself from the OCFA Board so the City could maintain a neutral position on the Board and he could be the front man for the analysis. She stated as the alternate, she would be willing to take it on.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar agreed the City should remain neutral, but expressed concern in removing Council Member Kusumoto.

Council Member Kusumoto believed to remain impartial, it would be best for him to be removed. He requested a Resolution appointing a new delegate be on the next Council agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated support for Council Member Hasselbrink. He suggested item 3 be changed to state alternative fire services to minimize negative headlines. He indicated as former Board member, OCFA was a bargain. He looked forward to the discussion and receiving additional data.

The City Council provided the following direction:

1. Discussed the benefits and disadvantages of continuing membership in the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) per the current Joint Powers Agreement; and,
2. Directed Staff to develop a legal strategy to secure the City's equity stake in the OCFA; and,
3. Directed Staff to proceed with a comprehensive financial analysis to determine capital expenses, annual costs, and revenue sources to create alternative fire services under the authority of the City Manager and City Council.

#### **TIME LIMITS**

Per Resolution 2013-09 "Council Meeting Time Limits", City Council considered extending the time limits.

Motion/Second: Hasselbrink/Murphy

Unanimously Carried: The City Council voted to extend the time limits to 10:30 p.m.

Motion/Second: Hasselbrink/Kusumoto

Carried 4/1 (Grose cast the dissenting vote): the City Council voted to continue item 10A to a later date.

**F. Cable Study Report (Administrative Services)**

Skyline Mediacast Productions (Skyline) has completed the Cable Operations Study. Ernie Castello and David Ihrig will present the results of the study to the City Council at the meeting on July 21, 2015.

Mayor Murphy opened the item for public comment.

JM Ivler, resident, stated concern public access was limited and there was not a procedure in place to be trained on the equipment. He expressed an interest in making the available equipment work for the community and did not feel the discussion would end tonight.

John Underwood, Cable Television Commissioner, stated concern the information provided was not a vision study and the 2010 Alternative Management Plan vetted by the Cable Television Commission had not been included. He expressed frustration with the process to date. He requested the Council defer discussion to a date where an open workshop could be held to allow public input.

Mayor Murphy closed the item for public comment.

Council Member Hasselbrink clarified this discussion was not to do away with Channel 3 and stated the City would continue to broadcast PEG programming on Channel 3. She stated in all available options in the report there was a need for a Station Manager to manage the day to day operations of programming and broadcasting. She indicated \$25,000 was budgeted from the General Fund, of which \$10,000 went to towards the current contract with Doug Wood. She suggested releasing an RFP for a Station Manager and added there needed to be accountability for the station. She believed with today's technology, a mobile studio may be more cost effective.

Council Member Kusumoto stated he would like to see the presentation from the Consultants and indicated there were differences in the descriptions that he did not understand. He pointed out the City was not legally obligated to provide a studio, infrastructure, or equipment and that any member of the community could produce something to air.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar spoke regarding the different elements of PEG programming including government broadcast and public access. He stated the importance of public access programming being professionally filmed for historical value (i.e. City events and youth sports). He spoke about the history of the studio and the different parties' inability to work together. He indicated professionals needed upgraded equipment, but decisions could never be reached on how to spend the money. He liked the idea of having an independent Station Manager available to the public

for production, but questioned what programming the community really enjoyed. He agreed with the report that there was not a lot of new programming. He stated opposition to increasing the Cable Television Commission when the current Commission did not have a clear direction. He suggested Commissioner Underwood reassess his involvement as a community activist and a Commissioner. He pointed out the Council had approved the Study and it was unsettling to hear a Commissioner constantly challenge the process. He stated he would like to support the process and respected what Commissioner Underwood did in the community; however, he would have recommended any other Commissioner be removed. He stated support for an open dialogue and wanted the best result.

Council Member Grose expressed frustration the Council did not have a clear mindset on the direction it wanted for LATV. He gave a history of LATV and stated support for reinstating LATV as a 501(c)3. He stated opposition to the City Manager and Administrative Services Director spending time as the Commission's Staff liaisons. He briefly discussed his understanding of how the previous 501(c)3 had operated including renting a location that could be used as a studio and parking for the mobile van inside and hiring a Station Manager. He reiterated support for reinstating a 501(c)3 and believed the previous Council had made a mistake in eliminating it. He discussed how the 501(c)3 had created a reserve by setting aside money for equipment replacement. He discussed the current programming and believed the lack of new programming was due to the inadequate equipment in the studio. He expressed frustration the Council was requested to approve equipment purchases that it did not fully understand and stated support for having a 501(c)3 oversee the process. He indicated Staff time was being wasted and stated support for empowering Staff to find out what had worked with the previous 501(c)3 and reinstating such so the Council could take a step back.

Mayor Murphy thanked the Consultants for the report and indicated he had reached out to anyone willing to talk to him about the situation. He clarified the City was not looking to eliminate Channel 3. He believed of the five business models, the sponsor program for fully managed program within the City's budget was the best option, but believed a Station Manager should make that decision. He agreed the City Manager should not be involved in oversight of the Commission and that the Council did not have the expertise to make these decisions. He stated support for a short RFP process and having the competing managers make a presentation to Council.

Council Member Grose reiterated support for a 501(c)3 and indicated opposition to looking at Station Managers. He believed an independent Board with direction from the Council would be better informed to make

that decision. He stated the equipment could be returned to the 501(c)3 and maintained or upgraded as needed. He stated support for directing the City Attorney to find out the cost to reestablish a 501(c)3 and establish policies and procedures.

Council Member Kusumoto indicated he was sensitive to the discussion being a drain on resources and time. He questioned why the City would provide a studio if was not legally obligated to. He understood the need for a Station Manager as it would reduce the amount of time the City Manager had to dedicate to LATV. He questioned if 501(c)3 bylaws would need to be ratified by Council, what stake the City would have, and how pass through funding for franc fees and PEG funds would occur. He indicated at this point he could not support a 501(c)3.

Mayor Pro Tem called for a point of order. He indicated the meeting needed to be extended or discussion ended. He stated support for continuing the discussion.

Council consensus was received to extend the meeting time until 11:00 p.m.

Council Member Grose provided his understanding the previous 501(c)3 had been dissolved because there was a misunderstanding regarding who would was responsible for filing taxes. He reiterated support for the City Attorney to investigate the past history of the 501(c)3 and provide Council with direction to recreate a 501(c)3, if decided.

Motion: Grose

Direct City Attorney to find out why the 501(c)3 was originally created and see if it was functional to create one again.

City Manager Plumlee suggested Council consider a combination of Mayor Murphy and Council Member Grose's suggestions.

Council Member Kusumoto called for a point of order, stating a preference that the discussion not be led by Staff.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion/Second: Hasselbrink/Kusumoto

Motion: Release an RFP for Station Operations Manager.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated opposition to creating an additional layer and was supportive of entertaining interested parties who were interested in managing the station.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated the studio needed new equipment. He gave his perspective on the history of LATV and indicated there were many opposing factions and issues at the time. He stated support for a simple solution of upgrading the equipment and hiring someone who had the community's best interest in mind to run the station, such as John Underwood.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated opposition to deciding on equipment and indicated that would be the job of a Station Manager.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar understood the base principles and was not opposed to the RFP. He indicated the studio needed upgrades and pointed out there would be a lack of funding after the initial money was spent. He reiterated support for hiring someone like Mr. Underwood.

Council Member Hasselbrink indicated she would like to see what other options were available.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated the income for that role appeared unrealistic.

Council Member Hasselbrink believed that was not for Council to decide and stated there may be interested parties out there.

Mayor Murphy believed applicants could explain what other functions were available to generate revenue in their presentation to Council. He indicated that Mr. Underwood was a great producer, but had not shown the inclination to run the entire operation.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated Mr. Underwood had created many valuable programs for the community. He stated he did not want the City make another bad decision and reiterated support for giving the position to Mr. Underwood.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated opposition to handing over City assets.

Council Member Grose pointed out the Council was trying to manage the process again. He questioned who would oversee the Station Manager and if they would be a City employee eligible for PERS.

City Council discussed the various directions available.

Motion/Second: Hasselbrink/Kusumoto

Motion Carried 4/1 (Grose cast the dissenting vote): The City Council authorized the City Manager to release an RFP for a Cable Operations Manager.

Council Member Kusumoto clarified this was the first step of the process and future appropriations would come before the Council.

City Manager Plumlee stated Staff would develop a Scope of Services and bring back candidates for the Council to interview.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar questioned the role of the Commission at this time.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated the intention was to turn the item around quickly and the Operations Manager could decide the role of the Commission.

## 10. ORDINANCE

### A. Introduce Ordinance 2015-03 – Changing the Cable Television Commission from a 5 to 7 Member Commission (City Manager)

This item is to consider amending the Los Alamitos Municipal Code to increase the members of the Cable Television Commissioners from 5 to 7.

Motion/Second: Hasselbrink/Kusumoto

Carried 4/1 (Grose cast the dissenting vote): the City Council voted to continue item 10A to a later date.

## 11. MAYOR AND COUNCIL INITIATED BUSINESS

### A. Council Announcements

**Council Member Kusumoto** spoke regarding the following topics: attendance at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event; attendance at Laurel Park Manor fire alarm install; attendance at meet and greet with Ambassador Ted Osius hosted by Senator Janet Nguyen; viewing of Frieda Kaplan documentary and requested a screening within the City; and, attendance at Fire Explorers Graduation.

**Council Member Hasselbrink** spoke regarding the following topics: participation in the City/School District Ad Hoc Committee; attendance at 4<sup>th</sup> of July event; attendance at the Dahli Lama's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration; attendance at Laurel Park Manor fire alarm install; attendance at meet and greet with Ambassador Ted Osius hosted by Senator Janet Nguyen; attendance at Movies in the Park; and, upcoming Bronco World Series with opening ceremonies on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Council Member Grose** spoke regarding the following topics: a list of events attended can be found on [www.losal.net](http://www.losal.net); attendance at a Retirement Ceremony at the Joint Forces Training Base; involvement in

the CERT response in the City of Long Beach; and, encouraged residents to attend the upcoming Movies in the Park.

**Mayor Pro Tem Edgar** discussed the following topics: attendance at the Suburbia's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade; attendance at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event; upcoming Navy Weapons Station tours; Casa Youth Shelters' Board Meeting; and, attendance at the Coyote Creek Park Ribbon Cutting.

**Mayor Murphy** spoke regarding the following topics: thanked Suburbia for the parade; thanked Staff and General Reddicks for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event; thanked Cypress, Rossmoor, and Seal Beach for their participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event; and thanked Support Services Manager, Cassandra Palmer, for her years of dedicated service.

## 12. ITEMS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Plumlee spoke regarding the following topics: congratulated the Council on the Grand Opening of the Coyote Creek Park; thanked Staff for their support with the project; thanked Staff for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event; advised July 31 was Los Alamitos Day at the Orange County Fair; and, thanked Support Services Manager, Cassandra Palmer, for her years of dedicated service.

Council Member Grose requested the Los Alamitos Volunteer Program participants receive a recognition function for all the hard work and dedication at City events.

Council Member Kusumoto requested the Council discuss the potential of sending a strongly worded opposition letter and potentially joining in an amicus brief regarding the I-405 project at the August 10 Council meeting.

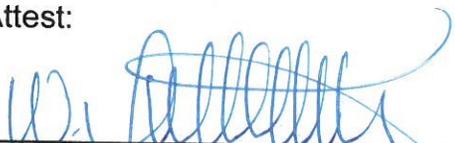
Council consensus was received.

## 14. ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 11:07 p.m. to Monday, August 24, 2015, for the purpose of holding an Adjourned Regular meeting.

  
Richard D. Murphy, Mayor

Attest:

  
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk