

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

**REGULAR MEETING – April 2, 2012**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council met in Regular Session at 7:01 p.m., Monday, April 2, 2012, in the Council Chambers, 3191 Katella Avenue, Mayor Edgar presiding.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Council Members: Graham-Mejia, Kusumoto, Stephens, Mayor Pro Tem Poe, Mayor Edgar

**Absent:** Council Members: None

**Present:** Staff: Angie Avery, City Manager  
Scott H. Howard, Legal Counsel  
Anita Agramonte, Finance Director  
Dave Hunt, City Engineer  
Corey Lakin, Community Services Director  
Todd Mattern, Police Chief  
Steven Mendoza, Community Development Director  
Windmera Quintanar, Department Secretary

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Stephens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. INVOCATION**

Council Member Kusumoto gave the invocation.

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Presentation of a Proclamation for National Dispatcher Week to West-Comm Representatives**

The City Council presented a Proclamation for National Dispatcher Week to West-Comm representatives Paul Philips, Interim Dispatch Administrator; Marie Pope, Acting Dispatch Supervisor; Kathie Moen, Lead Dispatcher; and, Veronica Wilson, Dispatcher.

**B. Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to the Race on the Base Sponsors**

The City Council and Community Services Director Lakin presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Race on the Base Sponsors.

6. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Edgar opened Oral Communications. There being no one present wishing to speak, Mayor Edgar closed Oral Communications.

7. **REGISTER OF MAJOR EXPENDITURES**

Motion/Second: Poe/Graham-Mejia

Unanimously Carried: The City Council approved the Major Expenditures of April 2, 2012, in the amount of \$66,105.79.

**Roll Call Vote**

Council Member Graham-Mejia	Aye
Council Member Kusumoto	Aye
Council Member Stephens	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Poe	Aye
Mayor Edgar	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.

Council Member Graham-Mejia pulled Item 8B and indicated she would abstain from Item 8A as she was not present for that meeting.

Mayor Edgar pulled Item 8E and directed staff to bring the item back once the documentation was complete.

Motion/Second: Graham-Mejia/Stephens

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

\*\*\*\*\*CONSENT CALENDAR\*\*\*\*\*

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

Approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 19, 2012.

*(Council Member Graham-Mejia abstained).*

C. **Emergency Roof Repairs - Reaffirmation of Emergency Conditions** (Public Works)

The City of Los Alamitos, when approving emergency public projects, is required to reaffirm such decisions at subsequent Council Meetings until the emergency is resolved. This staff report reaffirmed the December 19, 2011, decision to approve an emergency contract for roof repairs to several City buildings to avoid further damage to public facilities and avoid injury to the health of the occupants of the buildings.

The City Council ratified and reaffirmed the December 19, 2011, City Council action:

1. Found that significant damage has occurred to the roofs on several City buildings as a result of recent weather events, that the roofs are leaking into work spaces currently in use by employees, that future wind and storm events are predicted in the near future, and that the roofing issues have been inspected and assessed by professionals with pertinent experience who have recommended immediate repair to avoid further damage and possible health and safety issues; and,
2. Found that the roofing problems identified in this report are an emergency, that there is not time to conduct a competitive bid process and that the roofs must be repaired immediately to avoid further damage to public facilities and avoid injury to the health of the occupants of the buildings; and,
3. Authorized the award of contract for emergency roof repairs to Emercon Construction, Inc. via the Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) while authorizing an expenditure of \$5,000.00 for the deductible; and,
4. Authorized the City Manager to spend up to \$15,000 to repair and/or replace roof top air conditioning equipment if needed in order to repair the roofing leaks.

**D. Approval of Plans and Specifications, and Authorization to Bid for Public Works Yard, Gas Tanks Removal Project (CIP No. 11/12-01) (Public Works)**

This report recommended actions to begin facilitating the construction of the Public Works Yard, Gas Tanks Removal Project.

The City Council:

1. Approved the plans and specifications for the construction of Public Works Yard, Gas Tanks Removal Project (CIP No. 11/12-01); and,
2. Authorized staff to advertise and solicit bid proposals.

\*\*\*\*\*END OF CONSENT CALENDAR\*\*\*\*\*

**B. Warrants (Finance)**  
April 2, 2012.

Council Member Graham-Mejia referred to page 2, Commercial Aquatic Services, and inquired if the two pool heater repairs were for the new heater.

City Engineer Hunt answered in the negative and indicated the repairs were for the existing heater.

Council Member Graham-Mejia inquired about the Decksides Pool Service charges.

Recreation and Community Services Director Lakin indicated that was the reoccurring monthly charge for cleaning services.

Motion/Second: Graham-Mejia/Poe

Unanimously Carried: The City Council approved the Warrants for April 2, 2012, in the amount of \$66,105.79

- E. Award Bid for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Curb Ramp Improvement Project in Apartment Row (CIP No. 11/12-02) Using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds (Public Works)**  
This report recommends actions to begin facilitating the construction of ADA access ramps in Apartment Row.

Mayor Edgar pulled Item 8E and directed staff to bring the item back once the proper documentation was received.

**Mayor Edgar** announced item 10B would be taken at this time per a Council Member's request and with the consent of the City Council.

## **10. Discussion Items**

- B. Summary of Alley Related Safety Measures Since 2010(Public Works)**  
Complaints were received about speeding in the alley between Katella Avenue and Green Avenue, from Noel Street to Lexington Drive. Several speed surveys were completed; speed limit signs and caution children signs were posted; white stops bars were painted at the entrances and exits of the alleys; and test speed humps were installed. The average speed was 15 to 17 miles per hour (mph) before the speed humps were installed, which is 0 - 2 mph more than the speed limit. The speed humps did slow the traffic down by only 1 mph on average. The Traffic Commission and staff, feel the existing speeds driven down the alley, with an average speed of 15 to 17 mph are acceptable and find it is difficult to justify \$1,500 for each permanent additional speed hump. Increased police presence could be used to slow down the small percentage of speeders in the alley.

City Engineer Hunt summarized the staff report, referring to the information contained therein and answered questions from the City Council.

The City Council and Staff discussed the following topics:

- Cost of signage in the alley and future use of signage
- History of the use of speed bumps and liability concerns
- Accuracy of the speed survey and representation of speeding vehicles
- Safety for apartment dwellers
- Support and opposition received from residents
- Minor impact from speed humps
- Difference between speed humps and speed bumps
- Traffic calming options (i.e. stop signs, Police presence)
- Traffic Commission process to date
- Public safety including emergency responders

Mayor Edgar opened the item to public comment.

Rena Rios, resident, stated support for speed bumps and requested the alley between Walnut and Oak be studied as well.

Javier Mejia, resident, stated support for additional speed bumps.

J.M. Ivler, resident, stated this topic would be good for a City Council/resident workshop.

Mayor Edgar closed the item to public comment.

The City Council and staff discussed the following topics:

- Need to address the safety concern in the alleys as soon as possible
- Restricting access of businesses to the alley
- Modifications to business parking lots to allow for greater visibility of traffic
- Associated costs for installing speed bumps and signage
- Installing 9 speed bumps down the entire Green Ave. alley corridor, between Lexington Avenue and Los Alamitos Boulevard
- Installing 2 speed bumps in the alley behind Walnut
- Addressing additional alleys as residents bring their concerns forwards as Phase II of the project
- Larger signage (including Children at Play signs) at the entrance to each alley and further into the alley

Motion/Second: Graham-Mejia/Stephens

Unanimously Carried: The City Council directed staff to:

1. Install nine (9) speed bumps down the entire Green Ave. alley corridor, between Lexington Ave. and Los Alamitos Blvd.; and,

2. Install two (2) speed bumps in the alley off of Walnut; and,
3. Install "Caution Children at Play" signs at the beginning of each alley entrance and two to three signs throughout the alley; and,
4. Prepare traffic data into a study for implementation of additional speed bumps in areas of concern as a secondary phase.

## 9. ORDINANCES

### A. **Consideration of an Amendment to the Los Alamitos Municipal Code to Provide for One City Council Meeting Per Month (City Manager)**

This report requests City Council consideration of an amendment to the Los Alamitos Municipal Code to provide for one City Council meeting per month.

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

City Council and Staff discussed the following topics:

- Cost for preparation of meetings
- Council's ability to call a Special meeting
- Consideration of reducing stipend from \$400 to \$350
- Possibility of starting the meeting earlier

Mayor Edgar opened the item for public comment.

J.M. Ivler, resident, stated opposition for the item and stated a concern for maintaining transparency.

Javier Mejia, resident, stated opposition for the item and suggested keeping the second meeting of the month for public comment only.

Mayor Edgar closed the item for public comment.

The City Council and staff discussed the following topics:

- Council's desire to maintain transparency
- Who can invoke a special meeting (two members versus the majority of the Council)
- Importance of community input and ability of community to contact the Council at any time
- Evaluate the effectiveness and cost savings of once a month meetings after six months

- Compiling cost savings for review
- Council ability to get an item on the agenda in a timely fashion
- Possibility of providing a list of ongoing agenda items to Council
- High School students ability to attend any Council meeting during the course of the semester
- Consideration of holding the meeting on the first or third Monday

Motion/Second: Poe/Graham-Mejia

Unanimously Carried: The City Council

1. Directed the City Attorney to revise Ordinance No. 12-02 to allow for a meeting start time of 6:00 p.m.; and
2. Introduced by title only and waived further reading of Ordinance No. 12-02, and set for second reading; and,
2. Mayor Edgar read the title of City Council Ordinance No. 12-02, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 2.04.010 OF THE LOS ALAMITOS MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL"; and,
3. Authorized staff to issue advance warrants as necessary to conduct the City's business; and,
4. Directed staff to bring forth an Ordinance to allow for the presiding officer, City Manager, or two Council Members to call for a Special Meeting.

## RECESS

The City Council recessed at 9:04 p.m.

## RECONVENE

The City Council reconvened in Regular Session at 9:20 p.m.

## 10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

### A. Consideration of an Investment Policy for Fiscal Years 2011-12 and 2012-13 (Finance)

This report sought City Council consideration for the adoption of an Investment Policy for Fiscal Years 2011-12 and 2012-13.

Finance Director Agramonte summarized the staff report, gave a PowerPoint presentation, and answered questions from the City Council.

City Council and Staff discussed the following topics:

- History of the City's Investment Policy
- Liquidity and risk
- Remaining fiscally and structurally sound
- Having the City's portfolio professionally managed
- Conservatively investing a percentage of the yearly cash flow
- Quarterly report provided to Council
- Checks and balances
- Having a dedicated broker versus a pool of brokers
- Only using Federally backed instruments for investment
- Notifying Council of shortfalls
- Possibility of utilizing a sophisticated full service broker in the future
- Council preference to invest with local banks

Mayor Edgar opened the item for public comment.

Richard Murphy, resident, stated his belief that treasury bills fluctuate, stated concern for the City using a broker, and supported use of a professional investor looking out for the City's best interest.

Mayor Edgar closed the item for public comment.

The City Council and Staff discussed the following topics:

- Difference between Restricted and Unrestricted funds
- Support for Finance Director investing in CDs only
- Council's desire for triggers that automatically provide feedback to Council
- Adopting the Investment Policy including working with local banks as a first priority
- Secondary phase would be to look into getting a broker to invest the City's funds

Motion/Second: Graham-Mejia/Stephens

Unanimously Carried: The City Council adopted the Investment Policy for Fiscal Years 2011-12 and 2012-13 as recommended, with the modification of investing with local banks first.

## 11. MAYOR AND COUNCIL INITIATED BUSINESS

### Council Announcements

**Mayor Pro Tem Poe** reported she had been out of town from March 20 through yesterday.

**Council Member Graham-Mejia** reported attendance at the Orange County Vector Control Budget Meeting.

**Council Member Stephens** reported attendance at the Orange County Fire Authority meeting, reported there was a fire on Green Ave. the previous week, and expressed interest in adding additional fire hydrants.

**Council Member Kusumoto** indicated he had potential projects to discuss with the City Manager and had nothing additional to report.

**Mayor Edgar** reported attendance at the Orange County Sanitation Board meeting, requested staff to investigate potential new legislation regarding water companies and rates and bring back a resolution of support for all Council's signature, reported attendance at the We Care fundraiser, stated Casa Youth would be fundraising every Monday in April with Pizza Mondays at Valentino's.

**Council Member Graham-Mejia** requested High School Track Alumni look into giving back to the school as programs had been drastically cut due to budget constraints.

## 12. ITEMS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Avery reported on the following upcoming events: 1) Joint Commission meeting to discuss the General Plan on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.; 2) Spring Carnival Saturday, April 7, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at Little Cottonwood park; 3) Spring Day Camp next week from 9:00-4:00 p.m.; 4) bid opening for five upcoming street projects; and, 5) Staff's continued progress to reach out to the community for priorities of spending the \$358,000 surplus designated by Council.

Mayor Edgar inquired about the status of the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy grant extension application.

City Manager Avery indicated she would follow up and report back to the Council.

## 13. CLOSED SESSION

### **Conference with Legal Counsel**

The City Council finds, based on advice from legal counsel, that discussion in open session will prejudice the position of the local agency in the litigation.

#### **A. Anticipated Litigation: G.C. 54956.9(b)**

A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the City Council on the advice of its legal counsel, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the City based upon facts and circumstances that might result in litigation but which the City believes are not yet known to potential plaintiff or plaintiffs. G.C. 54956.9(b)(3)(A)

#### **B. Initiation of Litigation: G.C. 54956.9(c)**

One Item

**RECESS**

The City Council recessed into Closed Session at 10:33 p.m.

**RECONVENE**

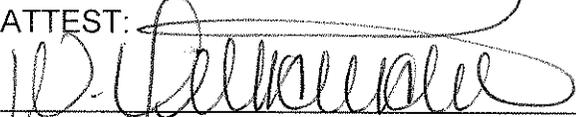
The City Council reconvened in Regular Session at 11:15 p.m.

There was no reportable action.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The City Council adjourned the meeting at 11:15 p.m. The next meeting of the City Council is scheduled for **Monday, April 16, 2012**, in the City Council Chambers.

  
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Troy D. Edgar, Mayor

ATTEST:   
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Windmer Quintanar, Department Secretary