

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

SPECIAL MEETING – April 13, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council met in Special Session at 5:01 p.m., Friday, Monday, April 13, 2015, in the Council Chamber, 3191 Katella Avenue, Mayor Murphy presiding. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (b), this meeting will include 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(arrived 6:15 p.m.)
Jason Al-Imam, Admin. Services Director
Corey Lakin, Community Services Director
Todd Mattern, Police Chief
Bruce McAlpine, Police Captain
Steven Mendoza, Community Development Director
Rick Moore, Police Officer
Cassandra Palmer, Support Services Manager
Windmera Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk

3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

A. Legislative Advocacy: Oppose AB 1217 (City Manager)

The West Orange County City Managers met and discussed AB 1217. This proposed legislation would change the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) Board's from 26 to 13 members mostly based on population. Los Alamitos and most of the other West OC cities stand to lose a seat and voice on the Board. Surrounding cities are taking a letter of opposition to Council for support.

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

1. Authorized the City Clerk to send a letter of opposition from the entire City Council regarding AB 1217 dealing with the Orange County Fire Authority Board; and,

2. Authorized the City's representative to the OCFA Board of Directors to communicate opposition to AB 1217 to the Board.

B. Police Department Budget Overview (Police)

The City Council requested Staff provide detailed information about each Department's expenditures and revenues to better understand how City resources are received and spent.

Police Chief Mattern summarized the Staff report, referring to the information contained therein, gave a PowerPoint presentation, and answered questions from the Council.

Council and Staff discussed the difference in personnel from last year, which had several vacancies throughout the year, to current year that would be fully staffed at 25 full-time. Full-time employees would include one additional sworn position and one less civilian position.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to Administration, slide 12, and asked if increased maintenance and operations were included in the approval of an additional Police Captain at \$88,000.

Police Chief Mattern indicated the figure was roughly \$75,000 and included everything including salary, PERS, and vehicle costs.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Council and Staff discussed the Reserve Officers. Red light cameras were operated by sworn Reserve Officers and the number of Reserve Officers had decreased over the past years from as much as 10 to the current staffing of two. Reserve Officers are intended to supplement, not replace, full-time Officers.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to Investigations and asked what the community presentations were.

Police Chief Mattern stated there were four throughout the year and included providing crime prevention information to Southland Credit Union, a safety presentation for the business community, a presentation on preventing ID theft, and participating in the Drug Take Back program.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Mayor Murphy asked if the School Resource Officer (SRO) provided community outreach by being in touch with the students on a daily basis.

Police Chief Mattern answered in the affirmative and continued the presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to Traffic, slide 40, and asked why the crossing guards were being fully funded. He referred to last year's budget direction to fund half the cost and work with the School District for the other half. He questioned the status.

City Manager Plumlee advised the crossing guards were fully funded for the current year and had not been considered as a gap closure for the Fiscal Year 2015/16. He stated the School District had not provided half the funding for the crossing guards to date.

Mayor Murphy stated the Council had not agreed to pay for more than half the cost for the crossing guards.

City Manager Plumlee advised the City was currently providing crossing guards at all the schools in Los Alamitos.

Council Member Grose stated several of the budget gap closure items had not been implemented and questioned why this was being allowed to occur.

City Manager Plumlee advised Staff had met with the Budget Standing Committee and provided an update regarding the gap closure status. He indicated the budget was an evolving process.

Council Member Grose stated concern this was not being implemented this year.

City Manager Plumlee clarified the fiscal year ended June 30 and he would continue to work with the School District to receive the funding. He reiterated at the last Working Group meeting indication was given that the item would go before the School Board for approval.

Council Member Grose stated there was a credibility issue when Council approved one direction and then find out something else had occurred. He expressed concern that approving gap closures this year would be meaningless as last year's approvals had not been implemented.

City Manager Plumlee stated the City was in good financial shape for Fiscal Year 2014-15 with increased revenue and reduction in

expenditures. He advised Staff would continue to work with the School District and provide updates.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar agreed with Council Member Grose that Council direction had not happened. He asked when it would be appropriate to receive an update from the District/City Working Group. He had indirectly heard the District would agree to the amount if it could be arrived by different means. He asked for an update.

City Manager Plumlee stated discussion regarding sharing cost for the crossing guard had occurred at the Working Group meeting. The last he had heard from Superintendent Kropp was the item would go before the LAUSD Board for consideration of paying half of the crossing guards.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar asked if Council had a preference if the money was specifically for crossing guards as long as the money was received.

Council Member Kusumoto stated at the last Working Group meeting he had reiterated to Board Member Dave Boyer that the Council had decided to eliminate the crossing guards as a gap closure measure, but fought to get half the funding back. He agreed with Council Member Grose only half the year should have been funded which would have given the school district time to figure out what it wanted to do.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated it was her understanding the Working Group had discussed crossing guard funding for Fiscal Year 2015/16. She was under the impression that the 14/15 Fiscal Year had already been split 50/50.

Council and Staff discussed the last Working Group meeting. It was clarified the discussion was regarding funding half the cost of the crossing guards for the Fiscal Year 2014/15 and moving forward.

Council Member Hasselbrink stated support for contacting St. Hedwig to fund the crossing guard at Orangewood. She indicated she did not believe residents would utilize that intersection due to the distance.

Council Member Grose stated his concern was the School District would continue to do as it pleased and ignore the City's rules and regulations. He referred to the negative impacts from the District's bus yard and stated opposition to Staff not following through with Council direction.

City Manager Plumlee clarified Staff was providing a snap shot of the budget to date and would continue to work with the School District to request half the cost for this fiscal year.

Council Member Grose stated Council had approved the action and had not been asked to modify it. He had assumed the funding had been received by the School District when crossing guards were present after the mid-point of the school year.

Mayor Murphy stated \$60,000 was originally proposed and Council had agreed to pay \$30,000. He asked how much had been paid to date.

City manager Plumlee stated crossing guards had been 100% funded at \$60,000 and the request for the School District to reimburse the City was still open.

Mayor Murphy stated it was not the intent of the Council to fund over \$30,000. He did not believe it was the intent now to budget the full cost for next year as he had been under the impression the City was funding half the cost of the crossing guards.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar agreed. He believed the two issues were the practical follow through of Council policy and the continued attempt to establish a better relationship with the School District. He cautioned Council to separate the issue from Staff executing Council policy and questioned if Council still had the conviction to pursue the funding.

Council Member Kusumoto questioned if the message to the Working Group should be that the City wanted to share the cost or if the message should be the City was not interested in providing this service. He believed the Working Group understood the City intended to only fund half the cost and would be making the City whole. He agreed with Council Member Grose this item should have been completed in the Fall and took responsibility for not bringing it to the Working Group sooner.

City Manager Plumlee stated Staff would continue to pursue half the funding for this year and next year. Council could then decide if half or full funding for the crossing guards would take place moving forward.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Mayor Murphy asked for the dollar amount for a full-time meter reader and asked when the parking meters would be operational.

Support Services Manager Palmer indicated the budget was for two part-time personnel, one full-time equivalent, at a cost of \$30,000.

City Manager Plumlee advised the scope of services would go before Council on April 20th and the goal was to be operational by August 1.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to the CERT classes under emergency preparedness and stated this program for all intents and purposes was run by Seal Beach. Los Alamitos, Westminster, La Palma, and Cypress also participated. He requested information on their cost and number of attendees. He pointed out there were monthly classes in Long Beach that were well attended. He asked if an officer was involved for the entire 24 hour class and if other cities had the same involvement.

Police Chief Mattern indicated the Officer was there for the whole 24 hours and the other cities had the same involvement. He would look into providing cost information for the other jurisdictions.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Council Member Kusumoto referred to the Overtime recap, and asked for the equivalent labor hours for the \$353,000.

Police Chief Mattern indicated it was roughly over two full-time personnel. He pointed out a majority of the time is not anticipated so personnel could not be hired to fill that time.

Mayor Murphy stated based off the numbers, overtime appeared to be cheaper than full-time staffing.

Police Chief Mattern pointed out it caused a burden on Staff.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Mayor Murphy referred to the traffic fine revenue and asked if that red light camera enforcement was almost 90% of revenue.

Police Chief Mattern answered in the affirmative.

Council Member Hasselbrink questioned if the red light cameras would be disbanded in 2016.

Police Chief Mattern stated there was potential legislation that may impact the enforcement, but there were several variables that could allow continued use.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Mayor Murphy asked for an update on the CAD RMS and 800 Mghz projects.

City Manager Plumlee advised both projects were being analyzed. The 800 Mghz project was the fire system that would happen in phases over three years. He stated the Council had set up an internal service fund last year with \$700,000 to cover both the 800Mghz and the CAD RMS project. The CAD RMS project was somewhat delayed and currently under review by West-Comm City Managers and Police Chiefs, costs were still unknown, but expected to exceed original estimates. Staff would continue to researching financing, but the project would likely be budgeted for Fiscal Year 2016/17.

Council Member Grose referred to asset forfeiture and recalled when the City had previously been involved in a drug task force. He questioned if Staff was actively looking to get involved in similar events in the future.

Police Chief Mattern recalled his experience with task force operations. He stated Staff was not actively seeking involvement and pointed out it would require creation of an additional position.

Council Member Grose referred to the DEA programs, and believed there would be a significant revenue return.

Police Chief Mattern pointed out there were risks involved. He recalled his experience with such programs was that they generated revenue in the beginning, but eventually ended up costing a significant amount. He stated there were no guarantees, but something that could be considered.

City Manager Plumlee added that the revenue would be restricted.

Police Chief Mattern continued the presentation.

Council Member Kusumoto referred to the School Resource Officer's involvement in the safety assessment made at all the schools in the District. He believed it was a good item and felt it would be beneficial to receive a report.

Police Chief Mattern stated the School Resource Officer (SRO) had gone with representatives from the District. He pointed out it was the District's assessment that the SRO had played a role in and would provide feedback.

Mayor Murphy asked for an update on the road closures for the upcoming event at the High School.

Police Chief Mattern gave a summary of the Every 15 Minute program. The City had partnered with the Youth Center to provide driving under the influence awareness program to the High School. The program would

include a mock fatal accident on Thursday that would close the north bound lanes of Los Alamitos Blvd. from Cerritos to Ball from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Council Member Grose asked for an update regarding the District's project on Briggeman and Southern California Edison's repaving. He indicated he had received complaints from residents.

Community Development/Public Works Director Mendoza gave an update on the utility projects underway by the Gas Company and Southern California Edison. He advised he was unaware of the District's project.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated appreciation for the update and overview. He referred to slide 7, and stated Chief Mattern had done a good job of explaining the increase. He stated the City was trying to evaluate and absorb significant increases in retirement costs. He referred to slide 46, and indicated it was difficult to determine if additional Staff should be hired to augment existing Staff, but felt a thorough review of the numbers had been provided. He referred to the potential impact of red light cameras and asked for an update on upcoming legislation.

City Council and Staff discussed the potential impacts of AB 1160. Staff stated continued tracking of the legislation would occur and updates would be provided to the Council in the Weekly.

City Attorney Reisman arrived at 6:15 p.m.

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

- C. Administration Budget Overview (Administration)**
The City Council requested Staff provide detailed information about each Department's expenditures and revenues to better understand how City resources are received and spent.

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

Council Member Grose asked if this was the only opportunity to discuss the City Council's budget.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam stated the earlier Council direction was received would be helpful. He stated there are upcoming workshops.

City Manager Plumlee requested direction on dues and travel tonight. He added they could be discussed throughout the whole process and this would be an opportune time.

Council Member Grose expressed opposition to Association of California Cities – Orange County (ACC-OC). He understood the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) was a mandated cost and he was unclear on the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG). He noted the Human Relations Commission had been removed from the budget.

Council Member Grose expressed the following concerns regarding ACC-OC: sponsoring groups, lobbyist, and businesses that pay dues and have a seat on the board; opportunity for networking is just as valuable through other organizations; and, no concerns regarding the available training. He stated concern that \$20,000 was a large amount for strictly dues and felt it should be looked at more in depth.

Council Member Grose stated concern regarding the increased travel budget of \$3,500. He referred to the League Policy Committees Council Member Hasselbrink and himself had been appointed to and the need for additional travel for such. He found the committee meetings to be very helpful and wanted to insure that Council discussed the item. He reiterated the budget for dues was large.

Mayor Murphy asked if the travel issue would be agendaized soon and indicated he would personally prefer a more thorough staff report and explanation.

City Manager Plumlee advised it was before the Council tonight for discussion, but could be discussed separately in the future. Administrative Services Director Al-Imam reiterated feedback tonight would be helpful.

Mayor Murphy questioned if this was the appropriate time to discuss the travel or if it needed separate treatment. He recalled former Mayor Mejia trying to bring forward a similar item before her tenure was complete.

Council Member Grose referred to the City of Cypress' policy that allowed for a monthly stipend per Council member to be used on events of their choosing. Each Council Member would be allowed to attend the events that they chose and no other reimbursements would be allowed. He stated there would be variances each year with travel based on the Council's involvement in different groups and felt this would be a healthy discussion. He questioned if the proposed budget would be a first come first served situation and referred to the required travel for different organizations. He

stated support for discussion and recognized the City is small with a limited budget that had been cut back over the past 6-8 years.

Mayor Pro Tem Edgar stated support for continued membership in ACC-OC, especially in light of AB 355. He advised membership was not just for networking, but beneficial in maintaining the City's voice. He referred to the idea of a stipend and recalled the perception that prior Council had abused the privilege of being in office through travel and the policy had changed. He was supportive of reevaluation of the policy to include more involvement in community activities, including non-profit events. He believed an appropriate amount for funding could be agreed upon and added it was not just about the cost of the event, but allowing Council to stay involved in the community.

City Manager Plumlee recalled the item was to consider changing the policy to allow for funding of charitable events and that the item had been tabled. From a legal standpoint, modification of the policy may allow funding of additional events.

Council Member Kusumoto stated support for a budget that Council could direct and believed it would still require a change to policy. He suggested the City Clerk compile a list of events for the Council to discuss and provide the appropriate budget for. He stated he would like to support the item, but was unclear on the mechanics.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam advised he had worked with City Clerk Quintanar to compile the list of events from last year. The budget worksheet was an initial starting point and was not meant to be all inclusive.

Council Member Kusumoto stated he would like to see events that the Council had supported, but paid for on their own.

City Manager Plumlee advised a revised list could be brought back to the first Budget session in May.

Council Member Kusumoto requested Council submit the events they'd like to support.

Mayor Murphy stated Council would submit the items they'd like to support for discussion early May.

City Manager Plumlee asked if the dues and subscriptions should be considered as standalone items.

Mayor Murphy recalled ACC-OC had been approved for the year and would be reviewed prior to paying the next bill to allow Council to gauge the benefit of involvement. He asked if the dues were calendared for discussion in October.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam stated the budget would remain as is and each subscription would be discussed as it became due.

Mayor Murphy pointed out this was a sensitive item and all payments should be put on the Consent Calendar so Council is aware.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the presentation.

Council Member Hasselbrink questioned why there was an election expense in a non-election year.

City Clerk Quintanar advised that preparation for the November 2016 election would begin in early 2016 and include purchasing supplies, consultant fees, and complying with legal requirements.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the presentation.

Council Member Grose referred to slide 8 and 15, and stated concern that two positions were being transferred out of the City Manager's budget and there was still an increase of \$20,000.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam stated \$34,000 was being transferred to cover the two part-time positions. He stated the projected amounts for FY 2014/15 included salary savings for his position and it would be more comparable to compare the budgeted amount with the preliminary budget amount.

Council Member Grose stated he was not seeing a comparable decrease in the City Manager's budget.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam clarified the part-time employees were not eligible for PERS therefore the decrease was only the 3.75% retirement contribution on their behalf.

Administrative Services Director Al-Imam continued the presentation.

Mayor Murphy thanked Staff for the hard work. He understood it was not easy, but felt it was certainly worthwhile as it provided council and the community a snap shot of how the City's money was being spent. He thanked staff for an excellent job and looked forward to doing something similar every few years.

4. CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney read items 4A and 4B aloud. He requested the City Council add an urgency item to 4B that had came up after the agenda was prepared.

Motion/Second: Murphy/Grose

Unanimously Carried: The City Council added an additional case to 4B.

A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

Agency Negotiators: Bret M. Plumlee, City Manager

Unrepresented Employee: City Clerk

Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant Exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Section 54956.9. Two potential cases.

RECESS

The City Council recessed into Closed Session at 6:49 p.m.

RECONVENE

The City Council reconvened in Special Session at 8:02 p.m.

City Attorney Reisman advised there was no reportable action.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 8:02 p.m.


Richard D. Murphy, Mayor

Attest:


Windmer Quintanar, CMC, City Clerk