

MINUTES
LA PUENTE CITY COUNCIL AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY
REGULAR MEETING OF
JANUARY 26, 2021

Per *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 11th Edition*, minutes are a record of the actions taken by the body. These minutes do not include a summary of the discussion but only reflect the action taken by the body. A complete audio recording of this meeting is available on the City's website www.lapuate.org.

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of La Puente was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 15900 East Main Street, La Puente, California, on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Klinakis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Klinakis, Munoz (via teleconference), Argudo, Quinones.

Members absent: Lewis.

Staff members present: City Manager Bob Lindsey (via teleconference), City Attorney Victor Ponto (via teleconference), City Clerk Garcia, Assistant City Attorney Marc Tran (via teleconference), Deputy City Attorney Stephanie Arechiga (via teleconference), Director of Administrative Services Troy Grunklee (via teleconference), Director of Development Services John Di Mario, Director of Community Services Roxanne Lerma, Code Enforcement Manager Jaime Guerrero, Animal Control Supervisor JD Buckwell, Principal Accountant Alex Merkel-Medina, Management Analyst Hector Hernandez (via teleconference) and Office Specialist Martha Aguirre.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Klinakis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS – None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Edith Gonzalez, on behalf of Supervisor Hilda Solis, provided an update regarding the commitment and work of the Supervisor's Office to combat community violence and create a safer community.

Reina Schmitz expressed her concern regarding gang-related violence in the community and encouraged local leaders to create sustainable solutions to combat violence.

Mayor Klinakis noted that he formed a Coalition of Mayors with the mayors of Baldwin Park, Covina, El Monte, Industry, South El Monte, Walnut, and West Covina to work together with the County to combat violence.

Tammy Ortuno thanked Mayor Klinakis for taking the initiative in creating a coalition with the mayors of surrounding cities and provided a document regarding gang-related violence in the community and requested that it be entered into the record.

Cecilia Zuniga provided a written comment expressing her concern regarding coyotes in the City and provided tips on what to do if a coyote is spotted.

Council Member Argudo suggested that the Animal Control division post signs in coyote hot spots, look into educating the Community regarding coyotes, and come back with additional information regarding coyote safety.

La Puente Mutual Aid Group provided a written comment expressing their concern regarding the City's funding for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Council Member Argudo stated that the City Council is actively working on short-, mid-, and long-term solutions to combat violence in the community.

Council Member Quinones stated that the City Council is working together on finding long-term solutions to combat violence in the community.

Council Member Argudo thanked Edith Gonzalez for Supervisor Hilda Solis's message and urged Supervisor Solis to consider providing the City with Measure J funds to create additional social and community programs.

Mayor Pro Tem Munoz noted that the additional funding for the Sheriff's Department approved by the City Council at the January 12, 2021 meeting was approved as a short-term solution, funding additional deputies until the end of the fiscal year.

BOARDS/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Member Quinones reported that he attended a meeting of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government where discussion regarding the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust took place. He requested additional information from Staff regarding the Regional Housing Trust.

Mayor Klinakis reported that he attended a meeting of the City Selection Committee.

A. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY MEETINGS

A-1 READ AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY MEETING OF JANUARY 12, 2021

A motion was made by Council Member Argudo, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Munoz, to waive the reading and approve the Minutes of the City Council and Successor Agency meeting of January 12, 2021. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lewis

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL – None

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL – None

D. CITY COUNCIL AND SUCCESSOR AGENCY CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Klinakis pulled item D-4 for further discussion.

Council Member Argudo pulled item D-5 for further discussion.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Munoz, seconded by Council Member Argudo, to approve Consent Calendar Items D-1 through D-3, D-6, and D-7. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lewis

D-1 CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING WARRANT REGISTER NOS. 1501 AND 67

Action taken: The City Council and Successor Agency adopted Resolution No. 21-5605 approving Warrant Register No. 1501 and Resolution No. SA 21-101 approving Warrant Register No. 67.

D-2 PRESENTATION OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER 2020 INVESTMENT REPORTS

Action taken: The City Council received and filed these reports.

D-3 PRESENTATION OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, AND DECEMBER 2020 REQUISITION REPORTS

Action taken: The City Council received and filed these reports.

D-4 PRESENTATION OF DECEMBER 2020 BUDGET REPORT

Mayor Klinakis pulled this item for further discussion.

Principal Accountant Merkel-Medina provided a budget update on revenue and expenditures.

Mayor Klinakis thanked him for the presentation and noted that having monthly updates on the budget is a useful tool for the City Council as well as the community.

Action taken: The City Council received and filed the report.

D-5 CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR SOFTBALL FIELDS FENCING AT LA PUENTE PARK

Council Member Argudo pulled this item for further discussion. He stated this item is a notice of completion for the completion of the softball fields fencing at the La Puente Park.

A motion was made by Council Member Argudo, seconded by Mayor Klinakis, to: (1) approve the change order in the amount of \$20,800; (2) accept the project as complete; and (3) authorize the City Clerk to execute the Notice of Completion. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Lewis

D-6 CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR VALLEY BOULEVARD SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENT AND PAVEMENT RESURFACING PROJECT

Action taken: The City Council: (1) accepted the project as complete; and (2) authorized the City Clerk to execute the Notice of Completion.

D-7 AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR SANITARY SEWER MAINTENANCE SERVICES IN THE CITY OF LA PUENTE

Action taken: The City Council: (1) approved the specifications for sanitary sewer maintenance services in the City of La Puente; and (2) authorized Staff to solicit bids.

E. NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

E-1 ANIMAL CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATE

Animal Control Supervisor Buckwell provided a presentation regarding updates on the City's animal control program.

Discussion ensued regarding the March 2021 dates of the Healthcare & Emergency Animal Rescue Team wellness clinics in La Puente.

Mayor Pro Tem Munoz thanked the animal control division for all their hard work and noted that she has received praise from residents regarding the program.

Council Member Argudo inquired regarding information on coyotes in the City and suggested that animal control look into putting up signs in coyote hotspots within the City.

Supervisor Buckwell noted that the City will work on signage, an alert system, and educational content regarding coyotes.

Action taken: The City Council received and filed the update.

E-2 DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION REGARDING THE CITY'S MILITARY BANNER RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Director of Community Services Lerma provided a staff report regarding the City's current military banner recognition program and recommendations on improving the program. She further noted that Staff will continue researching other cities' military banner recognition programs and compare costs of the program.

Discussion ensued regarding the number of veterans that reside in the City of La Puente.

Mayor Pro Tem Munoz noted that she and former Council Member John Solis previously served on the Military Banner Recognition Program ad hoc committee and made the recommendations that Director Lerma recommended to improve the military banner recognition program.

Council Member Argudo inquired if the direction of Staff is to keep a supply of the "Home to a La Puente Veteran" yard sign year-round. Mayor Klinakis recommended that Staff keep a supply of the yard signs to distribute to veterans all year.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Munoz, seconded by Mayor Klinakis, to: (1) extend banners to all military service personnel including veterans; (2) direct staff to keep a supply of the "Home to a La Puente Veteran" yard sign on hand to distribute to veterans; and (3) allow for the option of a photo of the service member to be placed on the banner. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Lewis

E-3 CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY #16C, HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, AND RETALIATION PREVENTION POLICY

Management Analyst Hernandez provided a staff report regarding the City's amended administrative policy regarding harassment, discrimination, and retaliation due to the passage of Senate Bill 1343 (SB 1343) which requires all employees, not just supervisors, to complete sexual harassment prevention training.

A motion was made by Mayor Klinakis, seconded by Council Member Argudo, to adopt Resolution No. 21-5606 adopting amended Administrative Policy #16C, Harassment, Discrimination, and Retaliation Prevention policy. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Lewis

E-4 CONSIDERATION OF CODE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM EXPANSION

Code Enforcement Manager Guerrero provided an update on the City's code enforcement program and recommended that the City Council expand the program to increase skate park, graffiti abatement, and parking enforcement coverage until the end of the fiscal year.

Discussion ensued regarding the duties and hours of the current code enforcement officers, the number of officers employed, and the purpose of the monetary increase.

Mayor Pro Tem Munoz requested that Staff work with Valley Vista Services to have cameras installed on the street sweepers to cite parked cars.

Manager Guerrero noted that he will reach out to Valley Vista Services and will bring back information to the City Council.

Discussion ensued regarding RV street parking in the City, the installation of cameras on VVS trucks, and ensuring that code enforcement employees are driving each street in the City to report violations.

A motion was made by Council Member Argudo, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Munoz, to approve an increase to the Code Enforcement Part-Time Salaries Budget in the amount of \$66,000. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Lewis

E-5 CONSIDERATION OF THE AMENDED AND RESTATED PROCLAMATION AND ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PUENTE, CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

Deputy City Attorney Arechiga provided a staff report regarding the amended proclamation and order proclaiming existence of a local emergency to reflect the updated State and County guidelines in regard to COVID-19.

A motion was made by Council Member Argudo, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Munoz, to approve the Amended and Restated Proclamation Proclaiming Existence of a Local Emergency. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Lewis

E-6 CONSIDERATION OF AN URGENCY ORDINANCE TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 3.78 OF TITLE 3 OF THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE CITY'S SKATE PARK; CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE TO ADD A NEW CHAPTER 3.78 OF TITLE 3 OF THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE CITY'S SKATE PARK

Director of Community Services Lerma provided background regarding the City's skate park.

Assistant City Attorney Tran gave a presentation regarding a draft urgency ordinance and a regular ordinance to allow for the implementation of regulations of the skate park.

Council Member Argudo stated that the ad hoc committee provided direction at a previous meeting regarding wording of a section within the ordinance.

Discussion ensued regarding the wording of a section within the ordinance.

A motion was made by Mayor Klinakis, seconded by Council Member Argudo, to introduce, waive the reading of, and adopt Urgency Ordinance No. 21-969 with an amendment that will read as follows: as to section 3.78.040 (h) the new language will read: "With exception to permitted skate activity at a skate park facility, no skate activity is permitted on the curbs, sidewalk, fences, railings, seating area, or walls in the City unless otherwise permitted in the Municipal Code." The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Lewis

A motion was made by Mayor Klinakis, seconded by Council Member Quinones, to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-970 with an amendment that will read as follows: as to section 3.78.040 (h) the new language will read "With exception to permitted skate activity at a skate park facility, no skate activity is permitted on the curbs, sidewalk, fences, railings, seating area, or walls in the City unless otherwise permitted in the Municipal Code." The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Klinakis, Munoz, Argudo, Quinones
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Lewis

RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

The City Council recessed into closed session at 9:27 p.m. to discuss items as posted on the agenda.

1. THE CITY COUNCIL WILL RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION, CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) (One potential case)

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The City Council reconvened to open session at 10:18 p.m.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Ponto reported that as to Item 1, direction was given to the City Attorney's office and there was nothing further to report.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Klinakis established the following ad hoc committees:

Council Member Lewis and Council Member Quinones would serve on the LEAD Project ad hoc committee.

Council Member Argudo and Council Member Quinones would serve on the Combat Community Violence ad hoc committee.

Mayor Klinakis requested that the ad hoc committee to Combat Community Violence work with the La Puente Coalition for Change and other groups and bring back updates at the next City Council meeting.

Council Member Argudo stated that he is looking forward to working on the Combat Community Violence ad hoc committee.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Mayor Klinakis noted that February 13, 2021 is a tentative date for the Skate Park opening dedication ceremony. Director of Community Services Lerma reported that former Assembly Member Ian C. Calderon is available for the ceremony on February 13, 2021. Mayor Klinakis requested that Director Lerma work with the City Council for their availability on that date.

Council Member Quinones thanked Supervisor Hilda Solis for recognizing and speaking on the violence within the community and noted that he is looking forward to working with Council Member Argudo on the Combat Community Violence ad hoc committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Munoz requested that Staff research other cities' laws on RV street parking.

Mayor Klinakis announced there is a vacancy on the City's planning commission.

ORAL COMMENTS FROM STAFF

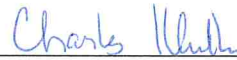
City Manager Lindsey thanked Staff for all their hard work and thanked the City Council for their direction.

There being no further business before the City Council, Mayor Klinakis adjourned the meeting at 10:28 p.m.

Approved this 9th day of February, 2021.



Sheryl Garcia
City Clerk



Charlie Klinakis
Mayor/Chair

