



Minutes

Regular Meeting of the Lompoc City Council
Tuesday, March 17, 2020
City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Council Chamber

CLOSED SESSION

OPEN SESSION – 5:00 P.M. – Council Chamber

Council Members Present: Victor Vega, James Mosby, Dirk Starbuck, Gilda Cordova, and Mayor Jenelle Osborne.

Staff Present: City Manager Jim Throop, City Clerk Stacey Haddon, and City Attorney Jeff Malawy.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

CLOSED SESSION – City Council Conference Room

BUSINESS ITEM:

1. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION:** Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1) Name of Case: Mayra Grijalva, et al. v. City of Lompoc, et al. Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. 18CV02023
2. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION:** Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2): Two cases.
3. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS:** City Designated Representatives: Management Services Director Dean Albro, Human Resources Manager Gabriel Garcia, City Attorney Jeff Malawy and City Manager Jim Throop, Employee Organizations: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

OPEN SESSION - 6:30 P.M. – Council Chamber

Council Members Present: Victor Vega, James Mosby, Dirk Starbuck, Gilda Cordova, and Mayor Jenelle Osborne.

Staff Present: City Manager Jim Throop, City Clerk Stacey Haddon, City Attorney Jeff Malawy, Police Chief Joseph Mariani, and Fire Chief Gerald Kuras.

Others Present: Bernie Federmann, Nicholas Gonzales, Matthew Barron, Bob Nelson, Bree Valla, Melissa Debacker, and Dr. Kevin Walthers.

REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION:

City Attorney Jeff Malawy stated no reportable action was taken during the Closed Session.

Pastor Jeff Harrington gave the invocation and Mayor Jenelle Osborne led the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

Mayor Osborne announced the Council will be observing social distancing recommendations during this and all other Council Meetings until the Governor's Executive Order has been lifted.

PRESENTATION:

- COVID-19 – Community Plans

Santa Barbara County 4th District Supervisor’s Chief of Staff Bob Nelson, Lompoc Valley Medical Center Chief Quality Improvement Officer Melissa Debacker, Lompoc Unified School District Assistant Superintendent Bree Valla, Allan Hancock College Superintendent/President Dr. Kevin Walthers, Lompoc City Manager, Jim Throop, Lompoc Police Chief Joseph Mariani, and Fire Chief Gerald Kuras, presented updates of how each agency’s operations have been modified to comply with the Governor’s Executive Orders regarding the COVID-19 crisis, and what steps are being taken to help keep the community as safe as possible and stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Council thanked all presenters for the information provided and briefly discussed about the matter.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: (Information only)

- **List of City expenditures**
 - February 10 – 14, 2020 - \$433,774.96
 - February 17 – 21, 2020 - \$1,304,890.74
 - Payroll February 21, 2020 - \$1,521,462.49

City Manager Jim Throop announced all City sponsored events have been cancelled or postponed at least through the month of April 2020; the Lompoc Chamber of Commerce and Visitor’s Bureau has cancelled all events and meetings and closed their offices to the public; the City continues to install surveillance cameras; and the Bridgehouse Homeless Shelter announced they will not be accepting any new clients during this crisis.

Council Member Mosby asked if there are any homeless services available inside the City of Lompoc during this crisis. City Manager Jim Throop stated he is unsure of the services available currently.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (Max of 3 Minutes): None

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Council Member Mosby requested Item No. 5 be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

ACTION: Motion/Second: Mayor Osborne/Mosby. By a 5-0 vote, Council:

1. Approved the Minutes of the Lompoc City Council Regular Meeting of February 18, 2020.
2. **Acceptance of the 2019 General Plan Annual Report.**
Accepted the attached 2019 General Plan Annual Report (Annual Report) and direct Planning Staff to file the Annual Report with the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD).
3. **Adoption of Resolution No. 6308(20) – 2020 Census.**
Adopted Resolution No. 6308(20) recognizing the importance of the 2020 Census taking place beginning on April 1 across the country.
4. **Adoption of Resolution No. 6309(20), Approving Allocation of 2020-21 City HOME Consortium Funds for the Lompoc Cypress & 7th 15-Unit Affordable Housing Project to be Administered by the Housing Authority of the County Santa Barbara.**
Adopted Resolution No. 6309(20), and allocate the City’s share of the 2020-21 HOME Consortium funds in the amount of \$124,584 to the Lompoc Cypress & 7th 15-unit affordable housing project to be administered by the County of Santa Barbara through the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara.

This item was pulled for separate discussion.

5. **Adoption of Resolution 6310(20), Proclaiming Local Emergency due to the COVID-19 Virus.**

After a short discussion of the item and with public comment called for with none received, the Council took the following action:

ACTION: Motion/Second: Mayor Osborne/Starbuck. By a 5-0 vote, Council adopted Resolution No. 6310(20), proclaiming a local emergency due to the COVID-19 Virus.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS:

This item was pulled from the Agenda by Staff.

- Management Services Director Dean Albro will provide an update on the City of Lompoc 2019/2021 Biennial Budget.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (3 Minutes Maximum):

City Clerk Stacey Haddon read aloud email public comment from Tameka Peoples, JC Knapp, and Ron Fink.

In Person Oral Communications:

1. Brian Halterman, a representative of the Bridgehouse, spoke about the current restrictions and rules implemented at this homeless shelter due to the COVID-19 crisis.
2. Matthew Barron provided comment on the Public Safety Commission ad-hoc committee and stated he believes he was appointed to that committee.

City Attorney Jeff Malawy introduced two items to this Agenda as emergency items for Council discussion and possible action:

- Director of Emergency Services Proclamation No. 1 (2020)
 - **A PROCLAMATION OF THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE CITY OF LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA, PROHIBITING THE SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR ON-SITE CONSUMPTION, AND PROHIBITING THE ON-SITE SMOKING OF CANNABIS AT ANY COMMERCIAL CANNABIS BUSINESS, ON THE SAINT PATRICK'S DAY HOLIDAY WITHIN THE CITY OF LOMPOC RELATED TO THE PANDEMIC OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS**
- Discussion and Possible Actions and Emergency Orders Concerning response to COVID-19 Virus at City Hall and at Businesses and Gatherings Throughout the City.

Public Comment: None

ACTION: Motion/Second: Cordova/Mayor Osborne. By a 5-0 vote, Council approved to place the two above listed Agenda items on this Agenda as emergency items.

BREAK:

At 8:12 P.M. Mayor Osborne called for a break. At 8:17 P.M., the meeting reconvened with all Council Members present.

EMERGENCY AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Discussion and Possible Action Director of Emergency Services Proclamation No. 1 (2020)** – A Proclamation of the Director of Emergency Services of the City of Lompoc, California, Prohibiting the Sale of Alcohol for On-Site Consumption, and Prohibiting the On-Site Smoking of Cannabis at any Commercial Cannabis Business, on the Saint Patrick’s Day Holiday within the City of Lompoc Related to the Pandemic of the COVID-19 Virus.

City Attorney Jeff Malawy presented the item.

Council discussed this matter.

Public Comment:

1. Angel Tamayo and John Linn expressed concern for local small businesses during this crisis.

ACTION: Motion/Second: Mayor Osborne/Cordova. By a 4-1 vote (Council Member Vega voted No), Council confirmed Proclamation No. 1(2020), which prohibited the sale of alcohol for on-site consumption and on-site smoking of cannabis at any commercial cannabis business, on Saint Patrick’s Day Holiday within the City of Lompoc related to the pandemic of COVID-19.

2. **Discussion and Possible Actions and Emergency Orders Concerning response to COVID-19 Virus at City Hall and at Businesses and Gatherings Throughout the City.**

Council discussed Staff’s requests for direction on closing City Hall to foot traffic; direct the public to online and telephonic resources for utility bill payment; direct the public to contact other City Hall Divisions/Departments to make appointments for any necessary in-person interactions; suspend shut-offs of utilities for non-payment for residential and commercial accounts; cancellation of all City Board, Commission, and Committee meetings for the foreseeable future; and possibly issue emergency orders and or notices to bars, nightclubs, pubs, breweries and wineries to close immediately.

Public Comment:

1. Matthew Barron spoke in favor of providing protection to City Staff and enacting policies that will help the public and allow the Council to review those policies as needed as this crisis changes; and encouraged Council to allow the Public Safety Commission to continue to meet.
2. Brandy Flint, City of Lompoc Treasury and Billing Supervisor, spoke about the continued work Treasury Staff completes every day and their commitment to the public to continue to take and process utility payments and all other treasury and billing work.
3. (Name not provided), suggested the Council provide a deadline if waivers of late fees and penalties on late utility account payments are approved.
4. Nicholas Gonzales spoke in favor of the Council approving waivers of late fees and penalties on late utility account payments; made suggestions for City Staff to possibly utilize internet based meeting programs; and advocated to allow for the Planning Commission to continue to meet.

ACTION: Motion/Second: Mosby/Mayor Osborne. By a 5-0 vote, Council directed Staff to implement a moratorium on utility service disconnections for non-payment, waive late fees and penalties on utility commercial and residential accounts beginning March 17, 2020 for 60 calendar days; provide notification to the public as soon as possible with mailers and through social media; and return at the April 7, 2020 with a Staff report to update Council and allow further discussion of this Council action.

ACTION: Motion/Second: Mayor Osborne/Cordova. By a 5-0 vote, Council directed Staff to immediately close City Hall to the public for the same time period all other City facilities are closed to the public, allow for in-person meetings with City Hall Departments/Divisions by appointment only; and provide notification to the public with a press release and social media blast and mailer notifications.

ACTION: Motion/Second: Mosby/Mayor Osborne By a 5-0 vote, Council cancelled all City Board, Commission, and Committee Meetings, with the exception of City Council and Planning Commission, for the month of April 2020.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6. **Council Discussion Regarding Long-Term Liabilities with California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS).**

Mayor Osborne suggested this item was pulled from this Agenda.

Council discussed the request at great length and asked for, but received no public comment.

Mayor Osborne motioned to direct Staff to return at the April 7, 2020 Council Meeting with Staff presentation on an update on the City of Lompoc 2019/2021 Biennial Budget and return at the April 21, 2020 Council Meeting for Council discussion of the City's long term liabilities with CalPERS. The motion was seconded by Council Member Cordova, the motion was defeated by a 3-2 vote, (Council Members Mosby, Starbuck, and Vega voted No)

Council Member Mosby motioned to direct Staff to return at the April 7, 2020 Council meeting with Staff presentation on an update on the City of Lompoc 2019/2021 Biennial Budget as well as an Agenda item to allow Council discussion of the City's long term liabilities with CalPERS. The motion was seconded by Council Member Starbuck and approved by a 4-1 vote, (Mayor Osborne voted No)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (2 Minutes Maximum):

1. Bernie Federmann spoke about the local businesses that have begun to implement the Governor's suggested business practices regarding COVID-19; thanked Council and Staff for their continued work; and encouraged the community to take care of themselves and their neighbors.
2. Nicholas Gonzales and (name not given) thanked Council for moving forward with the CalPERS discussion.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND MEETING REPORTS:

Council Member Vega expressed concern for all local small businesses during this crisis.

Council Member Cordova thanked Staff for their work to provide information to the public and to Council and stated she is committed to all available options are reviewed before action is taken on the City's financial obligations.

Council Member Mosby suggested the City do whatever it needs to do to install a generator at the DeWees Community and Senior Center; and stated Santa Barbara County is currently working to install temporary public handwashing stations throughout the Cities in Santa Barbara County.

Mayor Osborne thanked everyone who participated in this meeting and reminded everyone to be cautious during this crisis, take precautions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and be kind to each other.

ADJOURNMENT: At 10:43 P.M. Mayor Osborne adjourned the Lompoc City Council to a Regular Meeting on April 7, 2020 at 6:30 P.M., in City of Lompoc Council Chamber.

Approved by Council action on April 21, 2020:

/Stacey Haddon
Stacey Haddon, City Clerk