

**MINUTES OF THE
LOMITA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022**

PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-08-21 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM AND AB361, THE PUBLIC AND COUNCIL PARTICIPATED IN THIS MEETING IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM.

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

a. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting of the Lomita City Council was called to order by Mayor Segawa at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, in the Upstairs Assembly Room.

b. Flag Salute

Mayor Pro Tem Waite led the salute to the flag.

c. Invocation

Mayor Segawa gave the invocation.

d. Roll Call

PRESENT: Council Member Uphoff, Mayor Pro Tem Waite, and Mayor Segawa were present in the Upstairs Assembly Room; Council Members Gazeley and Waronek participated via Zoom

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Smoot, City Attorney Rusin, Public Works Director Dillon, and Administrative Services Director Kamada were present in the Upstairs Assembly Room; Assistant City Manager Sugano, Senior Management Analyst Hernandez, Administrative Analyst Ibarra, and City Clerk Gregory participated via Zoom

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Uphoff made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Waite to approve the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members: Gazeley, Uphoff, Waronek, Mayor Pro Tem Waite, and Mayor Segawa

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

3. PRESENTATIONS

Brandy Villanueva, Area G Disaster Management Area Coordinator, introduced herself as the new contact for the South Bay cities. She spoke briefly about various levels of required disaster training for City officials.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Segawa announced the time for public comments on Consent Agenda items or subjects other than those scheduled.

George Kivett, Lomita resident, commented on the need for timely graffiti removal and some traffic problems in the City.

Henry Sanchez, Lomita resident, gave a short report on CERT training, radios purchased, and an upcoming CERT exercise.

Michael Mackavoy, Lomita Library Manager, announced upcoming events and programs.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND MEETING ATTENDANCE REPORTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Waronek reported on the following:

- Announced the Lomita-Harbor City Kiwanis Club's 73rd Annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 6

Council Member Gazeley reported on the following:

- Invited Council and the City Manager to the 13th Annual Southern California Economic Summit in Downtown Los Angeles on December 1
- October 6 – Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Transportation Committee Meeting
- October 6 – SCAG Regional Council Board Meeting

Council Member Uphoff reported on the following:

- Reminded residents of the City's Halloween Celebration to take place on Saturday, October 29

Mayor Pro Tem Waite reported on the following:

- October 10 – South Bay Cities Council of Governments Steering Committee Meeting
- October 13 – Cal State Dominguez Hills Economic Forecast for the South Bay

Mayor Segawa had reported on the following:

- October 18 – Breakfast with State Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT (information only)

City Manager Smoot announced that the City received a certification letter from the California Department of Housing and Community Development for its Housing Element. He stated that an item will go before Council in the near future to review some programs in the Certified Housing Element that were required to be amended.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That Consent Agenda Items 7a-l be approved.

Mayor Segawa announced that staff requested to pull Item No. 7k from the consent agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Waite made a motion, seconded by Council Member Uphoff to approve the recommended action with the exception of Item 7k.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members: Gazeley, Uphoff, Waronek, Mayor Pro Tem Waite, and
Mayor Segawa

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Approved the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. Motion to Waive Full Reading of Ordinances and that They be Read in Title Only

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve motion.

- b. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of September 6, 2022

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve minutes.

- c. Warrants/Payroll Register

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve and file Warrants/Payroll Register.

- d. Monthly Report for the Administrative Services Department

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file the report.

- e. Monthly Report for the City Manager's Department

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file the report.

- f. Monthly Report for the Community and Economic Development Department

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file the report.

- g. Monthly Report for the Recreation and Facilities Division

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file the report.

- h. Monthly Report for the Public Works Department

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file the report.

- i. August 2022 Treasury & Investment Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file the report.

- j. First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Data Ticket to Provide Citation Management Services for Parking Enforcement and Code Enforcement

RECOMMENDED ACTION: 1) Approve the First Amendment to Agreement File No. 2017-16 to extend the term and add additional services related to administrative citation processing and authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the agreement; and 2) Authorize the City Manager to purchase associated equipment.

- l. Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Year-End Budget Amendments

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the recommendations of the Finance Committee contained in Attachment 1 and direct staff to make necessary expenditure and revenue budget amendments to implement the recommendations.

REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

- k. License Agreement with the City of Lomita and Metropolitan Water District for Access and Permitting of Temporary Lane Use

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the Access and Permitting Agreement and authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the agreement.

8. SCHEDULED ITEMS

- a. **DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS WITH NORTHSTAR CHEMICAL AND FILTRATION TECHNOLOGY, INC. FOR WATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS**

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorize the City Manager to execute Professional Services Agreements with Northstar Chemical, Inc. and Filtration Technology, Inc. for water treatment chemicals.

Public Works Director Dillon presented the staff report as per the agenda material. She briefly outlined challenges with procuring the chemicals necessary for water treatment. Just two proposals were received: one for chlorine and one for polyphosphate. There were no proposals received for ammonium hydroxide and there were significant unit price increases for the proposals received.

Mayor Segawa asked if there were comments or questions from the public.

Frances Marshall, Lomita resident, asked for information on the vendors. Staff informed her that the information is available in the posted agenda packet. Responding to a question from Council Member Gazeley, Director Dillon explained that the polyphosphate binds to the calcium in the water to help sequester hardness.

There being no further questions or comments, Mayor Segawa asked for a motion.

Council Member Gazeley made a motion, seconded by Council Member Uphoff to approve the recommended action.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members: Gazeley, Uphoff, Waronek, Mayor Pro Tem Waite, and Mayor Segawa

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF A RATE RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO WATER RATES

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Conduct a public hearing and receive written protests from property owners in accordance with Proposition 218 relative to the proposed water rate increase and if a majority protest is not achieved, adopt the attached rate resolution.

Public Works Director Dillon reported that there was a misprint in the original staff report in tables 1-2 and 3 and staff provided revised staff reports to both the Council and public prior to the meeting. She also mentioned that the notices mailed out to the public contained the correct information. She gave a brief background on the project as per the staff report. She introduced Chris Fisher, Vice President, Willdan Financial Services, who gave a presentation relative to the study, which explained the process and the basis for the recommendation.

Mayor Segawa opened the public hearing at 7:06 p.m.

An unnamed Lomita resident commented that the tier structure and high meter charge subsidizes heavy water users.

Scott Marshall, Lomita resident, spoke in opposition to the rate increase. He stated that it would be a hardship for many residents.

Frances Marshall, Lomita resident, spoke in opposition to the rate increase. She stated that it would be a hardship for some residents who have already suffered financially due to the pandemic.

George Kivett, Lomita resident, gave kudos to the City for seeking grants to help offset the costs of upgrading its water facility. He spoke of the importance of Lomita's own water supply in the event of a major emergency. He understood the need for the rate increase but had concerns that it would be a financial hardship for some residents.

Henry Sanchez, Lomita resident, suggested the City wait a year to find out the costs to run the water plant once it is back online, and then do the water rate study as it may turn out that the rates may not need to increase so much.

As there were no further requests from the public to speak on this item, Mayor Segawa closed the public hearing at 7:29 p.m. and brought the item back to the Council for discussion.

There was brief discussion relative to the current five-year schedule for replacing aging waterlines in the City and the resultant costs, and the portion of water rates allocated toward maintenance of the water system.

Additional discussion was held relative to how much water usage decreased during the declared water shortage emergency, and how the State-mandated building of additional housing units will impact water consumption in the City. Moreover, the Council touched on the financial investment necessary for upkeep and improvements needed to secure the City's future relative to water, and funding to possibly getting a second City well online in the future.

Responding to a question from Council Member Waronek, Administrative Services Director Kamada stated that qualifying seniors may be eligible to receive a \$10/bimonthly water bill discount. City Manager Smoot added that the City works with those residents who fall behind on their water payments as much as possible.

City Manager Smoot reported that the accompanying resolution states in line 6A that 15 protests were received, but that figure will be corrected based upon the City Clerk's official count.

City Clerk Gregory reported that nine protests were received.

Council Member Uphoff made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Waite to approve the recommended action, with a correction to the resolution in line 6A showing nine protests were received.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members: Gazeley, Uphoff, Waronek, Mayor Pro Tem Waite, and
Mayor Segawa

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

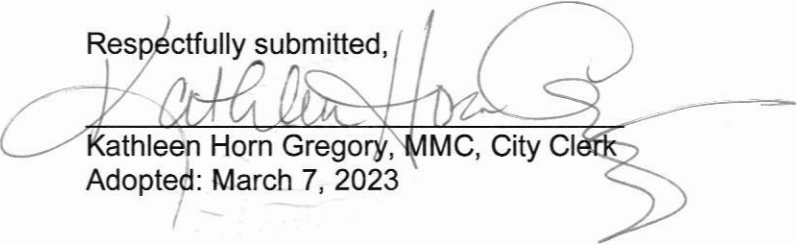
Adopted the following titled Resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-34 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF LOMITA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING NEW WATER RATES AND CHARGES**

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Segawa adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen Horn Gregory, MMC, City Clerk
Adopted: March 7, 2023