

**MINUTES OF THE
LOMITA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024**

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

a. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting of the Lomita City Council was called to order by Mayor Uphoff at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, in the Council Chambers at Lomita City Hall, 24300 Narbonne Avenue, Lomita, California.

b. Flag Salute

Council Member Waite led the flag salute.

c. Invocation

Council Member Waite gave the invocation.

d. Roll Call

PRESENT: Council Members: Gazeley (*teleconferenced from 25225 Doria Avenue, Lomita CA, 90717*), Segawa, Waite, Mayor Pro Tem Waronek, and Mayor Uphoff

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Interim City Manager Hoefgen, City Attorney Rusin, Assistant City Manager Sugano, Public Works Director Dillon, Administrative Services Director Kamada, Community and Economic Development Director Rindge, Recreation Manager Kelley, Senior Management Analyst Hernandez, and City Clerk Gregory

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

3. PRESENTATIONS

Council Member Segawa presented former Lomita STEAM Magnet School crossing guard Teresa Millage a certificate of recognition.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Uphoff announced the time for oral communications.

Angel Gonzalez, Lomita resident, spoke regarding a recent fire at his parents' home. They cannot rebuild because the area has is zoned commercial. He asked to be allowed to rebuild the home on the property, and noted that the insurance company is allowing just seven more months to rebuild. Interim City Manager Hoefgen stated that staff will set up a meeting to discuss options with Mr. Gonzalez.

Lydia Gutierrez introduced herself as a candidate for LAUSD School Board, and shared her background and experience.

Heidi Butzine, President/CEO of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce, spoke of the Annual Chamber Installation and Awards taking place on Thursday, February 8, 2024.

There being no further requests from the public to speak, Mayor Uphoff closed oral communications.

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

Council Member Segawa reported on the following:

- Recent Navy Baseball Fields Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

Council Member Waite reported on the following:

- January 25 – South Bay Cities Council of Governments Meeting; he suggested that Council discuss at a future meeting taking a position on the Green Line Metro extension to Torrance Transit Center.
- January 30 – Metropolitan Water District tour of the pipeline repair project along Western Avenue
- Suggested future Council discussion relative to non-conforming residential uses in commercial areas; it was the consensus of the Council to bring discussion back at a future meeting.

Community & Economic Development Director Rindge stated that a comprehensive zoning code update is one aspect of the General Plan update, and it will be discussed by the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) soon.

Council Member Gazeley reported on the following:

- Recent Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Meeting

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Mayor Pro Tem Waronek reported on the following:

- Recent SCAG Policy Committee Meeting
- February 7 – California Contract Cities Association Meeting

Mayor Uphoff reported on the following:

- January 17 – County Sanitation District Meeting
- January 18 – Cal Cities Community Services Policy Committee Meeting
- January 31 – State Briefing on Recent and Upcoming Storms

6. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT (information only)

Interim City Manager Hoefgen thanked Public Works staff for their work during the recent storms.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Mayor Uphoff requested to pull Item 7d for separate consideration.

Council Member Segawa made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Waronek to approve the consent agenda items 7a-c and 7e-f, with the exception of item 7d.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

- 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 Meetings of December 5, 2023, December 19, 2023, and January 16, 2024

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve minutes.

- c. Warrants/Payroll Register

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve and file Warrants/Payroll Register.

e. Municipal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) On-Call Consultant

RECOMMENDED ACTION: 1) Approve a Professional Services Agreement with John L. Hunter and Associates Inc. (JLHA) for Municipal National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) On-Call Consultant for an amount of \$65,000 per year for up to three years with a 10% contingency of \$6,500 per year for up to three years with the option for two one-year extensions; 2) Appropriate \$35,000 to 100-605-5340 for the current fiscal year; and 3) Authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the Agreement.

f. ARPA Façade Improvement Program Application for Ageless Geeks

RECOMMENDED ACTION: 1) Approve one (1) application under the City's ARPA Business Assistance Programs; 2) Authorize the Interim City Manager to make minor amendments as may be necessary with approval of the City Attorney; and 3) Authorize the Interim City Manager to execute agreements with approved applicants for funding.

ITEM PULLED FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION:

d. Approval of the 2024 Legislative Platform

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution 2024-01 approving the 2024 Legislative Platform.

Senior Management Analyst Hernandez described the purpose of the legislative platform, which allows staff to run time-sensitive issues by the legislative committee and communicate the City's position quickly; any legislation not covered by the platform will go to Council for discussion. She outlined specific items updated in this platform such as supporting legislation aimed toward combatting the fentanyl crisis and legislative acts that mitigate rising insurance costs.

Council Member Segawa made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Waronek, to approve the consent agenda Item 7d.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOMITA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

8. SCHEDULED ITEMS

a. DISCUSSION AND UPDATE OF MAYOR'S CUP AND GOLF CLASSIC 2024

RECOMMENDED ACTION: The Special Events Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Mayor Pro Tem Waronek and Councilmember Segawa recommend proceeding with the Mayor's Cup and Golf Classic Tournament for 2024.

Recreation Manager Kelley presented the staff report per the agenda material. Event expenditures have risen in recent years while revenues have dropped. A \$20,000 budget is requested for the golf tournament this year.

Brief Council discussion was held relative to reasons for the decrease in revenue, whether sponsorships could compensate for the shortfall, ensuring a well-done event, the benefit of a full recreation staff, and newly designed sponsorship packages.

As there were no requests from the public to speak on this item, Mayor Uphoff invited further discussion or a motion.

Council Member Waite made a motion, seconded by Council Member Segawa, to approve the recommended action.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

b. DISCUSSION RELATED TO CAMPING REGULATIONS IN LOMITA

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and file the report and direct staff to follow up if there is a change in the legal framework related to camping ordinances.

Interim City Manager Hoefgen presented the staff report per the agenda material. He stated that it was common for cities to have enacted laws prohibiting camping on public property in the past and for law enforcement to enforce them. In 2018 a ruling determined that cities cannot enforce anti-camping laws if they do not have adequate shelter beds as an alternative. In January of 2024 the Supreme Court agreed to review the ruling which will hopefully provide some clarity. A homeless individual was removed from private property in the City recently with proper written notice and with the assistance of Lomita Station deputies.

City Attorney Rusin noted that it is not necessary to enact an ordinance when private property is involved, but written notice is required.

City Attorney Rusin believes the hill cities' ordinances must be pre-existing, as shelter beds are required now for removal of homeless persons from public property. He suggested possibly a "time, place and manner" ordinance instead of a City-wide ban on camping which would likely pose a constitutional conflict that would be challenged.

Interim City Manager Hoefgen stated that bringing a “time, place, and manner” no camping ordinance could also have unintended consequences that must be considered.

As there were no requests from the public to speak on this item, Mayor Uphoff invited further discussion or a motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Waronek made a motion, seconded by Council Member Waite, to receive and file the report.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

c. DISCUSSION TO ESTABLISH A DATE AND TIME FOR THE MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Set the date for Mid-Year Budget Review for Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Administrative Services Director Kamada stated that the recommendation has changed to either Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m., or Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

After brief discussion, the date and time for the Mid-year Budget Review was established as Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

As there were no requests from the public to speak on this item and no further discussion, Mayor Uphoff invited a motion.

Council Member Segawa made a motion, seconded by Council Member Waite, to approve the recommended action.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION AMENDING CITYWIDE COMPREHENSIVE USER FEES AND CHARGES INCLUDING A CPI ADJUSTMENT

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt Resolution 2024-02 implementing the fee schedule effective April 6, 2024.

Assistant City Manager Sugano stated that amendments include a new fee for graffiti removal on private property and a reduction to the site plan review fee for murals on private property to \$400. There is no increase on youth sports fees. If approved, the changes would take effect April 6, 2024.

Mayor Uphoff opened the public hearing at 6:59 p.m. As no members of the public requested to speak on this item, he closed the public hearing at 6:59 p.m. and invited further discussion or a motion.

Council Member Segawa made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Waronek, to approve the recommended action.

MOTION CARRIED by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members: Gazeley, Segawa, Waite, Mayor Pro Tem Waronek, and Mayor Uphoff
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

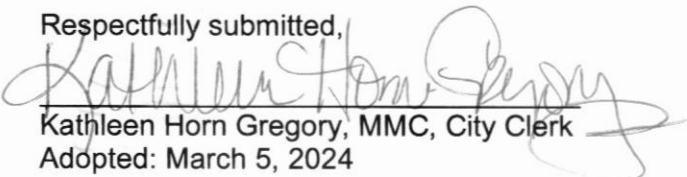
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOMITA, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING AND ADOPTING CERTAIN FEES, RATES AND CHARGES FOR VARIOUS CITY SERVICES

Council Member Waite spoke of concerns with the technology surcharges and suggested that the Council look into them next year.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem Waronek adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m., in memory of Tom Hart, husband of Housing Authority Commissioner Rosemary Hart.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathleen Horn Gregory, MMC, City Clerk
Adopted: March 5, 2024