

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF  
THE LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL**

**March 1, 2016**

*The City Council also sits as the Lemon Grove Housing Authority, Lemon Grove Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and Lemon Grove Successor Agency*

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**Call to Order**

Members present: Mayor Mary Sessom, Mayor Pro Tem George Gastil, Councilmember Jerry Jones, Councilmember Jennifer Mendoza, and Councilmember Racquel Vasquez.

Members absent: None.

City Staff present: Lydia Romero, City Manager, Dave DeVries, Acting Development Services Director; Daryn Drum, Division Fire Chief; Monica Gonzalez, Community Services Assistant; Dave Huey, Community Services Superintendent; James P. Lough, City Attorney; Mike James, Public Works Director; Lt. May, Sheriff's Department; and Gilbert Rojas, Interim Finance Director; Laureen Ryan Ojeda, Administrative Analyst.

**Presentations**

Introduction of Captain Garmo, San Diego Sheriff's Department | Rancho San Diego Command  
Recognition of Deputy Katrantzis, San Diego Sheriff's Department

**Public Comment**

1. **Consent Calendar**
  - A. **Approval of City Council Minutes**  
February 16, 2016 Regular Meeting
  - B. **Ratification of Payment Demands**
  - C. **Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda**
  - D. **City of Lemon Grove Investment Policy (2016)**
  - E. **Regional Transportation Congestion Improvement Plan**
  - F. **Recruitment of Hearing Officers for Code Enforcement Citation Appeals**

**Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gastil, to approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:**

**Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez**

**Resolution No. 2016-3389:** Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove California Approving the City of Lemon Grove Investment Policy for 2016

**Resolution No. 2016-3390:** Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Amending the Regional Transportation Congestion Improvement Plan Fee

**Resolution No. 2016-3391:** Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Approving the Recruitment of Hearing Officers for Code Enforcement Citation Appeal Hearings

## **2. New Business**

### **A. Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2014-15**

Gibert Rojas, Interim Finance Director, stated that the City contracted with Badawi & Associates to complete the Fiscal Year 2014-15 Independent Audit.

Mr. Ahmed Badawi, Badawi & Associates, provided a presentation and was available to the City Council to answer questions and noted that a correction will be made under "Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements" change the word "two" to "one" and under the Sanitation District change from "dump fee to waste water fee."

### **B. Recreation Focus Group Presentation**

Mike James reported that in 2015, the City Council established a goal to create a focus group to explore the establishment of a Recreation Council. In June 2015, that goal was further expanded to include sub-tasks affiliated with this objective that included:

1. Identify the existing recreational opportunities for Lemon Grove residents in and near the city,
2. Identify recreational needs in the community, including parries and opportunities to meet those needs, and
3. Provide a recommendation of the role a recreation council can play in the community, including: the recreation council's form, whether it is a city established entity, its purpose, staff time required to support, funding issues/opportunities, etc.

The focus group was made up of the following volunteers:

Paul Gorden  
Tiare Hamilton  
Matthew Johnson  
Eric Lund  
Beatriz Mendoza  
Gabriela Rivers  
Denise Stratman  
Katie Dexter

The consensus of the Focus Group was that a recreation council will play an important role in the future ability to increase the City's recreation program. The central premise behind this idea is to create a non-profit organization that will supplement the City's recreation program with fundraising activities and promotions.

The Focus Group reviewed current and previous programs and made the following recommendations:

All current special events should be maintained.

Pee wee sports should be maintained.

After school program should also be created and brought back under affordable terms and conditions.

Adult programs (other than softball) should also be brought back after the youth programs are well established.

Youth basketball and soccer programs could be combined with the City's pee wee sports program.

In addition to specifically responding to the topics City Council asked the focus group to respond to there were additional points of information that the group felt were important to share which may help facilitate the expansion of its recreation program.

The Focus Group envisioned a phased approach to any actions that are taken to implement a recreation council. The first step identified was to create a non-profit organization now with a timeline for follow-up on programs after the non-profit is solidified.

A marketing plan was also defined with recommendations to create a Recreation Facebook page, outreach to local faith based organizations and the Lemon Grove Family Resource Center, place a banner at Broadway and Lemon Grove Avenue, mail post cards promoting new recreation programs, use the City's e-mail notifications, partner with the Lemon Grove School District, and online marketing to attract volunteers and support the new recreation program.

Fundraising goals were discussed and recommendations such as generating at least 75 percent with the remaining 25 percent funded by the City and creating special fund raising events to generate the initial monies required to start the program.

The City Council received the report regarding the Recreation Services Focus Group and provided direction to staff.

### **3. Public Hearing**

#### **A. Planned Development Permit Modification PDP-006-09M1**

Dave DeVries reported that in September 2014, the City and San Diego Community Land Trust (SDCLT) entered into a purchase option agreement for the eventual sale of 8084 Lemon Grove Way. SDCLT requested to complete the project as entitled and submitted draft construction drawings on January 20, 2016.

A substantial conformance review was performed and the Acting Development Services Director determined that the proposed changes to the siding materials and roof lines do not substantially conform to the approved plans and a planned development permit modification is required.

On February 8, 2016, SDCLT submitted a planned development permit modification request for City Council to consider the revised elevation and floor plans.

Mayor Sessom opened the public hearing.

#### Public Speaker(s)

Jean Diaz, San Diego Community Land Trust, commented on the project and expressed appreciation to the City Council.

**Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gastil, to close the public hearing and adopt the resolution passed, by the following vote:**

**Ayes: Sessom, Gastil, Jones, Mendoza, Vasquez**

**Resolution No. 2016-3392:** Resolution of the Lemon Grove City Council Approving Planned Development Permit Modification PDP-006-09M1 Modifying the Floor Plan, Roof Line and Roof Siding Materials for an Approved Nine Unit Residential Development on 0.37 Vacant Acres at 8084 Lemon Grove Way (Northside Commons)

**City Council Oral Comments and Reports on Meetings Attended at the Expense of the City. (GC 53232.3 (d))**

Councilmember Jones attended the East County Chamber regalia (not at the city's expense), along with their Legislative Monthly meeting, and CALTRANS Safety Summit.

Councilmember Mendoza attended a Thrive Lemon Grove meeting and reported that the Lemon Grove Lions Club first ever event to be held Saturday March 19th from 9-3p.m.

Councilmember Vasquez attended the Citizens Water Academy Graduate 3-day course sponsored by the County of San Diego, Voice and Viewpoint Gala, Heartland Fire Committee meeting, and the State of the County Address.

Mayor Pro Tem Gastil attended the MTS meeting for February, LA/SD/SLO Rail Corridor meeting, and Troop 108 - Cub Scout's annual awards event.

Mayor Sessom had nothing to report.

### **City Manager and Department Director Reports**

Lt. May thanked council for receiving the presentations.

Lydia Romero updated council on the medical marijuana dispensaries.

### **Closed Session**

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9:  
One Case

Closed Session Report: No reportable action was taken.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the City Council, Housing Authority, Sanitation District Board, Lemon Grove Roadway Lighting District Board, and the Lemon Grove Successor Agency the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

*Susan Garcia*  
Susan Garcia, City Clerk