

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

**May 16, 2017**

*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**

City Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Racquel Vasquez, Mayor Pro Tem Jennifer Mendoza, Councilmember David Arambula, Councilmember Jerry Jones, and Councilmember Matt Mendoza.

City Council Members Absent:

None.

City Staff Present:

Lydia Romero, City Manager, Lt. Scott Amos, Sheriff's Department, David De Vries, Development Services Director; Susan Garcia, City Clerk; Greg McAlpine, Deputy Fire Chief; Mike James, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director; James P. Lough, City Attorney, Miranda Evans, Management Analyst.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza.

**Presentations**

Tom Bell, Public Works Superintendent, and Dave Huey, Community Services Superintendent, introduced the Public Works and Community Services staff.

Mayor Vasquez presented the National Public Works Week Proclamation.

Mayor Vasquez presented the Bike to Work Day to Erika Saari, iCommute Account Executive.

**Public Comment**

John L. Wood expressed appreciation to the Public Works Department.

Lani Stacks commented on a cat at Lemon Grove Pets and added that she witnessed a woman handing out rabbits on the sidewalk.

Mark Horton commented on issues at the skate park and suggested additional regulations.

Jesus Beneyas commented on the construction project along Golden Avenue.

1. **Consent Calendar**
  - A. **Approval of City Council Minutes**  
May 2, 2017 Regular Meeting
  - B. **Ratification of Payment Demands**
  - C. **Waive Full Text Reading of All Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda**
  - D. **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2017 Golden Avenue Street Rehabilitation Project Contract Award**
  - E. **Fiscal Year 2017-18 City Calendar**
  - F. **Acceptance of FY 16-17 State Homeland Security Grant (SHSGP) Funds**

**Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to approve the Consent Calendar passed, by the following vote:**

**Ayes: Vasquez, J. Mendoza, Arambula, Jones, M. Mendoza**

**Resolution No. 2017- 3505:** Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California, Awarding a Contract for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2017 Golden Avenue Street Rehabilitation Project

**Resolution No. 2017- 3506:** Resolution of the City of Lemon Grove, California Accepting Fiscal Year 2016 - 17 State Homeland Security Grant Funds

**2. Ordinance No. 445 Amending Park Regulations (Chapter 12.20 of the Lemon Grove Municipal Code)**

Miranda Evans reported that after receiving concerns from residents, the City's Park Ranger, and law enforcement personnel regarding the safety of City parks, staff began researching changes in park regulations that will better protect the health and safety of residents and park visitors.

Ms. Evans provided a presentation and an overview of the City parks regulations along with those of nearby jurisdictions. She further explained the proposed recommendations for modifications to existing park regulations. The amendments include the park hours, prohibition of alcohol, prohibition of smoking marijuana, and marijuana-related products.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza commented on the proposed change in park hours, the prohibition of alcohol in the parks, and suggested that with a special use permit alcohol be allowed.

The following spoke in support of the ordinance amendment:

- Jo Johnson
- Angeles Nelson
- Anita Lopez
- Anne Stapleton
- Lorenzo Higley
- Linda Contreras

**Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to waive further reading and introduce Ordinance 445 passed, by the following vote:**

**Ayes: Vasquez, J. Mendoza, Arambula, Jones, M. Mendoza**

**Ordinance No. 445:** An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Amending Chapter 12.20 of the Lemon Grove Municipal Code to Provide Modifications to Park Regulations

**3. Public Hearing to Consider Appeal No. AA1-700-0001 Regarding the Denial of Zoning Clearance No. ZC1-700-0006; a Request to Apply for a Conditional Use Permit to Establish a Medical Marijuana Dispensary at 7309 Broadway in the General Commercial Zone**

Mayor Vasquez opened the public hearing and noted that written correspondence had been received requesting that Appeal No. AA1-700-0001 regarding the denial of zoning clearance No. ZC1-700-0006 be continued to July 18, 2017.

Public Speaker(s)

Cynthia Morgan Reed, on behalf of the appellant, requested the continuance to July 18, 2017.

**Action: Motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to continue the public hearing to July 18, 2017, passed, by the following vote:**

**Ayes: Vasquez, J. Mendoza, Arambula, Jones, M. Mendoza**

**4. State Legislative Report - Oppose Assembly Bill 805 (Gonzalez Fletcher) and AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer)**

Lydia Romero explained that Assembly Bill 805 introduced by Assembly Member Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher is a measure that would make substantial changes to SANDAG, MTS, and NCTD.

Assembly Bill 1250 introduced by Assembly Member Reginald Jones-Sawyer is a measure that would create onerous provisions to contracting out services by a city or a county.

Councilmember Arambula expressed concern related to AB 1250 and asked if current employees will be displaced and added that prior to action would need all of the facts.

Lydia Romero answered that no current employees will be displaced because of contracting out.

Mayor Vasquez noted that AB 1250 will be back on a future City Council agenda for discussion. She provided an opportunity for the public to address this matter.

The following public speakers were in opposition of AB 1250:

Gretchen Newsome, on behalf of IBEW 569, recommended that the City Council get all of the facts and noted which organizations are supporting and opposing this bill.

Tom Lemon, representing San Diego Building and Construction Trades, outsourcing jobs isn't good for Lemon Grove.

Written Correspondence in support of AB 805 was provided by:

Mona Rios, Councilmember, City of National City  
Alejandra Sotelo-Solis, Councilmember, City of National City  
Cori Schumacher, Councilmember City of Carlsbad

The following public speakers were in support of AB 805:

Aida Castaneda representing Assemblywoman Gonzales-Fletcher  
Julio Rivera representing Assemblywoman Gonzales-Fletcher  
Gretchen Newsome behalf of IBEW 569 and Quality of Life Coalition  
Colin Parent, Councilmember, City of La Mesa  
Tom Parent representing the San Diego Building and Construction Trades  
Randy Van Vleck Chair San Diego County Bike Coalition  
Carolina Rodriquez-Adjunta, representing the Climate Action Campaign  
Katie Meyer  
Shane Harris representing the National Action Network

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza reported that she spoke with Assemblywoman Gonzalez-Fletcher regarding this bill and they discussed her primary concerns, which is the Chair designation at SANDAG, length of Chair term, and the voting structure.

Councilmember Arambula reported that he conducted his own analysis regarding AB 805 and he believes this would benefit the City of Lemon Grove.

Councilmember Jones explained his opposition to the bill and SANDAG's processes. He provided the City Council with a copy of his statement along with a photograph of the SANDAG Board voting. He expressed concern related to land use planning.

Mayor Vasquez noted she could support the bill with amendments to the voting structure.

Motion by Councilmember Arambula to support AB 805 with amendments.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza seconded Councilmember Arambula motion to support AB 805 with amendments.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza withdrew her second.

**Action: Motion by Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Arambula, to support Assembly Bill 805 (Gonzalez Fletcher) based on amendments to the proposed changes with appointment of the Chair and Vice Chair under Public Utilities Code Section 132352.3; and the proposed changes to the voting structure under Public Utilities Code Section 20102.5; passed, by the following vote:**

**Ayes: Vasquez, J. Mendoza, Arambula**  
**Noes: Jones, M. Mendoza**

James Lough stated that the amended resolution will be on the next City Council Agenda on the Consent Calendar to confirm the amendments.

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

Councilmember Jones reported on a recent Coastal Committee meeting related to San Diego's Pure Water permit.

Councilmember Arambula attended a human trafficking forum, a MTS Board meeting and the Truman Project.

Councilmember M. Mendoza had no reports.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza reported on Helix Water District budget meeting. She attended the human trafficking forum and the League of California Cities dinner meeting. Also, she will be participating in Bike to Work Day.

Mayor Vasquez reported that the City Council concluded their second goal setting meeting and added that the Old Globe Theater brought a theater production to the Lemon Grove Academy.

**City Manager and Department Director Reports**

Miranda Evans reported that Art Days will be held on May 20 for a mural painting event at the Community Center.

Mike James expressed appreciation to the City Council for acknowledging the City's Public Works Department. He noted that there will be a special City Council meeting on May 23 to discuss the Pavement Management Program.

**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 8:55 p.m.

*Susan Garcia*  
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Susan Garcia, City Clerk