

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

**February 21, 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*

---

**Call to Order**

City Councilmembers Present:

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

City Council Members Absent:

None.

City Staff Present:

Lydia Romero, City Manager, David De Vries, Development Services Director; Daryn Drum, Division Fire Chief; Mike James, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director; James P. Lough, City Attorney; Lt. May, Sheriff's Department; and Corinne Russell, HR Manager.

**The Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was led by Councilmember Arambula.

**Changes to the Agenda**

There were no changes to the agenda.

**Presentations**

The Mayor and City Councilmembers presented certificates of recognition to the Point in Time Homeless Count volunteers.

Mayor Vasquez presented Ernest Anastos, Superintendent Lemon Grove School District Superintendent, with a certificate of recognition for his service to the Lemon Grove School District and for his honor of being named 2017 Superintendent of the Year San Diego Imperial County Regions.

Mayor Vasquez provided certificates of recognition to the 2016 City Event Sponsors.

Mary Sessom, Airport Authority Board Member, provided an update of San Diego International Airport and the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority.

## Public Comment

Norma Sandoval, Principal San Miguel Elementary, provided an invitation to Freedom Readers event Friday, January 17 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

John L. Wood commented on planes flying over Lemon Grove and that Helix Water District meetings have been changed to evening hours.

Lorenzo Higley, CASA, expressed concern with sales of tobacco products and reported on new State laws related to smoking along with electronic smoking devices.

Matthew Gordon, San Diego County Urban League, commented on the SANDAG appointment and noted that the comments made regarding Mayor Vasquez qualifications were inappropriate and demeaning.

Cynara Velazquez, Association of Cannabis Professional, commented on Lemon Grove and La Mesa's medical marijuana dispensaries ballot measures and proposed business use.

Charles Garcia commented on the empty lot along Golden Avenue and possible safety issues.

Jesus Benayas commented on issues with empty lot along Golden Avenue.

James Lough noted that the property along Golden Avenue is under receivership and an attorney has been assigned who is working through the judicial process.

Councilmember J. Mendoza expressed concern related to the conditions at the Golden Avenue site and asked if the City could intervene.

James Lough stated that he if the City were to enter the property it would be considered trespassing.

Carol Weiss commented on the proposed City Advisory Commission and added that she applied.

Katie Dexter commented that 6 individuals were reported during the Point in Time Count homeless count along with 12 vehicles. She added that at the commencement of the Count at 4:00 a.m. Lydia Romero, City Manager and Ernest Anastos, Lemon Grove School District Superintendent, provided assistance.

### 1. Consent Calendar

Anita Lopez, Heal Zone Program Manager, expressed appreciation for the great partnership with the City Council.

- A. Approval of City Council Minutes**  
February 7, 2017 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 (2017)**
- E. Support for Senate Bill 1 (Beall) and Assembly Bill 1 (Frazier)**
- F. Appointments of HEAL Zone Initiative City Council Representatives**
- G. FY 2016-17 Street Rehabilitation Project (Contract No. 2017-17)**

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

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

**Resolution No. [2017- 3487:]**Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove California Approving the City of Lemon Grove Investment Policy for 2017

**Resolution No. 2017- 3488:** Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lemon Grove, California Supporting Senate Bill 1 (Beall) and Assembly Bill 1 (Frazier)

**Resolution No. 2017 – 3489:** Resolution of the Lemon Grove City Council Awarding a Contract for the FY 2016-17 CIP Street Rehabilitation Project (Contract No. 2017-07)

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

Councilmember Jones reported on the recent the SANDAG Planning retreat. He added that he met with the manager of the Goodwill store. At the SANDAG transportation committee meeting call boxe elimination was discussed. He met with Padre Dam Water District representatives and will be meeting with the Regional Water Quality Board. He provided information related to issues with SANDAG’s Measure A and provided copies of an email from Voice of San Diego and to Chair Roberts asking for an independent investigation.

Councilmember Arambula attended a Heal Zone meeting and Padre Dam Water District meeting along with the East County Awards ceremony.

Councilmember M. Mendoza had no reports.

Mayor Pro Tem J. Mendoza reported on SANDAG’s Planning retreat, the City/School Collaboration, East County Economic Development Council, and MTS meetings.

Mayor Vasquez attended SANDAG’s Planning retreat. At the request of the Lemon Grove School District she attended the PTA Founders event. She reported the Assemblywomen Weber will be conducted a State of the District meeting in the Lemon Grove Community Center on February 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m..

**City Manager and Department Director Reports**

There were no City Manager and Department Director Reports.

**Closed Session**

Conference with Real Property Negotiators Government Code Section 54956.8  
Address: 8084 Lemon Grove Way, Lemon Grove, California  
Agency Negotiators: Lydia Romero and James P. Lough  
Negotiating parties: The San Diego Community Land Trust  
Under negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

Closed Session Report: Direction was given and 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 8:00 p.m.

*Susan Garcia* \_\_\_\_\_