

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LA VERNE**
Monday, February 7, 2022

1. The City Council Meeting was opened to the public. In an effort to keep a safe environment and to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 Virus, the City limited occupancy and required masking for those in attendance. To facilitate public participation for those who did not wish to attend in person, the meeting was made available virtually.
2. A regular meeting of the La Verne City Council was called to order by Mayor Hepburn at 6:37 p.m.
3. Council Members present: Mayor Tim Hepburn
Mayor Pro Tem Muir Davis
Council Member Robin Carder
Council Member Wendy Lau
Council Member Rick Crosby

Absent: None.

Advisory personnel present: City Manager Robert Russi
Assistant to the City Manager JR Ranells
City Attorney Robert L. Kress
Assistant City Clerk Lupe Gaeta Estrella
Public Works Director Shawn Igoe
Principal Planner Candice Bowcock
4. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Crosby.
5. Announcements of Upcoming Community Events

Kathy Newlon reported on a rally held on Saturday, February 5, 2022 in opposition of the proposed changes at the Afflerbaugh and Paige Camps.

Julia Wheeler reported on the Cultural Awareness and Social Inclusion Committee (CASI).

Lily Brainard reported on the rally held about Afflerbaugh and Paige Camps and on a rally held at Bonita High School for "Free Choice" on whether to require a mask.
6. Consent Calendar

It was moved by Davis, seconded by Crosby, and unanimously carried to accept, approve, or act on the Consent Calendar items, except for the following:
 - Resolution No. 22-07, declaration that Weeds, Brush, Rubbish, and Refuse are on Specified Properties in the City of La Verne are a recurrent public nuisance and provide abatement. Council Member Carder declared a conflict of interest and did not vote on Resolution No. 22-07, because she is a member of the Board of Directors for a homeowners' association that oversees property appearing on the weed abatement list.

- Resolution No. 22-08, declaring the City's intention to initiate procedures for vacation of public utility easements at 1520 and 1530 White Avenue. Council Member Lau declared a conflict of interest and did not vote on Resolution No. 22-08, because she lives within 500 feet of the proposed vacation of public utility easements at White Avenue.

City Council Minutes

City Council Minutes of the regular meeting of January 18, 2022 and Special meeting of January 25, 2022, **received and filed.**

Register of Audited Demands

Register of Audited Demands in the amount of \$1,286,218.35 dated January 6, 2022; in the amount of \$609,664.90 dated January 13, 2022; and in the amount of \$1,018,158.53, dated January 19, 2022. **Approved as recommended by Finance Director Pendleton.**

Treasurer's Report

City of La Verne Treasurer's Report for the Quarter Ended December 31, 2021 - As of December 31, 2021, the City had total cash and invested funds (cost basis) of \$67,495,771, \$19,274,981 held in a fiduciary capacity for LA Impact (Los Angeles Interagency Metropolitan Police Apprehension Task Force) and \$3,112,353 maintained with a fiscal agent outside of the Treasury to meet the 1996 Revenue Bond covenant. The City's portfolio is fully liquid; 97% (\$65,509,071) maintained in on-demand accounts, which includes the State Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF), and 3% (\$1,986,700) maintained in short-term corporate notes maturing within one year (91 to 140 days). The investment portfolio conforms to the City's investment policy and money is available to meet City obligations due within the next six months.

Finance Director Pendleton recommended that the City Council receive and file the Treasurer's Report for the quarter ended December 31, 2021. **Received and filed.**

Staff recommended approval and passage of the following Resolutions:

Resolution No. 22-06,
Submittal of Applications and
Administration of Grant
Programs through the California
Department of Resources.
Recycling and Recovery

Resolution No. 22-06 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT PROGRAMS THROUGH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES, RECYCLING AND RECOVERY - The California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (Cal Recycle) requires a resolution authorizing the submission of grant applications and designated authority. This resolution authorizes the Director of Public Works or his/her designee to submit grant applications and to administer other functions related to the California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery.

Public Works Director Igoe recommended that the City Council approve Resolution No. 22-06, designating the Director of Public Works as the authorized administrator for all California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery Grant Program. **Approved as recommended.**

Conflict of Interest/ Carder

Council Member Carder declared a conflict of interest and did not vote on Resolution No. 22-07, because she is a member of the Board of Directors for a homeowners' association that oversees property appearing on the weed abatement list.

Resolution No. 22-07,
Declaration that Weeds, Brush,
Rubbish, and Refuse are on
Specified Properties in the City
of La Verne are a Recurrent
Public Nuisance and Provide
Abatement

Resolution No. 22-07 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE DECLARING THAT WEEDS, BRUSH, RUBBISH AND REFUSE UPON OR IN FRONT OF SPECIFIED PROPERTY IN THE CITY ARE A SEASONAL AND RECURRENT PUBLIC NUISANCE, AND DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ABATEMENT THEREOF - Each year, the County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures conducts inspections for weeds, brush, rubbish, and refuse on public and private property that may be considered a seasonal and recurrent nuisance. A list of properties is provided to the City for review. City Council is then required to declare its intention to provide for this abatement and set a public hearing for affected property owners to register objections to said abatement.

Assistant City Clerk Estrella recommended that the City Council approve Resolution No. 22-07, declaring the intention to provide for the abatement of weeds, brush, rubbish, and brush, and setting a public hearing for Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 6:30 pm. **Approved by a vote of 4-0 (Carder Abstained).**

Conflict of Interest/Lau

Council Member Lau declared a conflict of interest and did not vote on Resolution No. 22-08, because she lives within 500 feet of the proposed vacation of public utility easements on White Ave.

Resolution No. 22-08,
Declaring the City's Intention to
Initiate Procedures for Vacation
of Public Utility Easements at
1520 and 1530 White Avenue

Resolution No. 22-08 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA VERNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO INITIATE PROCEDURES FOR VACATION OF PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENTS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF DIVISION 9, PART 3, OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR PUBLIC HEARING THEREON - The property owner of 1520 and 1530 N. White Avenue has requested that the City vacate two water and sewer easements located on site. The subject water and sewer easements are no longer required for service to the properties. Future development of the properties has been proposed with water and sewer service by other means outside of the existing easements. Setting a public hearing and providing noticing will initiate the easement vacation process.

City Engineer Howing recommended that the City Council approve Resolution No. 22-08, initiating procedures for vacation of two water and sewer easements located at 1520 and 1530. N. White Avenue and to set the public hearing for Monday, March 21, 2022 on the proposed vacations; and direct the Assistant City Clerk to conduct noticing of the public hearing pursuant to Streets and Highways Code Division 9 Part 3. **Approved by a vote of 4-0 (Lau Abstained).**

Ordinance (s) - Second Reading, approved as recommended.

Ordinance No. 1109,
Adding Mandatory Organic
Waste Disposal Regulations to
the City of La Verne Municipal
Code

Ordinance No. 1109 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, TO ADD CHAPTER 13.30 - MANDATORY ORGANIC WASTE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS, TO TITLE 13 OF THE LA VERNE MUNICIPAL CODE. Senate Bill 1383 (SB 1383), the Short-lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Act of 2016, requires jurisdictions to adopt and enforce an ordinance or another enforceable mechanism requiring organic waste to be diverted from landfills. In accordance with SB 1383, all jurisdictions must have a mandatory organic waste disposal reduction ordinance in place. The City Council at its meeting of January 17, 2022, placed on first reading, introduced, and waived further reading of Ordinance No. 1109, adding Chapter 13.30 - Mandatory Organic Waste Disposal Regulations, to Title 13 of the La Verne Municipal Code.

Public Works Director Igoe recommended that the City Council approve Ordinance No.1109, amending the Municipal Code by adding Chapter 13.30 - Mandatory Organic Waste Disposal Regulations pertaining to SB 1383.
Approved as recommended.

6. Community Development Block
Grant Program for 2022-23

Principal Planner Bowcock reported on the Community Development Block Grant Program for 2022-2023. She stated that this was the 48th funding year for the Community Development Block Grant Program. According to the Los Angeles County CDBG Bulletin, the City of La Verne will be allocated approximately \$150,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. She reported that the City could no longer do public improvement projects due to the new HUD regulations that require the re-certification of slum/blight areas. She stated that staff would continue to work with the Los Angeles Community Development Commission to allocate the remaining portion (\$62,000) of the grant to benefit the City of La Verne.

She recommended the following allocation of the 2022- 2023 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds as follows: This recommendation is made after consideration of the federal allocation requirements and the desire to continue the existing public service program.

2022-2023 CDBG Allocation	\$150,000
Senior Hot Lunch Program	\$ 30,000
Sidewalk Repairs	\$ 58,000
Unallocated	\$ 62,000

Mayor Hepburn opened the public hearing and called for public comment on this matter.

There was one public comment.

City Manager Russi responded to a request for financial assistance in removing a tree fallen during the windstorm. He stated that unfortunately, it was not an eligible allocation under the CDBG guidelines.

It was moved by Carder, seconded by Davis, and unanimously carried, to approve the allocation of the 2022-23 Community Development Grant (CDBG) funds, as recommended above and approve Resolution No. 22-09, approving participation in the 2022-23 Community Development Block Grant Program with the County of Los Angeles.

Resolution No. 22-09,
Approving Participation in the
Community Development Block
Grant Program and Funding

Resolution No. 22-09 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AND SELECTING CERTAIN PROJECTS FOR FUNDING IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 - 2023. **Approved.**

7. Veterans of Foreign Wars
Request for Placement of a
Chair of Honor at La Verne City
Hall in the Council Chambers

Council Member Carder stated that she received a request from Daniel Lopez, Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12034 for Council's consideration in placing a Chair of Honor in the Council Chambers at City Hall. She reported that the Chair of Honor is in remembrance of over 82,000 service members who have not returned home and are listed as Prisoners of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA). The Chair of Honor serves as a reminder of all the sacrifices made for our Country by these American service members.

The City Council was all in agreement of placing a Chair of Honor in the Council Chambers at City Hall and they directed staff to work with the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12034 on this worthy project.

- 8 Public Comment

This was the time set aside for anyone wishing to address the City Council on items not listed in any other place on the agenda.

Mayor Hepburn called for public comment.

There were public comments received. To hear what was said during public comment, please visit the City's website to view the archived Council meeting.

9. Council Comments

Council Member Crosby stated he was unable to attend the rally held about Afflerbaugh & Paige Camps on Saturday because he was with family and by the time he heard about it, it was too late. He urged the community to stay safe during the Super Bowl and "GO RAMS".

Council Member Lau thanked City staff for their work during the recent windstorm. She acknowledged residents who also helped and reached out to their neighbors during the windstorm. She stated that La Verne is an amazing community. She reported that the Red Cross is in desperate need of Blood and urged people to donate. She wished everyone a happy Lunar Year of the Tiger.

Mayor Pro Tem Davis announced that February was Black History, and American Heart Month. He reported on the Active Transportation Committee. He also acknowledged residents for their community spirit in helping each other during the recent windstorm.

Mayor Hepburn thanked all the residents who attended the rally about Afflerbaugh & Paige Camps on Saturday. He reported on the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the Department of Juvenile Justice (DOJJ) meetings on the camp and urged residents to stay vigilant. He thanked City Manager Russi for his efforts in working with Edison during the recent windstorm.

10. Closed Session

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

At 7:31 p.m., the City Council met in Closed Session with legal counsel to discuss exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivisions (b)(d)(2)(e)(2) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code (four potential cases).

11. Adjournment at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lupe Gaeta Estrella, CMC
Assistant City Clerk