

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LA VERNE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
OF THE LA VERNE CITY HALL
Monday, April 15, 2019**

1. A regular meeting of the La Verne City Council was called to order by Mayor Kendrick at 6:30 p.m., and he welcomed everyone to the City Council Meeting.
2. Council Members present: Mayor Don Kendrick
Mayor Pro Tem Charlie Rosales
Council Member Robin Carder
Council Member Muir Davis
Council Member Tim Hepburn

Absent: None.

Advisory personnel present: City Manager Robert Russi
City Attorney Robert L. Kress
Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Dan Keesey
Assistant City Clerk Lupe Gaeta Estrella
Community Development Director Eric Scherer
Community Services Director Bill Aguirre
Police Chief Nick Paz
Interim Fire Chief Kirk Summers
Police Captain Coleen Flores
Personnel Officer JR Ranells
3. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Kendrick.
4. Presentation of Proclamation declaring the week of April 14-20, 2019 National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week
Mayor Kendrick, on behalf of the City Council, presented La Verne Police Communications Supervisor Rebekah Biedermann a Proclamation declaring the week of April 14-20, 2019, National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week to honor the men and women in our community who respond to emergency calls, dispatch emergency professionals and equipment, and render lifesaving assistance to the citizens of La Verne.

La Verne Police Communications Supervisor Biedermann thanked the City Council for honoring the Public Safety Telecommunicators.

Police Chief Paz also commended the Public Safety Telecommunicators for the awesome job they do serving the citizens of the La Verne and he stated it is the hardest job in the department.
5. Consent Calendar
It was moved by Carder, seconded by Rosales, and unanimously carried to accept, approve, or act on the Consent Calendar items.

City Council Minutes
City Council Minutes of March 4, 2019 (Amended) and March 18, 2019, received and filed.

Registers of Audited Demands
Register of Audited Demands, as follows:

In the amount \$1,118,119.84, dated March 27, 2019, and
In the amount of \$150,511.52, dated April 3, 2019

Staff recommended approval of Register of Audited Demands. **Approved as recommended by staff.**

Resolution (s) passed & adopted, as recommended, as follows:

Resolution No., 19-15,
Contract with Gentry Brothers,
Inc., for the 2018-19 Pavement
Management Program, Various
Locations, Grind, Aram,
Overlay, and Slurry Seal
Project

Resolution No. 19-15 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT WITH GENTRY BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION INC., FOR THE 2018-19 PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, VARIOUS LOCATIONS, GRIND, ARAM, OVERLAY AND SLURRY SEAL PROJECT - The Public Works Department recently solicited bids for street maintenance at various locations throughout the City. The planned maintenance for the majority of the streets will include the removal and replacement of two inches of asphalt with the addition of an Asphalt-Rubber Aggregate Membrane (ARAM), while Bowdoin Street from Emerald Avenue to Fruit Street will receive an application of slurry seal. The project was advertised on February 22 and March 1 and bid proposals were received and opened on March 21, 2019. This project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, Section 15301 - Existing Facilities, and City of La Verne environmental guidelines.

Staff recommended that the City Council approve Resolution No. 19-15, which awards a public works contract to Gentry Brothers Construction Inc., the lowest, responsible bidder in the amount of \$425,802.50. **Approved as recommended by staff.**

6. 2019-20 Paramedic Service Fee

Finance Manager Statham reported on the Paramedic Service Fee for fiscal year 2019-20. He stated that the City's voter approved Paramedic Service Fee requires an annual hearing in order to consider a change in rate. The monthly service fee is subject to annual adjustment to changes in the Consumer Price Index. Since October 2018, Consumer Price Index had a 3.5% change, and the monthly rate can be adjusted by \$0.18 to \$5.37. Staff recommended that the City Council adjust the monthly paramedic service fee from \$5.19 to \$5.37.

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

Gary Hunter, Chelsea Drive, La Verne, stated that it is pretty cheap insurance and the adjustment should be more.

Heather Gay, La Verne resident, stated that she has used the paramedic service in the past 22 months and praised the amazing men and women for the great work they do and that she fully endorsed the program.

The City Council praised and commended the La Verne paramedics and that they fully supported the paramedic service program.

It was moved by Hepburn, seconded by Davis, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution No. 19-16, adjusting the monthly paramedic service fee from \$5.19 to \$5.37.

Resolution No. 19-16

Resolution No. 19-16 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING THE PARAMEDIC SERVICE FEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-20. **Approved.**

7. 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 Kendrick called for public comment.

Joyce Kelly, La Verne resident, stated that the building on the corner of Foothill and Wheeler Avenue is an eyesore and asked what is being doing. She stated she found out a Taco Bell fast food restaurant will be at the site and that the majority of residents don't want another Mexican restaurant. She stated that it was bit too much with other similar businesses in the vicinity. She stated she was glad the lawsuit with the La Verne Firefighters' Association is over. She spoke about the time line of the events leading to the lawsuit and stated that the cost and expense was not good for the City.

Hugh Kelly, La Verne resident, thanked the Parks Department for cutting the grass at the building on the corner of Foothill and Wheeler. He spoke about the La Verne Firefighters' Association settlement and the team building to make La Verne a better place.

Pam Berry, La Verne resident, announced that the La Verne Coalition of Concerned Citizens (LV3C) which was launched in October, to increase transparency and to encourage residents to participate and to make the City the best can be, meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. She stated that on April 22, 2019, Mayor Kendrick will be delivering the State of City address at Saint John's Episcopal Church and stated that she has flyers with additional information and will be available after the meeting.

Brain Bowcock, La Verne resident, commended and thanked Police Chief Nick Paz, Police and Captain Coleen Flores for the amazing job the Police RSVP did during the Community Yard sale and that is what La Verne is all about.

Gary Hunter, La Verne resident, asked what could be done with the homeless camping out at Emerald Park.

City Manager Russi replied he should call the La Verne Police Department who will assist the homeless in seeking the needed services.

Rick McGueron, La Verne resident stated that in the interest of transparency he would like to see on the Agenda the lawsuit settlement with the La Verne Firefighters' Association and that the public be given an explanation on why the decision to settle was made.

Susan Morales, La Verne resident spoke at length about the wireless 5g small cell towers health exposure to the public if installed on City street light poles. She urged the City Council to further study this matter before implementing installation of wireless 5g small cell towers.

Richard Bowen, La Verne resident stated it was great to hear all the accolades for the Police and Fire Departments. He spoke about the La Verne Firefighters' Association lawsuit and the chain of events that started in May of 2017, with the vote of no confidence of the Fire Chief and how the City did nothing. He stated that the Battalion Fire Chief who videotaped and took photos is still on the City's payroll along with the Fire Chief and now the City settled for \$5.5 million. He stated that the City should apologize for letting this happen. He spoke about the Fire Association supporting a Mayor candidate that was not the sitting Mayor. He asked about the whereabouts of the Fire Chief and why has he not been fired. He stated "Shame on the Council for doing nothing when the vote of no confidence was presented. He stated that Resolution No. 18-51 & 18-52 should be rescinded to get all Council members back to work. He urged the City Council to take the following actions, find a new City Attorney; thank him for his 28 years of service and give him a plaque, name a bench after him and fire the City Manager without severance pay for the alleged lies he told the newspaper. He stated if Council did nothing, they would find people who will.

Tom Skahill, La Verne resident, reminded everyone it was tax day and that it is also National Donate a Life Month. He urged people to check the box on their driver license to be an organ donor and help save a life.

8. Council Comments and Meeting/Conference Reports

Council Member Hepburn reported on the following:

- Foothill Terrace Emergency Preparedness Day. He was amazed how well prepared they are for an emergency and he spoke about the amazing qualifications of the individuals running the program. He stated he brought emergency checklists forms and they will be available at the end of the meeting.
- General Assembly of the San Gabriel Council of Governments and the many topics addressed at the meeting.
- La Verne San Dimas Educational Golf Tournament to be held on April 26, 2019 and invited the public to sign-up and additional information will be available on the City's website.
- La Verne Police Officers' Association Golf Tournament on May 20, 2019 and he reported that the proceeds from the event would go to the Youth and Family Action Committee.
- Easter Egg Hunt at Las Flores and Emerald Park on Saturday, April 19, 2019, and the car show on the same day.

He wished everyone a Happy Easter and thanked everyone for coming.

Mayor Pro Tem Rosales wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Council Member Davis urged the residents to be patient, that information will come out in due time and not to listen to people who think they know the facts. He wished everyone a Happy Easter and all the Blessings from above.

Council Member Carder stated that the City Council wants to move forward and work with the community and Fire Association to make La Verne a better place. She stated that information on the lawsuit is on the Federal Courts website and urged the residents to go online.

Council Member Carder reported on the car show to be held on Saturday, April 20, 2019. She reminded everyone of the Gold Line Meeting regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report on the Foothill Gold Line Extension and of the City Council Gold Line Study Session on April 29, 2019, when City Staff will give a presentation to the City Council on the Draft Environmental Impact Report on the Foothill Gold Line Extension. She wished everyone a Happy Easter and to be safe.

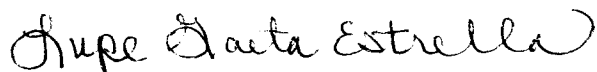
Mayor Kendrick also reported on the Foothill Terrace Mobile Home Park Emergency Preparedness' Day and he spoke about the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program which now has 152 members in the Community including several members from Foothill Terrace Mobile Home Park. He spoke about the Firefighters' Association lawsuit and how hard Staff tried to resolve the matter, but the parties, sadly, did not get together until the court day. He too, urged the residents to go on the Federal Courts website and get the information and judge for themselves. He stated they need to move forward as a City.

Council Member Hepburn also spoke about the Community Emergency Response Team and that Mr. and Mrs. Kestersons who run the CERT program reside at Foothill Terrace Mobile Home Park. He reported that the Friends of the La Verne Library are still looking for new board members and officers and that they can contact La Verne Library Manager George May, if they are interested in serving. In addition, he stated that the Firefighters' Association lawsuit was a very difficult time, and was difficult for him too. He was not happy with the settlement, and the cost. He was glad it was over, and urged the public to read the depositions to get the full facts.

Council Member Carder reported on the "Tip a Cop" event held at Mi Ranchito Restaurant. She stated it was a wonderful event and the Police Officers raised \$2500 for the Special Olympics. She thanked and commended the Police Officers who participated in the event.

9. Adjournment at 7:29 pm., **in memory of Thomas Albin Gay, fondly known as "Tom"** who passed away on March 11, 2019. Tom was a native of La Verne, attended Roynon Elementary School, Bonita High School and Cal Poly Pomona. Tom's father owned and managed the Richfield Gas Station on the southwest corner of Bonita Avenue (called 4th Street then) and "D" Street, currently now the Miss Doughnut Shoppe. Tom and his many buddies watched from Bonita High the filming of the famous last Church scene of the "The Graduate" in 1967. Tom was a member of La Verne Historical Society and was the point person for the Bonita High School 10-year reunions. Tom was a Renaissance man who did everything and did it well. He is survived by his wife Heather and; **The City Council adjourned to Monday, April 29, 2019, at 4:30 pm., for Staff presentation on the Draft Environmental Impact Report on the Foothill Gold Line Extension.**

Respectfully submitted,



Lupe Gaeta Estrella, CMC
Assistant City Clerk