

AMENDED

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 May 16, 2016

1. A regular meeting of the La Verne City Council was called to order by Mayor Kendrick at 6:30 p.m.

2. Council Members present: Mayor Don Kendrick
Mayor Pro Tem Charlie Rosales
Council Member Donna Redman
Council Member Robin Carder
Council Member Tim Hepburn

Absent: None.

Advisory personnel present: City Manager Robert Russi
City Attorney Robert L. Kress
Assistant to the City Manager Teri Baker
Deputy City Clerk Lupe Gaeta Estrella
Public Works Director Dan Keesey
Community Development Director Hal G. Fredericksen
Community Services Director Bill Aguirre
Finance Officer Richard Martinez
Police Chief Scott Pickwith
Police Captain Nick Paz
Acting Police Captain Elizabeth Garcia
Acting Police Captain Tom Frayeh
Fire Chief Pete Jankowski
Personnel Officer JR Ranells

3. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Kendrick.

4. Presentation/Introductions
& Announcements

Presentations to the Families
and Sponsors for the "Military
Recognition Program."

Mayor Kendrick, on behalf of the City Council, recognized the families and sponsors of the "Military Recognition Program." He stated that the City of La Verne has a total of 62 community members who are currently serving in our military. One individual was recognized at this meeting and a mini banner will be sent to the family of the individual being recognized. The military honoree is as follows:

Raul J. Salazar

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Navy

- Completion of Military Service Mayor Kendrick reported on the completion of Military service. He stated that once a community member completes their military service, their banner is removed and presented to their family member(s) with a yellow ribbon. The following individuals were recognized for completion of their military service and their family member(s) were presented with a yellow ribbon:
- Christopher T. Allan – Army
Donovan Coble – Army
Scott P. Jefferson – Army
Michael Narmore – Air Force
Derek Stogsdill – Navy and
Marco Stogsdill – Army.
- Military Reception Mayor Kendrick invited the members of the audience to the Military reception which was held after the presentation in the large conference room of La Verne City Hall.
5. Memorial Day Celebration Mayor Kendrick reported and invited the members of the audience to the upcoming Memorial Day Celebration honoring those who died protecting our freedom to be held on Monday, May 30, 2016, at 11 a.m., at Veterans Hall.
6. Consent Calendar It was moved by Redman, seconded by Hepburn, and unanimously carried to accept, approve, or act except for Item No.5.d., Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District Expenditure for Lighting; Mayor Kendrick declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting on this item, because he owns a business within the district boundaries. The City Council Minutes of March 21, and April 4, 2016, were pulled for further consideration on the Consent Calendar, as presented, as follows:
- PULLED – NO ACTION
TAKEN**
City Council Minutes City Council Minutes of May 2, 2016, March 21, 2016 and April 4, 2016, ***pulled from the consent calendar for further consideration.***
- Registers of Audited Demands **Register of Audited Demands** in the amount of \$627,256.67, dated April 26, 2016; and in the amount of \$918,851.25, dated May 3, 2016, ***approved as recommended.***
- Treasurer's Report for the Month of April, 2016 **Treasurer's Report for the Month of April, 2016**, received and filed.
- Consider Approval of Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District Expenditure for Lighting **Consider Approval of Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District Expenditure for Lighting** - City Council approval is required for expenditures by the Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District of \$5,000 or more. The Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District Advisory Board has voted to direct a total of \$15,000 towards the installation of new "historic acorn style" street lights and additional tree lighting for the Old Town district. Staff recommended the City Council approve the Old Town La Verne Business Improvement District Advisory Board's vote to expend a total of \$15,000 towards the installation of new "historic acorn style" street lights and additional tree lighting for the Old Town district. ***Approved by a vote of 4-0, Mayor Kendrick declared a conflict of interest and abstained from voting because he owns a business within the district boundaries.***

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

Resolution No. 16-33,
Approving the 2016 City of
La Verne Strategic Plan

Resolution No. 16-33 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE 2016 CITY OF LA VERNE STRATEGIC PLAN. The City Council, Executive Management Team, and association representatives met on January 21st and 22nd, 2016, to update the City's Strategic Plan. This is the eleventh revision in 26 years to this document and reflects the goals and priorities of the organization for the coming 3-5 years. While it provides general direction on various issues, its intent is to establish guidelines for future Council action. It was recommended that the City Council approve Resolution 16-33, approving the 2016 La Verne Strategic Plan. **Approved as recommended.**

Resolution No. 16-34,
Approving the Final Map for
Tract No 53984, Puddingstone
La Venture

Resolution No. 16-34 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE FINAL MAP FOR TRACT 53984, A REQUEST BY PUDDINGSTONE LA VENTURE, TO SUBDIVIDE A 38-ACRE PARCEL AT PUDDINGSTONE DRIVE AND VAN DUSEN ROAD INTO A RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION. On September 9, 2009, the Planning Commission approved the Tentative Tract Map No. 53984 (Puddingstone La Venture). The tract map subdivided "Puddingstone Hill", a 38-acre vacant parcel south of Puddingstone Drive, west of Van Dusen Road into a 15-lot residential subdivision preserving the majority of the "hill." Staff recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 16-34, approving Final Tract Map No. 53984 and direct staff to sign the map as to its conformance with the Subdivision Map Act, Puddingstone La Venture Specific Plan and City Municipal Codes. **Approved as recommended.**

Public Hearing on New Project
for the Community Development
Block Grant Program for 2016-
2017

City Manager Russi reported on the New Project for the Community Development Block Grant Program for 2016-2017. The City Council previously approved the 2016-2017 funding year for the Community Development Block Grant Program along with the senior hot lunch program and the sidewalk repair project. One new application for a new project has been received from the Public Works Department to connect the sidewalk on the south side of Bowdoin Street and around the corner south on Bradford Street. Staff is continuing to work with the Community Development Commission to allocate the remaining portion of the grant to benefit the City of La Verne. The Community Development Department recommended the unallocated balance be approved.

Mayor Kendrick opened the public hearing and called for public comment on this matter. There was none.

It was moved by Carder, seconded by Rosales, and unanimously carried to approve the unallocated balance and approve Resolution No. 16-32, approving a new project for the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Community Development Block Grant Program, as follows:

Department	Project	Grant Amount	
Public Works	Connecting existing sidewalks on Bradford and Bowdoin Streets, removing barriers for disabled adults	\$125,000	\$10,000 - Personnel

Resolution No. 16-32,
Approving a New Project for the
Fiscal 2016-17 Community
Development Block Grant
Program

Resolution No. 16-32 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VERNE, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A NEW PROJECT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR (2016-2017) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.
Approved as recommended.

Council Chambers Insignia
Update

Assistant to the City Manager Baker reported on the Council Chambers Insignia with a slide presentation. She stated that on February 16, the City Council approved a request from Mayor Pro Tem Carder that a committee be formed to discuss the need for an update to the 1970's wood insignia located on the wall behind the dais. Mayor Pro Tem Carder, Council Member Redman and two staff members were assigned to the committee. The committee met and recommended that the City Seal and the words "In God We Trust" be used to create a new insignia on the wall behind the dais. She stated that staff is recommending engaging the services of woodworker Ruben Guajardo to create a 40 inch replica of the City Seal and the words "In God We Trust" in high quality wood, in the amount not to exceed \$2,000. She added Mr. Guajardo will start in August and that it will take six months to complete.

Council Member Carder stated she felt it was important to update the insignia and she recommended that the words "In God we Trust" be placed above it. She stated they used the current City Seal which was created in 1963 by the City employee association and represents the City well. She was very pleased with the outcome and added that it will add warmth and be welcoming to the community. She thanked the Committee and staff for their assistance on this project

Council Member Redman also agreed and thanked Member Carder, and staff for their work on this project.

Mayor Kendrick stated he is pleased with the proposed insignia and especially that the City is engaging the services of woodworker Ruben Guajardo. He stated that Mr. Guajardo did the library doors and he is master at his craft

Mayor Kendrick called for public comment on this matter. There was none.

It was moved by Carder, seconded by Redman, and unanimously carried to approve funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,000 to update the Council wall insignia which includes engaging the services of woodworker Ruben Guajardo to create a 40 inch replica of the City Seal and the words "In God We Trust" in high quality wood.



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.

Council Member Redman stated that since there are a large number of individuals wishing to speak during public comment, she suggested that a time limit of three minutes be enacted for each speaker.

It was the City Council consensus to set a time limit of three minutes per speaker, and to appoint City Manager Russi as timekeeper.

Mayor Kendrick read into the record a letter from a La Verne resident and former law enforcement officer in support of City Council and the Police Chief pertaining to the Concealed Carry Weapon issue.

Before Mayor Kendrick called for public comment, City Manager Russi explained that since there were many individuals at the Council meeting wishing to speak regarding Concealed Carry Weapon Permits, he wanted to clarify that this item is not on the Agenda and City Council will not be able to comment. This matter has been placed on two previous agendas at the request of Mr. Reeves and City Council affirmed the City's position on the issuance of Concealed Carry Weapon permits. He added that it's City Council's position and the City's practice, which is consistent with State law, to encourage any person who wishes to be considered for a Concealed Carry Weapon permit to contact the Los Angeles County Sherriff's Department. Police Chief Pickwith has given the authority to the Los Angeles County Sherriff's Department to process the Concealed Carry Weapon applications for the City of La Verne. This practice is consistent with 15 other cities in the San Gabriel Valley.

Mayor Kendrick called for public comment.

Keith Reeves, 2800 Pineland Avenue, La Verne, stated that Council Members Carder and Redman should have excused themselves when the University of La Verne addressed the City Council during public comment stating their official position in opposing the proliferation of Concealed Carry Weapon permits in the City of La Verne. He stated that both had a conflict of interest because they are employed by the University of La Verne and asked for their resignation.

City Attorney Kress stated that Council Members Carder and Redman do not have a conflict of interest on this matter. He stated that under the State's Conflict of Interest Code, public officials are disqualified from participation in government decisions if they have a financial interest and there is none. The University of La Verne addressed the City Council to convey their policy statement on Concealed Carry Weapons. The City Council affirmed the City's position on the issuance of Concealed Carry Weapon permits. There was no decision making. The attack on the City Council is unwarranted and politically motivated because Mr. Reeves was denied a Concealed Carry Weapon permit.

The following spoke in favor the of Concealed Weapons Permits and did not agree with the City of La Verne Police Department contracting with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to process Concealed Weapons Permits applications.

Andrew Di Giovanna, 1104 E. Dover Street, Glendora
Jake Burrda, 1524 Maplewood Street, La Verne
Ronald Miller, 2600 White Avenue, La Verne
Robert Pardon, 1552 Maplewood, La Verne
Faye Owens, 2034 7th Street, La Verne
Housep Chaplain, 1524 Maplewood, La Verne
Christopher Padilla, University of La Verne student
Robert Alderete, 17138, Fontana

Bill Skiles, 2625 Pattinglen Avenue, La Verne. Mr. Skiles spoke in favor of Concealed Carry Weapon permits and he also spoke about his concerns regarding the agreement with TBWB Strategies to help evaluate the feasibility of a potential revenue tax measure.

Keith Fraser, 550 E, Second Street, Azusa, asked if the City Council if they were concerned about being sued for issuing a Concealed Carry Weapon permit and was in support of Concealed Carry Weapon Permits.

The following individuals spoke against the proliferation of Concealed Carry Weapons permits in the City of La Verne and their support of Police Chief's decision to have Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department process the Concealed Carry Weapon Permits for the City of La Verne.

Jefferson Hill, 3800 Bradford, La Verne
Ruben Guajardo, 2385 Sixth Street, La Verne
Lindsay McElwain, 2731 D Street, La Verne
Brian Bowcock, 4700 Halaga Circle, La Verne
Gilbert Ivy, 5430 Edgewood Drive, La Verne
Lee Ann Paddock, 2250 Fifth Street, La Verne
Mike Ramos, 2217 Second Street, La Verne
Mike Grossman, 2242 De Marino, La Verne
Reverend Zandra Wagoner, University of La Verne Chaplain
Andrea Halberg, 2828 White N. Avenue, La Verne
Joseph R. Martinez, 2526 Bonita Avenue, La Verne
Norm Faustini, 7186 Alta Vista, La Verne
Josih Hostetler, 2532 Dune Lane, La Verne
David McEwain, 2525 D Street, La Verne
John Wilson, 2817 Brandt Street, La Verne

John Hackworth, 6573 Shemiran, La Verne, also suggested the applicant make his application available to the public and why it was denied.

Marisa Saldana, 13820 Rath Street, La Puente and University of La Verne student stated she researched the Concealed Carry Weapon issue and spoke on gun statistics and safety.

Richard Bowen, 2340 Eagle Drive, La Verne, stated he is having problems with drones and asked if the City had a policy on drones. City Attorney replied that it falls under the FAA regulations and the City has no policy, but the City will be monitoring the situation. Mr. Bowen also inquired on the progress of the Habitat for Humanity House being built on First Street. Community Development Director stated that the construction of the Habitat for Humanity house is moving forward.

Jefferson Hill, 3800 Bradford, La Verne, commended Habitat for Humanity for doing great job in raising money to build the house for a disabled veteran.

Tom Sawhill, 2618 Hanawalt Street, thanked the City Council for listening and stated he was not for or against the Concealed Carry Weapon permit matter, but felt there were more important issues to be addressed like the cost to the residents regarding the State's new "Municipal Separation Storm System" (MS4) Regulations which will cost taxpayers millions.

8. Council Comments and Meeting/Conference Reports

Council Member Carder stated she was very insulted by the accusation that she had a conflict of interest on the Concealed Carry Weapon permits matter. She has represented the community as a school board member, PTA member, and as a council member ethically and with dignity. She has never let her employment with the University of La Verne influence her decision making as council member. The University of La Verne policy statement on Concealed Carry Weapon Permits was by made by the school administration. She stated this was not a Second Amendment violation, but because of a denial of one person's a Concealed Carry Weapon Permit and she was not changing her mind in support of Police Chief's position on the issuance of Concealed Carry Weapon permits.

Mayor Pro Tem Rosales stated that this issue has been addressed and resolved. This is not a Second Amendment issue. He has encouraged people to keep a gun at home for protection, provided that they take gun safety training and that the gun is securely stored. He stated that Council Members Carder and Redman do an excellent job representing the City of La Verne and the attack on their character was unwarranted. He was more concerned with the State mandates on storm water permits and the cost to La Verne residents.

Council Member Redman thanked Council Members Carder and Rosales for their comments. She stated that she takes offense of the accusation that she violated the conflict of interest code on the Concealed Carry Weapon permits matter. She pledged her continued support of the Police Chief and his decision, and her support will never waiver.

Council Member Hepburn stated he was elected to be steward of the community and he was appalled by the attack on Council Members Carder and Redman because Mr. Reeve's Concealed Carry Weapon permit was denied for just cause. He stated there are many more important issues like the City budget, MS-4, and economic development that need to be addressed. He pledged his support and trust of the Police Chief and his decision to contract with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. He stated he was finished with this matter and if Mr. Reeves wished to run for City Council to do so.

Mayor Kendrick stated that the citizens should always question their City officials. He stated that this was not a Second Amendment issue. Individuals can own a gun by going through the proper channels and gun safety training. He stated it was not true of the statement that Military personnel would all be in support of making it easy to carry concealed weapons. He reported that of seven out of ten Concealed Carry Weapon permits applications have been approved and that this was about one person whose application was denied. He thanked and expressed his appreciation for those who were in attendance and for their support. He stated that we have a great community and Police force and hopefully, this matter was over.

9. Adjournment at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lupe Gaeta Estrella, CMC
Deputy City Clerk