

**MINUTES
VERNON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 4305 SANTA FE AVENUE**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lopez called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Lopez led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Leticia Lopez, Mayor (via remote access)
Melissa Ybarra, Mayor Pro Tem (via remote access)
William Davis, Council Member (via remote access)
Carol Menke, Council Member (via remote access)
Diana Gonzales, Council Member (via remote access)

STAFF PRESENT:

Carlos Fandino, City Administrator (via remote access)
Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, Interim City Attorney (via remote access)
Lisa Pope, City Clerk (via remote access)
Scott Williams, Finance Director (via remote access)
Abraham Alemu, Public Utilities General Manager (via remote access)
Fredrick Agyin, Health and Environmental Control Director (via remote access)
Michael Earl, Human Resources Director (via remote access)
Anthony Miranda, Police Chief (via remote access)
Dan Wall, Public Works Director (via remote access)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Council Member Davis moved and Mayor Pro Tem Ybarra seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

Council Member Davis moved and Council Member Gonzales seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

1. **Approval of Minutes**
Recommendation: Approve the December 1, 2020 Regular City Council meeting minutes.
2. **Claims Against the City**
Recommendation: Receive and file the claim submitted by Christina Cicione on behalf of State Farm Mutual Insurance a/s/o Leydi Y. Sanchez in the amount of \$3,617.68.
3. **City Payroll Warrant Register**
Recommendation: Approve City Payroll Warrant Register No. 774, for the period of November 1 through November 30, 2020, which totals \$4,014,048.08 and consists of ratification of direct deposits, checks and taxes totaling \$3,061,210.91 and ratification of checks and electronic fund transfers (EFT) for payroll related disbursements totaling \$952,837.17 paid through operating bank account.
4. **Operating Account Warrant Register**
Recommendation: Approve Operating Account Warrant Register No. 58, for the period of November 15 through November 28, 2020, which totals \$9,099,407.66 and consists of ratification of electronic payments totaling \$8,952,303.19 and ratification of the issuance of early checks totaling \$147,104.47.
5. **Fire Department Activity Report**
Recommendation: Receive and file the September 2020 Report.
6. **Police Department Activity Report**
Recommendation: Receive and file the October 2020 Report.
7. **Arbor Day Foundation Application for Tree City USA**
Recommendation: A. Find that the proposed action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as this application is not considered a “project” under CEQA which is defined as an action directly undertaken by a public agency which has the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, Cal. Pub. Res. Code Section 21065. Under the proposed application, no such activity is being undertaken. Even if the application were to be considered a “project” under CEQA, which is not the case, CEQA Guidelines Section 15308 categorically exempts actions taken by regulatory agencies that assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of the environment. Here, the request for authorization to submit an application to the Arbor Day Foundation will have no impact on the environment whatsoever; and
B. Approve and authorize the Public Works Department to submit an application to the Arbor Day Foundation for Vernon to be Certified a Tree City USA for 2020.
8. **Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/2021 Docket I Grants Awarded by Vernon COMMUNITY Fund Grant Committee**
Recommendation: Receive and file the report, as it is being provided for informational purposes only, pursuant to Section 2.167(e) of the Vernon Municipal Code.

9. **Report on Services Agreement with Engineering Partners, Inc. Consultant Engineers for the Re-Design and Preparation of Plans for the Atlantic Bridge Widening Project**
Recommendation: Receive and file the report, as it is being provided for informational purposes only pursuant to Section 2.17.12(B)(3) of the Vernon Municipal Code.

NEW BUSINESS

10. **Americans with Disabilities (ADA), Title II, Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan**
Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 2020-43 adopting the 2020 City of Vernon Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act, Title II, Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan.

Public Works Director Wall introduced the item.

Josh Klipp and Nico Sumowiec, Sally Swanson Architects, Inc., provided an overview of the Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan.

In response to Council questions, Public Works Director Wall discussed potential grants and efforts to obtain funding.

MOTION

Mayor Pro Tem Ybarra moved and Council Member Gonzales seconded a motion to: Adopt Resolution No. 2020-43 adopting the 2020 City of Vernon Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act, Title II, Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

ORAL REPORTS

City Administrator Reports on Activities and other Announcements.

City Administrator Fandino provided an update on recent Police activity and presented a video of the City of Hope thanking the City of Vernon for its Pink Patch project. He announced the nomination period for the City's General Municipal Election from December 21, 2020 to January 25, 2021. He announced the upcoming holiday events and Green Vernon Commission meeting on December 16, 2020.

City Council Reports on Activities (including AB1234), Announcements, or Directives to Staff.

None.

RECESS

Mayor Lopez recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 9:28 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

- 11. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE EVALUATION**
Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)
Position: City Administrator

RECONVENE

At 10:13 a.m., Mayor Lopez adjourned Closed Session and reconvened the regular meeting.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Interim City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman reported that the Council, with all five members present, met in Closed Session, discussed the item on the agenda, and took no reportable action.

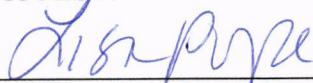
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lopez adjourned the meeting at 10:13 a.m.



LETICIA LOPEZ, Mayor

ATTEST:



LISA POPE, City Clerk
(seal)