

**MINUTES
VERNON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2021
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 4305 SANTA FE AVENUE**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ybarra called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Ybarra led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Melissa Ybarra, Mayor
William Davis, Mayor Pro Tem
Leticia Lopez, Council Member
Crystal Larios, Council Member
Judith Merlo, Council Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Carlos Fandino, City Administrator
Zaynah Moussa, Interim City Attorney
Lisa Pope, City Clerk
Scott Williams, Finance Director
Abraham Alemu, Public Utilities General Manager
Michael Earl, Human Resources Director
Fredrick Agyin, Health and Environmental Control Director
Robert Sousa, Police Chief
Dan Wall, Public Works Director

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

City Clerk Pope announced that Item 4 was being tabled.

MOTION

Council Member Lopez moved and Council Member Larios seconded a motion to approve the agenda with Item 4 tabled. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation Recognizing the Grand Opening of the Southern California Curling Center in Vernon

Recommendation: Acknowledge and present a proclamation in recognition of the Grand Opening of the Southern California Curling Center.

City Clerk Pope read the proclamation.

2. Human Resources

Recognition of Retired Employee - Adam A. Alvarez, Street Maintenance Worker, Lead
Recommendation: Acknowledge and present a proclamation to retired employee Adam A. Alvarez, Street Maintenance Worker, Lead, in recognition of his dedicated service to the City of Vernon.

City Clerk Pope read the proclamation.

3. Employee Service Pin Awards for July 2021

Recommendation: No action required by City Council. This is a presentation only.

Human Resources Director Earl acknowledged Ernesto A. Smith, Information Technology Manager and Rodolfo J. Perez, Meter Reader as recipients of the Employee Service Pin Awards for July 2021.

4. Presentation on Pension Obligation Bonds

Recommendation: No action required by City Council. This is a presentation only.

This item was tabled upon approval of the agenda.

5. Presentation on the Temporary Shutdown of Closure Work at the Former Exide Facility

Recommendation: No action required by City Council. This is a presentation only.

Health and Environmental Control Director Agyin introduced the item and Roberto Puga, presented a PowerPoint on the temporary shutdown of closure work at the former Exide Facility.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

Council Member Lopez moved and Mayor Pro Tem Davis 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:

6. Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the August 3, 2021 Regular City Council meeting minutes.

- 7. Operating Account Warrant Register**
Recommendation: Approve Operating Account Warrant Register No. 72, for the period of July 18 through July 31, 2021, totaling \$10,502,986.03 and consisting of ratification of electronic payments totaling \$10,292,563.14 and ratification of the issuance of early checks totaling \$210,422.89.
- 8. City Payroll Warrant Register**
Recommendation: Approve City Payroll Warrant Register No. 782, for the period of July 1 through July 31, 2021, totaling \$3,479,026.87 and consisting of ratification of direct deposits, checks and taxes totaling \$2,455,263.52 and ratification of checks and electronic fund transfers (EFT) for payroll related disbursements totaling \$1,023,763.35 paid through operating bank account.
- 9. Fire Department Activity Report**
Recommendation: Receive and file the June 2021 Fire Department Activity Report.
- 10. Police Department Activity Report**
Recommendation: Receive and file the June 2021 Police Department Activity Report.
- 11. Amendment No. 2 to the Services Agreement with Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA)**
Recommendation: Approve and authorize the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Services Agreement with SEAACA for animal control services to update the schedule of fees effective July 1, 2021.
- 12. Public Works Department Vehicle Purchase**
Recommendation: Approve the purchase of two (2) new 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD 4WD Crew Cab Work Trucks through National Auto Fleet Group, for a total cost of \$91,334.02.
- 13. Blanket Purchase Contract with The Home Depot**
Recommendation: A. Find that the best interests of the City are served by a direct award of a blanket Purchase Order to The Home Depot without a competitive selection process pursuant to Vernon Municipal Code (VMC) Section 2.17.12 (b)(2); and B. Approve the issuance of a blanket Purchase Order with The Home Depot in an amount not-to-exceed \$150,000 to procure supplies for Public Works and VPU for operational needs and special projects for Fiscal Year 2021-22.

NEW BUSINESS

- 14. 2021 League of California Cities Annual Conference Representatives**
Recommendation: Designate the City's voting delegate and alternate voting delegate(s) for the League of California Cities 2021 Annual Conference and Expo scheduled for September 22-24, 2021.

City Clerk Pope presented the staff report.

No action was taken. The matter will be brought back to Council if a Council Member plans to attend.

15. City Council Appointments to Outside Agencies

Recommendation: Appoint a member to the Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board of Trustees for the term ending January 5, 2023.

City Clerk Pope presented the staff report.

MOTION

Mayor Ybarra moved and Mayor Pro Tem Davis seconded a motion to appoint Council Member Lopez as a member to the Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board of Trustees for the term ending January 5, 2023. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

16. Purchase of Electric and/or Hybrid Vehicles for City Departments

Recommendation: A. Approve the purchase of three (3) electric vehicles to replace the existing Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) fleet vehicles, and approve the purchase of one (1) additional electric vehicle to serve as the City designated vehicle for the Director of DHEC for a total cost not to exceed \$153,571; B. Authorize a 10% contingency amount of \$15,357 in the event that it is necessary for the DHEC to secure similar vehicles from alternate dealers should the vehicles quoted no longer be available for sale; and C. Authorize the purchase of one (1) plug-in hybrid vehicle to replace the existing vehicle designated for City Council use at a not-to-exceed amount of \$45,000 from a dealer offering a competitive price.

Health and Environmental Control Director Agyin presented the staff report.

In response to Council questions, Health and Environmental Control Director Agyin discussed the need to replace existing vehicles and total proposed for purchase. City Administrator Fandino stated the Council vehicle purchase could be deferred.

MOTION

Council Member Lopez moved and Mayor Pro Tem Davis seconded a motion to: A. Approve the purchase of three (3) electric vehicles to replace the existing Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) fleet vehicles, and approve the purchase of one (1) additional electric vehicle to serve as the City designated vehicle for the Director of DHEC for a total cost not to exceed \$153,571; and B. Authorize a 10% contingency amount of \$15,357 in the event that it is necessary for the DHEC to secure similar vehicles from alternate dealers should the vehicles quoted no longer be available for sale. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

ORAL REPORTS

City Administrator Reports on Activities and other Announcements.

City Administrator Fandino announced the Southern California Curling Center Grand opening; City's application for the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) "2021 Most Business-Friendly City in LA County During and In Response to COVID-19 Award"; and Vernon Elementary start of school year on August 16, 2021.

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

None.

RECESS

Mayor Ybarra recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 9:42 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

17. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Jerry Chavez v. City of Vernon

Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC719460

18. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)

Title: City Administrator

RECONVENE

At 11:40 a.m., Mayor Ybarra adjourned Closed Session and reconvened the regular meeting.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ybarra adjourned the meeting at 11:41 a.m.

DocuSigned by:
Melissa Ybarra
COA5DCE4B14F4FA...
MELISSA YBARRA, Mayor

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Lisa Pope

9E43A1B0C2E44A8

LISA POPE, City Clerk

(seal)