

**MINUTES
VERNON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 4305 SANTA FE AVENUE**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lopez called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Vernon Police Department Honor Guard presented the Colors and led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Leticia Lopez, Mayor
Crystal Larios, Mayor Pro Tem
Judith Merlo, Council Member
Melissa Ybarra, Council Member

ABSENT:

William Davis, Council Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Carlos Fandino, City Administrator
Angela Kimmey, Deputy City Administrator
Zaynah Moussa, City Attorney
Lisa Pope, City Clerk
Scott Williams, Finance Director
Fredrick Agyin, Health and Environmental Control Director (via remote access)
Michael Earl, Human Resources Director
Robert Sousa, Police Chief
Dan Wall, Public Works Director
Todd Dusenberry, Acting Public Utilities General Manager

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Council Member Ybarra moved and Mayor Pro Tem Larios seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Council Member Davis absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Employee Service Pin Awards for July 2022

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

Human Resources Director presented the report.

2. Proclamation Recognizing Retired Employee - Gerardo C. Farias

Recommendation: Acknowledge and present a proclamation to retired employee Gerardo C. Farias, Street Maintenance Worker, Senior, in recognition of his dedicated service to the City of Vernon.

City Clerk Pope read and presented the proclamation to Gerardo C. Farias.

3. Swearing-In Ceremony for New Police Officer

Recommendation: Administer the Oath of Office to Police Officer Rudy Hernandez.

Police Chief Sousa presented the staff report and introduced new Police Officer Rudy Hernandez.

City Clerk Pope administered the Oath of Office.

RECESS

Mayor Lopez called a recess at 9:10 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 9:16 a.m. with all Council Members present, except Council Member Davis.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

Council Member Ybarra moved and Council Member Merlo seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Council Member Davis absent.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

4. Approval of Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the August 2, 2022 Regular City Council meeting minutes.

5. Ordinance No. 1287 Amending Title 17 of the Vernon Municipal Code pertaining to Warehouse Uses

Recommendation: Conduct second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 1287 amending Chapters 17.16.020 and 17.24.020 and adding Chapter 17.24.035 to Title 17 (Zoning) of the Vernon Municipal Code relating to warehouse uses.

6. City Payroll Warrant Register

Recommendation: Approve City Payroll Warrant Register No. 794, for the period of July 1 through July 31, 2022, totaling \$2,833,434.93 and consisting of ratification of direct deposits, checks and taxes totaling \$1,904,503.44 and ratification of checks and electronic fund transfers (EFT) for payroll related disbursements totaling \$928,931.49 paid through operating bank account.

7. Operating Account Warrant Register

Recommendation: Approve Operating Account Warrant Register No. 92, for the period of July 17 through July 30, 2022, totaling \$17,248,396.66 and consisting of ratification of electronic payments totaling \$15,784,135.95 and ratification of the issuance of early checks totaling \$1,464,260.71.

8. Fire Department Activity Report

Recommendation: Receive and file the June 2022 Fire Department Activity Report.

9. Police Department Activity Report

Recommendation: Receive and file the June 2022 Police Department Activity Report

10. Quarterly Report of Cash and Investments

Recommendation: Receive and file the Cash and Investments Report for the quarter ending June 30, 2022.

11. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee Activity Report

Recommendation: Receive and file the report.

12. Vernon Public Utilities 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan

Recommendation: A. Find that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have a significant effect on the environment. This action receives and files an update to the City's plan for the implementation of preventative strategies and mitigation measures to minimize the risk of wildfires caused by electrical lines and equipment; this action does not authorize any construction activity or any disturbance of an environmental resource, and has no potential for causing a significant effect on the environment; and B. Approve the Vernon Public Utilities 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan.

13. Letter to United States Environmental Protection Agency Requesting Exide Technologies, Inc. (Exide) Lead Cleanup be Added to Superfund Priorities List

Recommendation: Receive and file.

NEW BUSINESS**14. League of California Cities 2022 Annual Conference Voting Delegate and Alternates**

City Clerk Pope presented the staff report.

MOTION

Mayor Pro Tem Larios moved and Council Member Merlo seconded a motion to designate Council Member Ybarra as the City's voting delegate and Mayor Pro Tem Larios as the voting alternate to represent the City of Vernon at the League of California Cities 2022 Annual Conference and Expo scheduled for September 7-9, 2022, in Long Beach, California. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Council Member Davis absent.

15. Memorandum of Understanding by and between the City of Vernon and the Vernon Police Management Association

Human Resources Director Earl presented the staff report.

MOTION

Council Member Ybarra moved and Mayor Pro Tem Larios seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-32 approving the Memorandum of Understanding by and between the City of Vernon and the Vernon Police Management Association for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Council Member Davis absent.

16. Amendment to Classification and Compensation Plan

Human Resources Director Earl presented the staff report.

MOTION

Mayor Pro Tem Larios moved and Council Member Ybarra seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-33 amending Exhibit F of the Classification and Compensation Plan adopted by Resolution No. 2022-29 and amended by Resolution No. 2022-31 to incorporate Cost of Living Adjustments for classifications represented by the Vernon Police Management Association. The question was called and the motion carried 4-0, Council Member Davis absent.

ORAL REPORTS

City Administrator Reports on Activities and other Announcements.

City Administrator Fandino welcomed the Vernon Elementary students back for the new school year. He reminded non-profits serving the Vernon Area that the Vernon CommUNITY Fund grant applications were due by September 30, 2022. He announced the upcoming Special Green Vernon Commission Meeting on August 24, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. and the New Business Welcome Breakfast on September 14, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

City Council Reports on Activities (including AB 1234), Announcements, or Directives to Staff.

Mayor Lopez announced her attendance at the Independent Cities Association Summer Seminar from August 11-14, 2022, with a fiscal impact of \$2,520.

RECESS

Mayor Lopez recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 9:24 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

RECONVENE

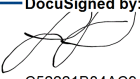
At 10:48 a.m., Mayor Lopez adjourned Closed Session and reconvened the regular meeting.

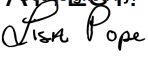
CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Moussa reported that the Council met in Closed Session, discussed the item on the agenda, and took no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Lopez adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

DocuSigned by:

C52221B84AC94E3...
LETICIA LOPEZ, Mayor

Attest:

9F43A1B0C2E44A8...
LISA POPE, City Clerk
(seal)