

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Lompoc City Council
Tuesday, June 6, 2017
City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Council Chamber

OPEN SESSION – 5:00 P.M. – Council Chamber

Council Members Present: Victor Vega, James Mosby, Jenelle Osborne, Dirk Starbuck, and Mayor Bob Lingl.

Staff Present: City Manager Patrick Wiemiller, Economic Development Director/Assistant City Manager Teresa Gallavan, City Clerk Stacey Haddon, and City Attorney Joseph Pannone.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

BUSINESS ITEM:

1. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- LIABILITY CLAIMS:** Paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Gov. Code section 54956.9 Claimant: Joel Alcox. Agency claimed against: City of Lompoc, County of Santa Barbara.
2. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- LIABILITY CLAIMS:** Paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Gov. Code section 54956.9 Claimant: Giles *et al.* Agency claimed against: City of Lompoc *et al.*
3. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS:** City Designated Representatives: Gabriel Garcia, Brad Wilkie, Colin Tanner, and Patrick Wiemiller. Employee Organization: Lompoc Police Officer's Association (LPOA).
4. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS:** Property: Corner of North O Street and Oak Ave. (APN 089-063-013 and 089-063-014), Lompoc, CA. **City Negotiators:** Patrick Wiemiller, City Manager, Economic Development Director/Assistant City Manager Teresa Gallavan, Laura Candy, Administrative Analyst, and Joseph Pannone, City Attorney. **Negotiating Parties:** N/A. **Under negotiation:** Price and terms of payment.

OPEN SESSION - 6:30 P.M. – Council Chamber

REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION:

City Attorney Joseph Pannone announced there was no reportable action taken during the Closed Session.

Chaplain Dale Willis gave the invocations and Mayor Bob Lingl led the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

PRESENTATIONS PRESENTED ELSEWHERE:

On May 23, 2017, Mayor Lingl presented a Proclamation to Public Works Director Kevin McCune at the DeWees Center in honor of **2017 National Public Works Week – May 21 - 27, 2017**.

On May 27, 2017, Mayor Lingl presented a Proclamation to The Lompoc Theater in celebration of its 90th Birthday at the Lompoc Theater 90th Birthday Parking Lot Bash.

Mayor Lingl announced Agenda Item No. 9 would be pulled from this Agenda and will be presented to Council at a future meeting.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Lingl and Council Member Mosby presented Certificates of Appreciation to Former Human Services Commission Member Nemesio Balcena and Paul Hill.

Safety Officer Jo Cavanaugh presented the **Above and Beyond Awards** from the City of Lompoc Central Safety Committee.

CITY MANAGER REPORT: (Information only)

City Manager Patrick Wiemiller acknowledged the retirement of Colonel J. Christopher Moss as the Vandenberg Air Force Base Commander.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS: None

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Council Member Mosby asked Staff to clarify why the April 3, 2017 register is presented on this Agenda. Management Services Director Brad Wilkie explained the voucher was presented to Council in a previous meeting, but the information was not listed on the Agenda.

ACTION: Motion/Second: Vega/Osborne. By a 5-0 vote Council:

1. Approved the Minutes of the Lompoc City Council Regular Meeting of April 18, 2017.
2. Approved the expenditures for:
Payroll of May 5, 2017- \$1,267,053.91
Voucher Register of April 3, 2017 - \$4,795,193.56
Voucher Register of April 28, 2017- \$722,596.51
Voucher Register of May 5, 2017- \$643,922.15
Voucher Register of May 12, 2017- \$389,950.01
Electronic Payments April 2017- \$1,707,6014.73
3. **Approval of the Annual Operations and Maintenance Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; Adoption of Resolution No. 6120(17)**
Senior Environmental Coordinator Stacy L. Lawson

Adopted Resolution No. 6120(17) approving the Annual Operations and Maintenance Plan for Fiscal Year 2017-2018, and authorizing Staff to submit the Notices of Exemption to the Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board.

STAFF PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS:

Chief Pat Walsh gave a presentation on the current staffing levels at the Lompoc Police Department; the challenges faced by the Department on recruiting, hiring and retaining qualified personnel.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (3 Minutes Maximum):

1. Sue Coupland asked the Council and City Staff to reach out to Eva Blaisdell and persuade Ms. Blaisdell to return to Lompoc and continue to work towards building a space center.
2. John Linn expressed concern about the proposed City Budget for fiscal years 2017/2019 and the provided Capital Improvement Program document, and stated he believes there is more than one way to achieving a balanced budget.
3. Ann McCarty, Executive Director of the North County Rape Crisis and Child Protection Center, encouraged Council to continue the funding for the Victim Advocate's position inside the City of Lompoc Police Department, and spoke about the difficult and important work a Victim Advocate accomplishes.
4. Tim Smith spoke about the City of Lompoc 2017/2019 Draft Budget, specifically the summary found on page 122, which illustrates the requests and final proposals put forward, and further spoke about the need for the City to move forward and not stall.
5. Alice Down spoke in favor of placing the proposed tax measures on the November 2018 Ballot to allow the citizens to make its own decisions; and asked Council to continue the funding to the Lompoc Museum.
6. (Name Not Given), spoke about his previous experience as a business owner and suggested Council make cuts to salaries and possibly fire employees to help balance the City's budget.

PUBLIC HEARING:

4. Public Hearing for Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Gann Appropriation Limitation; Adoption of Resolution No. 6123(17)

Accounting and Revenue Manager Dean Albro presented the Staff report and recommendations.

Public Comment: None

ACTION: Motion/Second: Starbuck/Vega. By a 5-0 vote, Council adopted Resolution No. 6123(17), setting the Fiscal Year 2017-18 appropriation limit at \$42,311,548.

5. Public Hearing to Consider the Ordering of Services and Improvements, the Continuation of the Assessments for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 for the Park Maintenance and City Pool Assessment District No. 2002-01; Adoption of Resolution No. 6122(17) Approving the Engineer's Report, Confirming the Diagram and Assessment, and Ordering the Continuation of Assessments for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

Accounting and Revenue Manager Dean Albro presented the Staff report and recommendations.

Council Member Starbuck asked Staff to clarify the total amount of increase is being approved with this item. Accounting and Revenue Manager Dean Albro stated the increase is \$0.58 per single family equivalent.

Public Comment: None

ACTION: Motion/Second: Starbuck/Vega. By a 5-0 vote, Council held a public hearing for the proposed continuation of the assessments for the Park Maintenance and City Pool Assessment District No. 2002-01 in order to receive any public input on the proposed continuation of the assessments; approved the proposed assessment budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 and the services and improvements funded by the assessment's fund, and any other issues related to the assessments; upon the conclusion of the public hearing, considered the ordering of improvements and maintenance services, and the continuation of the assessments for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; and adopted Resolution No. 6122(17) approving the Engineer's Report, and confirming the diagram and assessments for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 for the District; or provide alternate direction.

6. Public Hearing Regarding Nuisance Abatement of Weeds, Rubbish, Refuse, and Dirt; Adoption of Resolution No. 6121(17)

Battalion Chief Dena Paschke presented a short video illustrating grass and weed growth inside the City Limits and the fire risk overgrown weeds can pose to the City and to neighboring communities.

Council asked how Staff deals with properties whose owners are deceased, and if Staff has required property owners to use specific types of methods or equipment to abate weeds. Battalion Chief Dena Paschke stated Staff works hard to reach out to estates and heirs of deceased property owners; and explained the City does not require the abatement to be completed in a prescribed manner.

Public Comment: None

ACTION: Motion/Second: Starbuck/Osborne. By a 5-0 vote, Council held a public hearing to receive comments and information from the public to show cause why nuisance conditions upon subject properties should not be abated; and adopted Resolution No. 6121(17), ordering the Fire Marshal to abate nuisances, as declared on May 2, 2017, by Resolution No. 6113(17), not otherwise satisfactorily corrected, in the time and manner provided by law.

COUNCIL REQUESTS:

- 7 **Discussion of Wastewater Revenue Calculations increase for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Wastewater service charge rates and fees effective July 1, 2017** (Council Member Mosby)

Financial Services Manager Melinda Wall presented the Staff report and recommendations.

Council thanked Staff for the information and discussed the calculations and the service charge rates and fees for the Wastewater Utility.

Public Comment: None

ACTION: Motion/Second: Mosby/Starbuck. By a 4-1 (Council Member Vega voted No) vote, Council directed Staff to bring forward an item at the June 20, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting, allowing Council to discuss rates for the City’s Electric Utility; and an item allowing Council discussion with possible action on the City’s Wastewater Utility service rates and fees.

BREAK: At 8:07 P.M. Mayor Lingl announced a break. At 8:17 P.M., the meeting reconvened with all Council Members present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 8. **Discussion and Possible Approval of 2017/2019 Biennial Budget.**

City Manager Patrick Wiemiller presented a brief Power Point Presentation detailing the total number of approved, but unbuilt housing units inside the City Limits; and also provided ideas to Council on how to achieve Council’s direction to cut an additional \$1,363,000 from General Fund of the 2017/2019 Biennial Budget.

Council discussed the provided information at great length.

Council Member Osborne stated she believes the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) has caused the current budget deficit for the City; stated she is willing to return all salary and benefits she receives as a City Council Member, to help avoid any cuts to City employees; and requested the word bankruptcy not be used while discussing the City or its budget.

Council Member Starbuck stated he would like a restrictive fund of \$3,500,000 be set up and maintained, requested the funding for the Victim’s Advocate inside the City of Lompoc’s Police Department, the Lompoc Museum, and the Lompoc Chamber of Commerce and Visitor’s Bureau be placed back into the Draft 2017/2019 Biennial Budget Document (Draft Budget); add the estimated funds of an approved ballot measure for a ½ percent sales tax, to the Draft Budget; and asked Staff if the State was providing loans or grants to California Cities to help with the CalPERS obligation. Management Services Director Brad Wilkie explained the State is preparing funding to be made available for the State’s CalPERS obligation, it would not be funding for any Cities.

Council Member Vega thanked Staff for the presented information, expressed concern for the citizens who fall in the lower income brackets; stated he is an advocate for Public Safety personnel; wants to discuss structural changes to the City to bolster the City’s image and economic health; would be open to discussing possible cuts in maintenance of underused City parks; believes the Economic Development Department and the Building Division could be restructured in a way to save the City money while improving the City’s business friendly image; and is against a raise in the Transient Occupancy Tax.

Council Member Mosby asked Staff to clarify where revenue from any tax measure would be used in the Draft Budget or any future budget, stating he believes the tax measure revenues would be used for Capital Improvements alone; expressed concern about over spending in the current 2015/2017 Budget, the lack of volunteers being utilized in the Lompoc Library, and the City’s enterprise funds being charged for any matter that is outside of the enterprise fund direct expenses, including economic development matters.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: (cont'd)

Item No. 8

Public Comment:

1. Jason Reynolds spoke about the events and programs the Lompoc Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Bureau has regularly brought forward to help local businesses and to bring tourists to the City.
2. Atul Patel and Paul Patel spoke against any raise in the transient occupancy tax.
3. John Linn gave Council suggestions on how to achieve a balanced budget, including the combining of City Departments/Divisions, and eliminating City employee positions.
4. Sue Coupland spoke about the Budget process and suggested Council work within its current Budget numbers.
5. (Name not given) spoke in opposition of any tax measures.
6. Tim Smith stated he believes the citizens should be given the opportunity to vote on tax measures.

Council continued to discuss this matter.

Mayor Lingl reminded Council, its previous direction was to remove all tax measures from the Draft Budget discussions and asked Council to provide direction to Staff on how to balance the budget without the use of possible tax measure revenues; he also asked Staff to confirm if Council would be able to make changes to the current stipend amounts for the Mayor and Council Members. City Attorney Joseph Pannone explained any changes made to the stipend the Council and Mayor receive would not go into effect until after the next Council was seated after the November 2018 Election; confirmed each individual Council Member could not take the stipend and have the City retain those funds; and stated if Council approves a motion to include any or all proposed tax measures into the Draft 2017/2019 Biennial Budget discussions, those estimated tax measure revenues would be included in the next budget discussion meeting.

Council Member Starbuck motioned to include a ½ percent sales tax measure in the June 8, 2017 2017/2019 Biennial Budget discussion. The motion was seconded by Council Member Osborne and approved by a 3-2 Council vote (Council Members Vega and Mosby voted No).

With a general consensus Council requested Staff to add full funding for the Lompoc Museum, the Victims Advocate Position inside the Lompoc Police Department, and the Lompoc Chamber of Commerce to the June 8, 2017 2017/2019 Biennial Budget discussion.

Council Member asked Staff to provide a description of all the newly proposed City employee positions in the Draft 2017/2019 Biennial Budget at the June 8, 2017 Special Council Meeting; asked Staff to clarify the estimated \$500,000.00 in real estate revenues on page 129 of the Draft 2017/2019 Biennial Budget; and asked if any approval of a Budget would mean an approval of the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). City Manager Patrick Wiemiller explained the estimated real estate revenues are Staff's estimates of sales from current City-owned real property that has been approved by Council to sell; and stated the CIP and Budget are separate from one another and clarified the CIP is the Staff's best understanding of the City's capital improvement needs and will allow the City to build accurate impact fees for the future capital improvement projects that will need to be completed.

With a general consensus, Council approved to begin the June 8, 2017 Special City Council Budget Meeting at 5:30 P.M. to be held in the Council Chamber at Lompoc City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, CA.

