

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
LA MIRADA CITY COUNCIL  
LA MIRADA, CALIFORNIA  
MAY 10, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 8 a.m. on May 10, 2019 in Community Room AB, La Mirada City Hall, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California. City Council was present with Councilmember Eng, Councilmember Mowles, Councilmember Sarega, Mayor Pro Tem Lewis, and Mayor De Ruse responding to roll call. City Manager Jeff Boynton and Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Anne Haraksin were also present.

**Call to Order**

Mayor De Ruse called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call**

Assistant City Manager Haraksin conducted roll call.

**City Council Workshop**

\*Items were taken out of order.

**(1) Code of Ethical Conduct & Council Procedures.**

City Manager Boynton led the discussion regarding the Code of Ethical Conduct. He said that Section 18 provides that the Code of Ethical Conduct shall be annually reviewed by the City Council to consider any updates. He said the annual review has traditionally taken place during the City Council's Retreat meeting.

The City Council reviewed and discussed the Code of Ethical Conduct. There were no suggested revisions to the Code of Ethical Conduct.

**(2) City Governance.**

City Manager Boynton introduced the item and said as the La Mirada City Council fully transitions to its members being elected by-district, consideration should be given to remain focused on La Mirada as a whole. Suggestions and best practices for ensuring effective citywide leadership were reviewed.

The City Council discussed whether a resolution stating that Council decisions would be made in consideration of the City overall and not individual districts was necessary. Members of the City Council expressed an interest in discussing the item at next year's retreat.

The City Council also discussed the idea of citywide and district town hall meetings. Members of the City Council were supportive of hosting town hall meetings. City Manager Boynton said an item pertaining to the use of City facilities for district town hall meetings would be placed on a future Study Session agenda.

**(3) Department SWOT Analyses.**

City Manager Boynton presented a report on the State of the Departments. The report included information on Department strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and potential threats (SWOT) for Administration and Administrative Services, Community Development, Community Services, Public Safety, Public Works, and the Theatre.

The City Council reviewed and discussed the Department SWOT analyses. The following were discussed:

- Partnering with the League of California Cities to initiate a ballot measure prohibiting the State from passing a law unless it is fully funded in order to stop the erosion of local control. City Manager Boynton said he would consult with the City Attorney's Office and Joe A. Gonsalves & Son to inquire about the process. He also said the City Council could present a resolution to the League of Cities at its annual conference.
- Acquiring the school fields and moving the fence lines so schools can have access during school hours and the City can have access after school and on the weekends.
- Programming for a Farmer's Market. City Manager Boynton said an item pertaining to a Farmer's Market would be placed on a future Study Session agenda.
- Installing a vehicle charging station at City Hall. City Manager Boynton said staff would research the idea and provide information to the Council.

The City Council also discussed the issue of homelessness, the use of energy efficient LED lights, offering professional development and online education to City staff, and facility modifications to enhance the La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts.

**(4) State of City Finances.**

City Manager Boynton provided an overview of the state of the City's finances including General Fund revenues and the General Fund operating surplus. He said the Fiscal Year 2019-20 fund balance is projected to be \$39.19 million. He said the economy is stable and the risk of losing a major sales tax producer is the greatest threat.

**(5) Infrastructure Needs Assessment Update.**

City Manager Boynton provided an update on the list of infrastructure needs and wants. He said that considering what has been completed using Measure I funds during the past seven years, a vast majority of the infrastructure needs has been addressed. He said building improvements and rehabilitation including roof resurfacing, heating and air conditioning system replacements, interior and exterior building paint, ADA renovations, irrigation and turf renovations at sports

fields and all parks, and Neff Park facility repairs and renovations are needed over the next several years.

**(9) City's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

City Manager Boynton said March 23, 2020 will mark the City's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He presented ideas to commemorate the special occasion. He said the milestone anniversary could be celebrated year long and incorporated into City events.

Members of the City Council expressed support for incorporating a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo on the City's publications, banners, program material, and polo shirts. The Council also supported hosting a summer concert at Neff Park.

**The City Council recessed at 11:53 a.m. and reconvened at 12:29 p.m.**

**(7) Housing Update.**

Kristine Guerrero, Regional Public Affairs Manager for the League of California Cities, presented information on housing issues, new housing laws and bills of interest.

The City Council reviewed and discussed Ms. Guerrero's presentation.

City Manager Boynton provided an update on the Regional Housing Needs Assessment, current housing development projects, and LAFCO's municipal services review and sphere of influence.

**(6) Proposed Future Programs and Projects.**

City Manager Boynton presented some of the proposed project and program ideas that would require additional capital, and potentially ongoing operational, funding. The following projects were discussed:

- Major Energy Efficiency-Retrofit Projects: including LED streetlights; solar panels; vehicle charging stations. The City Council expressed an interest in exploring all the energy efficiency retrofit project ideas.
- Public Aesthetic Improvements: including large City welcome sign; Art in Public Places program; painting utility cabinets; median tree lights. The City Council expressed an interest in exploring all the public aesthetic improvement ideas. The Council suggested the Arts Colony provide input on the Art in Public Places program and painting of utility cabinets. City Manager Boynton said reports regarding a proposed Art in Public Places program and a proposed utility cabinet painting program would be presented at a future Study Session.
- Citywide New Sidewalk Installations. Members of the City Council said that a sidewalk policy with criteria would need to be developed if the City were to install sidewalks.

- Enhanced City Recognition Programs – Mayor’s Coin. The City Council expressed support for distributing a commemorative 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coin or lapel pin to volunteers at the 2020 recognition concert.
- Real Estate Acquisitions. The City Council expressed interest in acquiring remnant School District property and sports fields if it made financial sense.
- City Partnerships with Businesses, Utility Providers and Agencies to Assist Residents.
- Technology Enhancements. A concept was proposed where the City would team up with Google or Amazon to create a technology hub or a 5G wireless technology incubator.
- Weekly Farmer’s Market/Downtown La Mirada. The Council was supportive of a monthly Farmer’s Market. The Council expressed an interest in enhancing lighting and signage to create a downtown La Mirada concept.
- Enhanced Public Education. It was suggested that the City use local Registered Nurses to provide services to La Mirada seniors at the Activity Center. It was also suggested the City contact Department of Consumer Affairs regarding future educational programs.
- State of the City Event. The City expressed an interest in having the Chamber of Commerce and service clubs work collectively to plan a State of the City event. City Manager Boynton said he would contact the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary representatives regarding an event.

**(8) Draft Speed Hump Policy.**

City Manager Boynton provided information on the item. He explained the issues regarding the installation of speed humps and presented a draft speed hump policy. He also provided information pertaining to the Public Safety Commission’s recent review of the draft speed hump policy.

Members of the City Council expressed concerns with liability and potential claims resulting from the installation of speed humps. The City Council did not express support for moving forward with the development of a policy.

**(10) Future Retreat Meetings.**

City Manager Boynton provided information on the timing and coordination of the annual City Council retreats. He said that due to the timing of election results, and the potential orientation of a new member to the Council, it might be beneficial to consider holding the retreat later in May or early June and hiring a consultant trainer to facilitate.

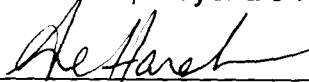
The City Council commended City Manager Boynton on the facilitation of the retreat and said hiring a consultant trainer for next year's retreat was not necessary.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor De Ruse adjourned the meeting at 4:01 p.m.

  
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Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Attest:

  
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Steve De Ruse, Mayor