

LAGUNA NIGUEL CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Emergency City Council Meeting on March 17, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.
Conducted by Teleconference and Broadcasted via Facebook Live

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Davies called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Laurie Davies – Present

Mayor Pro Tem Fred Minagar – Present

Council Member Elaine Gennawey – Present (via teleconference)

Council Member John Mark Jennings – Present (via teleconference)

Council Member Sandy Rains – Present (via teleconference)

City Manager Letourneau provided a statement regarding the format in which the Emergency City Council Meeting would be conducted and stated the meeting is in response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

City Clerk Gomez read a statement submitted via email from Michael Sall, resident, regarding evictions and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-28-20.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Adoption of Resolution No. 2020-1314, Ratifying the Director of Emergency Services' Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency

City Manager Letourneau provided information regarding the City's response to the current local emergency due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Mayor Pro Tem Minagar stated public safety involvement is the number one priority of the City, in addition to the well-being and welfare of all residents during this unprecedented global pandemic.

Council Member Gennawey stated these plans being implemented are developed well in advance. She stated staff has been in constant communication with the City Council regarding how these plans are being implemented. She thanked City Manager Letourneau and staff for their work in implementing these plans. She stated the safety of our residents is the City's number one priority and asked residents to comply with these plans.

Council Member Jennings stated the City has been making every effort to prepare in advance for this time. He expressed his appreciation for public participation and stated that commitment to safety is the City's highest goal. He thanked staff for implementing these plans and for spending significant time to care of residents. He inquired about staff working inside City Hall and asked if inspectors are working out in the field. He thanked staff for making a specific and intentional effort to reach out to seniors to address their needs. He offered to provide grocery store trips and other services for those that are 65 and above and to those in need of services. He encouraged the City Council to do the same and announced that residents can find their contact information on the City website at www.cityoflagunaniguel.org.

City Manager Letourneau stated essential services are being provided by City staff that are still working at City Hall. She stated construction projects were shut down for safety reasons and will start back up when it is safe to do so. She stated several employees fall into the age group of self-isolation and were immediately sent home.

Council Member Rains stated she agreed with the City Council regarding concern for the safety of residents. She thanked City Manager Letourneau and staff for an excellent job of providing information on the City website. She expressed concern for residents that do not have access to this information. She inquired about alternatives for providing contact information to residents including by mail, especially to seniors that are unable to access the City website or do not have internet access.

City Manager Letourneau stated staff is currently using every tool available to provide information to residents including by electronic message boards throughout the community. She stated residents are being redirected to the City website with an understanding that not everyone has access. She stated she was made aware that Cox Communication is providing free internet service to anyone that needs it during this time. She stated that staff will work with HOA's, property managers and apartment complexes and continue to use all communication methods available to keep the public informed.

Mayor Davies stated safety is the City's first priority and access to current information will continue to be provided to residents. She provided the City's website address and encouraged the public to access information at www.cityoflagunaniguel.org.

A MOTION was made by Mayor Pro Tem Minagar, seconded by Council Member Gennaway, to adopt Resolution No. 2020-1314, Ratifying the Director of Emergency Services' Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency Due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Under Government Code Section 8630 and Chapter 11-15 of the Laguna Niguel Municipal Code ("Emergency Preparedness").

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Davies adjourned the Emergency City Council meeting at 9:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Eileen C. Gomez
City Clerk