

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS**

SPECIAL MEETING – December 21, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council met in Special Session at 6:01 p.m., Monday, December 21, 2020, via videoconference, Mayor Chirco presiding. As a result of the State of Emergency in California due to the threat of COVID-19 and pursuant to Governor Newsom Executive Order N-25-20 issued on March 12, 2020, all members of the City Council attended via videoconference.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members: Bates, Doby, Nefulda
Mayor Pro Tem Hasselbrink, Mayor Chirco

Absent: Council Members: None

Present: Staff: Chet Simmons, City Manager
Michael Daudt, City Attorney
Ron Noda, Acting Deputy City Manager
Eric Nunez, Chief of Police
Windmera Quintanar, MMC, City Clerk
Chelsi Wilson, Executive Assistant/Benefits

3. SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

A. Adopt Resolution No. 2020-43 – Support of Orange County Sheriff's Challenge to a Court Order Releasing Inmates from Orange County Jails (City Manager)

On December 11, 2020, the Orange County Superior Court ordered Sheriff Don Barnes to release approximately 1,800 inmates from Orange County jails. The City Council will consider approving a resolution in support of Orange County Sheriff Don Barnes' challenge to this order to assist Sheriff Barnes in his efforts to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Orange County.

City Manager Simmons summarized the staff report.

Mayor Chirco opened the item for Public Comment.

City Clerk Quintanar advised public comments were received in writing, provided to the Council before the meeting, and available online.

Felicity Figueroa, Michelle Po, and Barbara Farrell spoke in opposition to the item.

Mayor Chirco closed the item for Public Comment.

City Council and Staff discussed the following:

- Previous lower level offense inmate releases due to COVID-19 concerns
- Concern for the potential to release serious/violent offenders to meet capacity restrictions
- Clarification tonight's item was a Resolution in support of the Sheriff's action to appeal lower level court decision
- Concern regarding support systems for released inmates including parole, health care, and family support
- Overview of health and safety precautions for jailhouse management
- Concerns for continued operations of jail systems with capacity restrictions
- Concern operations of Orange County jails may not be well understood by the ordering Judge
- Concern regarding the spread of COVID-19 due to the release of inmates in the general population
- Concern for lack of a plan to return released inmates to jail once capacity allows
- Resolution of Support is judicious and fiscally responsible

Motion/Second: Bates/Hasselbrink

Unanimously Carried: The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020-43, entitled, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S CHALLENGE TO A COURT ORDER RELEASING INMATES FROM ORANGE COUNTY JAILS".

ROLL CALL

Mayor Chirco	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Hasselbrink	Aye
Council Member Bates	Aye
Council Member Doby	Aye
Council Member Nefulda	Aye

4. ADJOURNMENT

The City Council adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

Mark Chirco

Mark Chirco, Mayor

DocuSigned by:

Windmera Quintanar

Windmera Quintanar, MMC, City Clerk