

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

SPECIAL MEETING – January 14, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council met in Special Session at 6:01 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2020, in the Council Chamber, 3191 Katella Avenue, Mayor Murphy presiding.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members: Grose, Hasselbrink, Mayor Pro Tem Chirco, Mayor Murphy

Absent: Council Members: None

Present: Staff: Les Johnson, Interim City Manager
David Cain, Fiscal Sustainability Manager
Michael Daudt, City Attorney
Eric Hendrickson, Finance Director
Emeline Noda, Recreation Manager
Ron Noda, Recreation Manager
Windmera Quintanar, MMC, City Clerk
Ron Roberts, Battalion Chief Orange County Fire Authority
Chelsi Wilson, Executive Assistant/Benefits Coordinator

3. SPECIAL ORDER OF THE DAY

A. Interview Applicants for the City Council Vacancy (City Clerk)

The City Council will be interviewing candidates and making an appointment to fill the current City Council vacancy. The term will end November 2020.

City Clerk Quintanar introduced the item. The City Council interviewed applicants Tanya Doby and Alex Duran.

Mayor Murphy thanked the applicants for applying. City Clerk Quintanar explained the process and passed out the Indications of Support. Council made its selections. City Clerk Quintanar read the following Indications of Support aloud: Tanya Doby – 3 and Alex Duran – 1.

Motion/Second: Chirco/Hasselbrink

Unanimously Carried: The City Council appointed Tanya Doby to the City Council with a term expiring November 2020.

City Clerk Quintanar gave the Oath of Allegiance to newly appointed Council Member Tanya Doby.

RECESS

The City Council took a brief recess at 6:19 p.m.

RECONVENE

The City Council reconvened in Special session at 6:26 p.m.

Council Member Tanya Doby took her seat at the dais.

B. Building Future Fiscal Sustainability Program Update (Finance)

The City of Los Alamitos is at a financial crossroads. Future revenue and expenditure projections will require reduction of services, raising taxes, raising fees or a combination of such. As a result, the City developed a 10-20 year financial plan that shows the City must take extraordinary measures to mitigate projected budget deficits and loss of existing cash balances. The challenge facing the city is a projected structural deficit growing from \$1.4M in 2020-21 to over \$3.4M in 2027-28. The deficit is projected to top out at about \$3.7M in 2031. In late 2018, the City proactively focused on developing a plan for "Building Future Fiscal Sustainability".

As a part of the City's Fiscal Sustainability process, critical choices were explored that enable the ability to act timely to avoid or minimize cuts to city services and ensure the City's long-term financial stability. City staff worked closely with the Budget Standing Committee to identify, review and evaluate cost cutting and revenue enhancement options available to the City. The options identified were presented to City Council on August 19, 2019.

A key part of this effort involved the opportunity to engage with the community in order to provide information and obtain feedback. Over a dozen community engagement meeting have been held to date. Constructive feedback along with city service priorities were identified based on input from hundreds of residents. Another critical item was to obtain direct feedback from registered voters, which included conducting of a statistically reliable community survey, which was completed in November.

Interim City Manager Johnson summarized the Staff report. Fiscal Sustainability Manager Cain and Finance Director Hendrickson provided a PowerPoint Presentation.

John Fairbank, FM3 Research Representative, gave a PowerPoint Presentation, summarized the public survey results, and answered questions from Council.

Council Member Grose expressed concerns regarding the sample size of the survey and if it will be enough of a response to base any future decisions on. He also expressed a need to be transparent about the potential deficit and actions that may be taken to ensure sustainability, including potentially cutting essential City Services, and suggested the City of Los Alamitos maintain frugality. He thanked his fellow Council Members that served on the Ad Hoc Budget Committee to better understand the issue.

RECESS

The City Council took a brief recess at 7:34 p.m.

RECONVENE

The City Council reconvened in Regular session at 7:42 p.m.

Interim City Manager Johnson invited the City Council to reach out to him and Staff if any additional questions arise and identified the next City Council Workshop scheduled for February 3, 2020, if necessary.

4. CLOSED SESSION**A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957

Title: City Manager

B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

City designated representative: Michael Daudt, City Attorney

Unrepresented employee: City Manager

City Attorney Daudt read the items aloud.

RECESS

The City Council recessed into closed session at 7:44 p.m.

RECONVENE

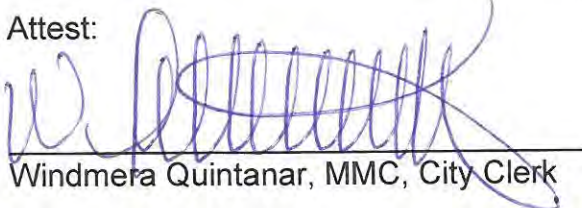
The City Council reconvened in Special session at 8:55 p.m.

City Attorney Daudt stated there was no reportable action.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The City Council Adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Attest:


Windmea Quintanar, MMC, City Clerk
Richard D. Murphy, Mayor