

**PARAMOUNT CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2017**

City of Paramount, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

The adjourned meeting of the Paramount City Council was called to order by Mayor Daryl Hofmeyer at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California.

**ROLL CALL OF  
COUNCILMEMBERS**

Present: Councilmember Gene Daniels  
Councilmember Tom Hansen  
Councilmember Diane J. Martinez  
Vice Mayor Peggy Lemons  
Mayor Daryl Hofmeyer

**STAFF PRESENT:**

John Moreno, City Manager  
John E. Cavanaugh, City Attorney  
Kevin Chun, Assistant City Manager  
Christopher Cash, Public Works Director  
David Johnson, Com. Serv. & Recreation Director  
Karina Liu, Finance Director  
Maria Meraz, Public Safety Director  
Clyde Alexander, Assistant Finance Director  
Angel Arredondo, Code Enforcement Division Head  
Chris Callard, Public Information Officer  
John Carver, Assistant Community Development Director  
Lana Chikami, City Clerk  
Steve Coumparoules, Management Analyst  
Marco Cuevas, Community Development Planner  
Jaime De Guzman, Senior Accountant  
Danny Elizarraras, Management Analyst  
Antulio Garcia, Development Services Manager  
Magda Garcia, Senior Com. Serv. & Recreation Supervisor  
Yecenia Guillen, Asst. Com. Serv. & Recreation Director  
Sarah Ho, Assistant Public Works Director  
John King, Planning Manager  
Adriana Lopez, Assistant Public Safety Director  
Wendy Macias, Public Works Manager  
Jonathan Masannat, Management Analyst  
Patrick Matson, Human Resources Manager  
Tony Pena, Neighborhood Counselor  
Marlene Ramirez, Recreation Supervisor  
Suleyma Rosales, Recreation Supervisor

## PRESENTATIONS

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### 1. PRESENTATION 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CF 39

Mayor Hofmeyer greeted everyone and thanked them for coming out to celebrate the City's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday. He provided some historical information about the city and highlighted the historical display in the back of the room. He announced that there will be other events throughout the year to mark the anniversary and mentioned the Community 1950s Sock Hop on Saturday, March 11, 2017 and the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Heritage Festival on June 10, 2017. He also invited everyone to the January 26, 2017 ribbon-cutting ceremony for the rededication of the new downtown.

Next, the City Council recognized Ms. Jazmine Solorzano, the winning designer of the City's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo, and presented her with a basket of special 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary shirts.

Birthday wishes were extended to the City from the following representatives: Julia Juarez from the Office of State Senator Ricardo Lara, Lynda Johnson from the Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn, and Genesis Coronado from the Office of Congresswoman Lucille Royball-Allard.

(Assemblymember and Speaker Anthony Rendon sent a Certificate of Recognition in honor of the City's birthday.) And, a 60<sup>th</sup> birthday cake was brought out and everyone joined in to sing Happy Birthday to Paramount.

Mayor Hofmeyer recessed the meeting at 5:10 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 5:34 p.m.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

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### 10.3

**Curtis H. Stephens** stated that he has been a Paramount resident for 22 years and actively involved in the city for many years. He said that his neighborhood, when he first moved to Paramount, wasn't nice. The area, however, has changed. He told the City Council that they have been doing a great job and have made a difference. He said that Paramount is a great city with green trees and beautiful parks. He mentioned that he and his wife were nominated as Citizens of the Year through a local church for their work with Paramount kids. He said through prayer and the work of the City and Neighborhood Watch, Paramount has changed. He told the City Council that he has witnessed their hard work and their endeavors to build up the city. He said the City Council has played a key role in the transformation of the city. Mr. Stephens said that he is aware of the current air quality situation in Paramount and is also a concerned citizen and hopes that the problem gets resolved quickly. Because the City Council has a past record of helping the city, he stated

that he has confidence in the current City Council to solve the air quality issue. He told the City Council that they have already made good decisions and believes they will continue to make good decisions. He told the City Council that he supports them. Mr. Stephens also addressed the City Council about the installation of a crosswalk or a speed monitoring system on Alondra Boulevard by Stater Brothers to address safety issues. Mayor Hofmeyer told Mr. Stephens that this issue has been raised before and staff is already looking into this. Mr. Stephens expressed his appreciation and said that he prays that it will happen because he doesn't want anybody to get hurt.

**Shirley Grayson** stated that she has been a Paramount resident for over 40 years and seen the City go through many transitions. When she first came to the city, she was surrounded by dairies. She has watched the City make progress and said that it has been good. Paramount has no evidence of corruption and has demonstrated outstanding leadership. She said that she is proud of that. She then stated that she has been reading many things that have been unsettling and said that it was probably done with great emotion that reflected great concern. She acknowledged that there are some problems that need to be resolved and told the Mayor, Councilmembers, and support staff to be encouraged. She stated that she believes the city will be fine and told the City Council that many residents support them.

**Damon Honaker** asked Mayor Hofmeyer if the hay and feed from his business have been tested. Mayor Hofmeyer told him that the State checks it. Mr. Honaker then asked if the testing of his hay and feed can be made public and said that if it hasn't been tested, he wants to know what is being sent out beyond Paramount.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

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| <p>2. RESOLUTION NO.<br/>17:001<br/>Approving a Bond<br/>Expenditure Agreement<br/>Between the Successor<br/>Agency for the Paramount<br/>Redevelopment Agency<br/>and the City of Paramount<br/>CF 12, 43.1046</p> | <p>Finance Director Liu gave the report and discussed a proposed Bond Expenditure Agreement between the Successor Agency for the Paramount Redevelopment Agency (SAPRA) and the City of Paramount, authorizing a transfer of excess bond proceeds of approximately \$1.5 million from SAPRA to the City. She stated that the City must use these proceeds in accordance to the bond covenants and mentioned that the Oversight Board will consider the agreement at its January 30, 2017 meeting.</p> <p>It was moved by Councilmember Martinez and seconded by Councilmember Daniels to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 17:001, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY</p> |
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COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A BOND EXPENDITURE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY FOR THE PARAMOUNT REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT.” The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Daniels, Hansen, Martinez  
Vice Mayor Lemons, Mayor Hofmeyer  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

3. RESOLUTION NO.  
17:002  
Approving a Settlement  
Agreement for City of  
Paramount, et al. v.  
Cohen, et al.  
CF 12, 43.1047

Finance Director Liu reported that the City and the Successor Agency for the Paramount Redevelopment Agency (SAPRA) filed a lawsuit against the State Department of Finance (DOF). She stated that all parties have recently negotiated a near-final settlement agreement fully resolving the lawsuit, and the proposed settlement agreement provides that the DOF recognizes the Owner Participation Agreement between the former Redevelopment Agency and Falcon Fuels as an enforceable obligation of the Successor Agency with a maximum outstanding obligation of \$2.5 million to be paid with funds from the Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund to the SAPRA over a five-year period.

It was moved by Councilmember Daniels and seconded by Councilmember Hansen to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 17:002, “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT APPROVING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR CITY OF PARAMOUNT, ET AL. V. COHEN, ET AL.” The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Daniels, Hansen, Martinez  
Vice Mayor Lemons, Mayor Hofmeyer  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

4. ORAL REPORT  
Air Quality Update  
CF 31.20

City Manager Moreno stated that the City has learned a lot in the past two months about air quality regulations and gained a better understanding of how to partner with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) and fight for the health of its residents. Discussion with the AQMD, advice from consultants Tetra Tech, and feedback and ideas from the public have enhanced the City’s understanding.

City Attorney Cavanaugh summarized and quoted State Health and Safety Code Section 40449. He stated that this provision of state law grants cities and counties within the AQMD area the right to adopt stricter air pollution control regulations. His office contacted other city attorneys, representing cities within the south coast district, about this provision and found that this section of state law has not been implemented. Additionally, both TetraTech and AQMD were contacted and were not able to identify any city or county who has used this provision to develop their own air quality regulations. TetraTech was consulted about the City adopting more stringent standards than AQMD and stated that it raised a number of concerns, including the City's ability to develop and support scientific data for stricter standards.

Mr. Cavanaugh then said that the City will continue to partner with the AQMD to seek stronger protection for its residents. He also noted that the City has asked the AQMD for a comprehensive human health effects study as recommended by TetraTech. Additionally, he pointed out that much of what has been seen in Paramount is not a failure of more stringent air quality controls. The requirements and rules in place were sufficient to cite and mitigate the emissions from both Anaplex and Aerocraft; however, the City observed a history of citations without follow up enforcement. He commented on the moratorium, the City's support of Rule 1430, and the City continuing to form a strong partnership with the AQMD for inspections and enforcement to yield more immediate and effective results for the City's residents.

City Manager Moreno commented on the expertise of AQMD and the insights of TetraTech, and turned the meeting over to Brian Jordan of TetraTech.

Mr. Jordan gave an update on air quality. He discussed chromium 6, the industrial applications for chromium 6, and the health risks of chromium 6. He provided an overview of the hexavalent chromium readings at the monitoring sites located throughout the city, including the readings at schools. He also talked about efforts that focus on enforcing existing regulations and enhancements, including the moratorium on metal-related businesses, supporting Rule 1430, requesting a human health effects study, and working with the AQMD to conduct business sweeps. He also mentioned the formation of the subcommittee, purchasing and partnering with the AQMD on the installation and operation of City-owned air quality monitors, continuing to work with the Water Control Board and Department of Toxic Substances Control, maintaining the environmental website, outreach efforts with the City's schools, encouraging regional elected officials to

fund and staff AQMD's enforcement efforts, and enhancing the zoning moratorium.

City Manager Moreno reported that subcommittee interviews were held and that the next subcommittee meeting will be held on January 31, 2017 at Progress Plaza.

The following speakers addressed the City Council:

**Kenneth Jones** said that he has been a resident of Paramount for over 20 years and attends the Chapel of Change. He is also the President of the PJAA youth baseball league. He thanked the City Council for their support and help to keep youth out of trouble. He also told the City Council that he supports them and offered encouragement. He encouraged the City Council to stay on top of AQMD and continue to work with them. He said he trusts the City Council to do their job diligently and to make the right decisions for everyone.

**Andres Rivera** asked about the tolerable amount of chromium 6 and how testing is conducted. Dr. Eddie Huang (TetraTech) responded and provided detailed information about the computerized skill and very high level approach used to determine the concentration. He discussed emission, natural flow rate, volume, and the process for determining the rate from the source.

**Vilma Cuellar Stallings** stated that she has lived in the city for 55 years and also commented on her family members residing in Paramount. She then stated that she is heartbroken to see and hear that there is so much division occurring due to the air quality issue. She commented on individuals going up against each other and the City's elected Councilmembers, and acknowledged that everyone has a right to voice their opinions but said that it should be done in a civil manner. Everyone should respect each other even when not in agreement during this period, and she stated that it will take time to resolve the issue. She also stated that she is very concerned about the safety and welfare of Paramount residents, students, faculty, and individuals who work in the city. She emphasized the need to work together. She said she and her husband support the City Council and City Manager Moreno and believe and trust that they will resolve the air quality issues in a timely manner.

City Manager Moreno announced that Dr. Huang and Mr. Jordan would be available after the Council meeting and invited individuals to speak with them regarding questions they may have.

**Lisa Lappin** said that she is the teacher that brought the air quality issue to the City Council's attention and added that no one would be present at the meeting if she had not brought this issue to them. She also said that there isn't anything disrespectful about asking questions, raising concerns, and speaking up for children. She told the City Council that she has never been disrespectful to them. She, however, asks them hard questions that don't get answered and said that she is ignored. She added that she has asked questions several times and has not received answers to them. She then told the City Council that they did not ask Press Forge or Aerocraft to put pollution controls in and improve their house keeping in 2014 when they found out that Carlton Forge had these issues. She said that this is a concern and that it concerns her and should concern every person in the city. She told Mayor Hofmeyer and the City Council that they should have advocated for the city. She said that it should not have fallen on her (who is from another city) to put herself in this uncomfortable position. She said that she has not been enjoying this for the last six years and that it has not been an easy road. She added that she hasn't had support until the last two months. She told the City Council that if they didn't truly know that there was a concern after the 2014 town hall meeting and after the Los Angeles Times article, then they failed in their job because they should have known. And, if it was innocent not knowing, she told them that they still didn't do what was needed. She also told the City Council that it is not disrespectful to want different people elected—it is democracy. She also reminded them that the zoning moratorium was her idea and that she had suggested it at the first town hall meeting and was glad that it passed and hoped that the City Council would extend it for six more months. She hoped the moratorium will be permanent and clarified that companies should be allowed to make improvements or changes but should be required to come before the City for authorization and conditional purposes. She also commented on odors in the city and asked the City Council if they have asked companies to voluntarily put on scrubbers or something to stop the odors. She noted that this was happening on Thursday and Saturday nights and mentioned that residents were calling up until half past midnight on Saturday night and were calling from in front of Carlton Forge and from behind and in front of Lincoln School. She said that she has called AQMD to report this and said that this shouldn't be her job--it should be the Council's job to call and advocate for the community. She encouraged the City Council to start calling on behalf of the community. Ms. Lappin then commented on air monitors. She questioned the validity of a \$5,000 monitor as she said AQMD monitors are \$300,000. She asked the City Council to invest in monitors

that are of the same level as the AQMD monitors, even if it means purchasing fewer monitors. Next, she asked Mayor Hofmeyer if the Health Department tested the fruit by Carlton Forge, previously asked for by Ms. Mendoza. She mentioned that she had sent an email and reminded them that they need to follow up on this matter and make sure that fruit and food are safe. She asked Vice Mayor Lemons if she represented the people or the metal industries as the Executive Officer of the Chamber of Commerce. She added that these questions are not disrespectful and asked the City Council if they thought these questions were disrespectful.

**Laurie Guillen** told the City Council that she is not trying to be disrespectful and that it is not easy for the City Council to sit in their positions nor is it easy for her to stand in her position representing the community. She said that not all of the community may believe what others believe, but that she is representing those individuals directly affected by the air quality issue. She then told the City Council that she knows that they will not answer questions or look at her, and directed her question to City Attorney Cavanaugh. She mentioned that she spoke with him in the morning and said they had a good discussion. She commented on the statement made about other cities not having chosen to utilize legislation and explained the position she and others have taken. She said that other cities and other counties don't have 4 metal forging companies concentrated in a small area. Paramount is different and unique because of all the metal companies. She said that the City brags about its revenue and she applauded the City for that. She commented that it isn't all negative and that it is about enlightening everyone regarding the situation. The City has money and she suggested that the money be used fix the situation. She commented on the statement that litigation might cost too much with the potential to be sued, and suggested that health should be put over wealth. She recommended that the City invest in the community's health, instead of worrying about litigation. She asked if that was unreasonable and then followed with the statement that it is not unreasonable to ask for these things. It doesn't have to be adversarial and she mentioned that she received a call from Assemblyman Rendon's office today. She said that he thanked the community for bringing the air quality issue to his attention. She also said that Assemblyman Rendon said that he has spoken with City representatives who have told him that everything is fine. She said everything is not fine and asked the City to do better. She referenced a Press-Telegram article and read the following question and answer from Assembly Speaker Rendon: Q: "Who or what agency is to blame for what is happening in Paramount?" A: "At the outset, it is



quite obvious that the city did not do their job in terms of ensuring that there was proper licensing, for sure.” Ms. Guillen said that she was not here to be adversarial but to speak for the community that doesn’t feel that they have representation. She also commented on it not being disrespectful to bring awareness and ask questions. She said, however, that it is disrespectful to not answer questions and roll eyes. Ms. Guillen said that more can be done by working together and asked for mutual respect. Next, Ms. Guillen commented on wanting the moratorium passed, but expressed concern about the conflicts of interest and needing a 4/5 vote for its passage. She said that there are two Councilmembers with conflicts and stated that City Attorney Cavanaugh, in an earlier conversation with her, acknowledged that there are two conflicts and told her about a law that will allow one Councilmember to vote in order to get the moratorium passed. And, due to it being a public safety concern, there are exigent circumstances. She expressed concern about passing the moratorium under these exigent circumstances and it then being challenged by an attorney from one of the metal companies saying that it is an invalid moratorium because the City did not have the proper votes to pass it. She suggested getting rid of the conflicts and doing what is best for Paramount and its residents. She added that she is only asking for health over wealth and believes that everyone is important and that the City should do what is right for the health of its citizens and not worry about litigation.

**Damon Honaker** approached Dr. Huang and Mr. Jordan and showed them a video. He commented on a statement about second-hand smoke not having any effect on people, and stated that the statement is false and that second-hand cigarette smoke does affect people. He also stated that he saw smoke emitting from Carlton Forge and pouring onto the street. He also noted that two aunts had to have their knees replaced and that his dog has tumors, and then asked about the impact from the smoke. Dr. Huang provided clarification about earlier second-hand smoke comments, and then commented on the smoke in the video. He stated that sometimes steam may look like smoke from a distance and the intensity of fumes and smoke may be dependent on what is in the air. He said he could not determine the type of compound from the video that was shown to him. Mr. Jordan also talked about emissions and stated that steam and smoke emissions are completely different but may look the same from a distance. He stated that what is in the smoke stack is important but a determination cannot be made from a video. Mr. Jordan offered to talk to Mr. Honaker after the meeting. Next, Mr. Honaker talked about the placement of a

monitor close to where he resides. He said that the smoke was 50 feet from Carlton Forge and asked about wanting more air quality management control at that location.

5. URGENCY ORDINANCE  
NO. 1082

Extending an Interim Urgency Ordinance Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65858 Prohibiting the Issuance of Any Permits, Licenses or Approvals for Construction, Establishment, Expansion or Operation of Any Business Involved in the Manufacturing and/or Processing of Metals, Including, But Not Limited to the Following Operations: Grinding, Sanding, Plating, Electroplating, Welding, Deburring, Heating, Heat Treating, Straightening, Forming, Machining, Cutting, Rolling, Pressing, Forging, Fabricating, Polishing, Milling, Swaging, Conversion Coating, Anodizing, and Passivation Within the M-1 (Light Manufacturing), M-2 (Heavy Manufacturing), and PD-PS (Planned Development With Performance Standards) Zones During the Pendency of the City's Review and Adoption of Regulations of Such Uses; Creating Exemptions Thereto and Declaring the Urgency Thereof  
CF 108:M-1, M-2, PD-PS

Mayor Hofmeyer recused himself due to a conflict of interest and left the dais at 7:00 p.m.

Vice Mayor Lemons took over for Mayor Hofmeyer and said that she had consulted with the City Attorney and was advised that she may have a potential conflict of interest due to an indirect receipt of income from Weber Metals. She disclosed that her adult daughter is employed by Weber Metals and lives at her home.

City Attorney Cavanaugh stated that the Urgency Ordinance under consideration legally requires a 4/5<sup>th</sup> vote to pass and that there is no alternative source of decision other than for Vice Mayor Lemons to vote on this matter pursuant to Section 18704 of the California Code of Regulations, known as the "Rule of Necessity." He then summarized and quoted the Rule of Necessity.

Assistant City Manager Chun gave the report, requesting a six-month extension of the moratorium (Interim Urgency Ordinance No. 1078) adopted on December 13, 2016. He stated that the extension will allow for specific guidelines to be developed, extend the temporary moratorium regarding metal manufacturing and processing businesses, and allow for consideration of further local land use/zoning regulations.

Next, he reviewed the following proposed three exceptions to the moratorium:

- Allow for pollution control/mitigation measures to be implemented, with a Conditional Use Permit, if required by the AQMD
- Allow for facility/property improvements that do not expand production capacity
- Allow for replacement of existing outdated, damaged, or broken equipment that does not intentionally expand production capacity

He also noted that Government Code 65858 allows a city to adopt an ordinance without normal notice procedures to protect the public health and welfare and that an urgency ordinance may be extended for a period of 22 months.

It was moved by Councilmember Hansen and seconded by Councilmember Daniels to read by title only, waive further reading, and adopt Urgency Ordinance No. 1082, "AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT EXTENDING AN INTERIM URGENCY ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65858 PROHIBITING THE ISSUANCE OF ANY PERMITS, OR APPROVALS FOR CONSTRUCTION, ESTABLISHMENT, EXPANSION OR OPERATION OF ANY BUSINESS INVOLVED IN THE MANUFACTURING AND/OR PROCESSING OF METALS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING OPERATIONS: GRINDING, SANDING, PLATING, ELECTROPLATING, WELDING, DEBURRING, HEATING, HEAT TREATING, STRAIGHTENING, FORMING, MACHINING, CUTTING, ROLLING, PRESSING, FORGING, FABRICATING, POLISHING, MILLING, SWAGING, CONVERSION COATING, ANODIZING, AND PASSIVATION WITHIN THE M-1 (LIGHT MANUFACTURING), M-2 (HEAVY MANUFACTURING), AND PD-PS (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT WITH PERFORMANCE STANDARDS) ZONES DURING THE PENDENCY OF THE CITY'S REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS OF SUCH USES; CREATING EXEMPTIONS THERETO AND DECLARING THE URGENCY THEREOF." The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Daniels, Hansen, Martinez  
Vice Mayor Lemons  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: Mayor Hofmeyer

At 7:09 p.m., Mayor Hofmeyer returned to the dais.

#### **COMMENTS FROM STAFF**

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City Manager Moreno announced that City Council meetings will return back to the regular schedule and will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

#### **COMMENTS FROM COUNCILMEMBERS**

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Vice Mayor Lemons commended staff for a great job on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and extended congratulations to Ms. Jazmine Solorzano.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Hofmeyer adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m. to a meeting on February 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

/s/ Daryl Hofmeyer

Daryl Hofmeyer, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Lana Chikami

Lana Chikami, City Clerk