

**PARAMOUNT CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED MEETING  
FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

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 Olmos at 5:05 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 16400 Colorado Avenue, Paramount, California.

**ROLL CALL OF COUNCILMEMBERS:** Present: Councilmember Isabel Aguayo\*  
Councilmember Laurie Guillen  
Councilmember Peggy Lemons  
Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings  
Mayor Olmos

*\*Participated via teleconference*

**STAFF PRESENT:** John Moreno, City Manager  
John E. Cavanaugh, City Attorney  
Andrew Vialpando, Assistant City Manager  
John Carver, Planning Director  
Adriana Figueroa, Public Works Director  
David Johnson, Community Services Director  
Margarita Matson, Interim Public Safety Director  
Kim Sao, Finance Director  
Rafael Casillas, City Engineer  
Clyde Alexander, Assistant Finance Director  
Rebecca Bojorquez, Management Analyst  
Chris Callard, Public Information Officer  
Steve Coumparoules, Management Analyst  
Danny Elizarraras, Management Analyst  
Sarah Ho, Assistant Public Works Director  
Nicole Lopez, HR Manager  
Heidi Luce, City Clerk  
Wendy Macias, Public Works Manager  
Anthony Martinez, Management Analyst II  
Daniel Martinez, Information Technology Analyst I  
Ivan Reyes, Associate planner  
Johnnie Rightmer, Building & Safety Manager  
Elida Zaragoza, Information Technology Specialist

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**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC COMMENT UPDATES**

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**CF 10.4** City Manager Moreno responded to comments made by Alejandro Yanez at the February 1, 2022 City Council meeting.

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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**CF 10.3** The following individuals addressed the City Council and provided public comments: Claudia Castaneda, Dolores Hurtado, and Alejandro Yanez.

City Manager Moreno provided a brief overview of the City Council's Rules of Decorum and Procedures explaining what is and is not allowed during public comment.

In response to Mr. Yanez' comments, Mayor Olmos commented that the City Council has had discussions regarding handball at several City Council meetings and individual City Council members have held numerous meetings with handball enthusiasts and the

Community Services Director over the last several years to seek ways to accommodate the request for handball. She noted that staff also provided a comprehensive report at the March 2021 City Council meeting and reviewed the facts presented at that meeting. She also reviewed the efforts the City has made over the last several years to provide handball at the City's existing handball courts which resulted in very limited participation. Lastly, she reviewed the results of the adult recreation survey conducted by the City which listed soccer, slow-pitch softball and basketball as the top three activities requested for adult recreation programming. In summary, she commented that all of these actions combined, show that there is no community-wide interest in participating in handball in the City of Paramount.

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#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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| 1. RESOLUTION NO. 22:012<br>Continuing the Declared State Emergency and Reauthorizing the Use of Remote Teleconferencing Provisions pursuant to Government Code Section 54953 through March 17, 2022.<br>CF 10.5 | <p>It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 22:012, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT CONTINUING THE DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY AND REAUTHORIZING THE USE OF REMOTE TELECONFERENCING PROVISIONS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953 THROUGH MARCH 17, 2022."</p> <p>The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:</p> <p>AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen, Lemons; Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings; and Mayor Olmos</p> <p>NOES: None</p> <p>ABSENT: None</p> <p>ABSTAIN: None</p> |
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#### **OLD BUSINESS**

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| 2. ORDINANCE NO. 1161 (Adoption)<br>Amending the Contract Between the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System and the City of Paramount to Terminate the Police Member Retirement Group Plan<br>CF 76.2 | <p>Assistant City Manager Vialpando gave the report.</p> <p>It was moved by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings and seconded by Councilmember Lemons to read by title only, waive further reading, and adopt Ordinance No. 1161, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA AMENDING THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT TO TERMINATE THE POLICE MEMBER RETIREMENT GROUP PLAN" The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:</p> <p>AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen, Lemons; Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings; and Mayor Olmos</p> <p>NOES: None</p> <p>ABSENT: None</p> <p>ABSTAIN: None</p> |
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## **NEW BUSINESS**

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3. ORAL REPORT  
City Attorney  
Presentation of City of  
Paramount's Street  
Racing Enforcement  
Program  
CF 79.20, 79.21

City Attorney Cavanaugh, joined by LASD Paramount Station Lieutenant Omar Camacho, CHP Street Racing Enforcement Lieutenant Joseph Zagorski, Deputy District Attorney Kelly Tatman and City Engineer Rafael Casillas, presented a series of comprehensive PowerPoint presentations providing a detailed overview of the City of Paramount's Street Racing Enforcement Program and the efforts being undertaken to address street racing and intersection takeovers in the City.

City Attorney Cavanaugh also reviewed several actions that will be taken over the next several months to further enhance the City's street racing enforcement program.

During the presentation, the City Council expressed appreciation for the comprehensive local enforcement efforts related to this regional, state and nationwide problem, and encouraged residents to continue calling to report these types of activities. It was suggested that an abbreviated version of the presentation be posted on the City's social media platforms. Additionally, the City Council expressed interest in receiving a report and suggestions for implementing some of the traffic calming items presented.

4. RESOLUTION NO.  
20:013  
Approving the  
Acquisition of 16247  
Vermont Avenue,  
Paramount, California  
CF 82:Ver

Planning Director Carver gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Councilmember Guillen left the dais at 7:55 p.m. and was not present during consideration of this item.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 22:013, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT SETTING FORTH ITS FINDINGS OF FACT AND DECISION RELATIVE TO APPROVING THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 16247 VERMONT AVENUE IN THE M-1 (LIGHT MANUFACTURING) ZONE, AS SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "A" AND DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED EXHIBIT "B" IN THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT." The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Lemons;  
Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings; and  
Mayor Olmos  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Councilmember Guillen  
ABSTAIN: None

Councilmember Guillen returned to the dais.

5. APPROVAL  
Amendment No. 2 to Agreement with AKM Consulting Engineers for Continued Construction Management/Inspection Services; and  
Amendment No. 3 to Agreement with Bucknam & Associates for Continued Program Management for Water Well 16 (City Project No. 9116)  
CF CIP 9116
- Public Works Director Figueroa gave the report and presented a PowerPoint presentation.
- Mayor Olmos called for public comment from the speaker that submitted a public comment request for this item. The speaker, Mr. Yanez, was no longer present.
- It was moved by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings and seconded by Councilmember Aguayo to approve the following items:
1. Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement with AKM Consulting Engineers for continued construction management/inspection services for Water Well 16 and authorize the Mayor or her designee to execute the amendment.
  2. Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement with Bucknam & Associates for continued program management for Water Well 16 and authorize the Mayor or her designee to execute the amendment.
- The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:
- AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen, Lemons; Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings; and Mayor Olmos
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- ABSTAIN: None
6. RESOLUTION NO. 22:009  
Approving and Adopting the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Midyear Municipal Operating and Capital Improvement Budget and Authorizing the City Manager to Administer Said Budget and Make Such Changes As May Be Necessary During the Fiscal Year to Maintain Standards and Levels of Services and Achieve the Intent of the City Council in Providing Municipal Services for FY 2022  
CF 28.1
- Finance Director Sao gave the report and provided PowerPoint presentation. During the presentation, Assistant City Manager Vialpando briefed the City Council on two additional employee programs that involve cellphone stipends and bilingual pay that will be brought before the City Council in the coming weeks but have been included in the midyear budget.
- In response to Councilmember Guillen regarding the steps listed in the full-time and part-time salary tables, Assistant City Manager Vialpando explained that each step, in the five-step tables shown, represents a 12-month period of time. Councilmember Guillen suggested that the City consider incorporating a seniority pay system for those employees that have longevity with the City.
- Also in response to Councilmember Guillen, regarding the proposed bilingual pay program, Assistant City Manager Vialpando explained that the policy is currently being drafted; but will not be based on a limit per department and the less advanced tiers will not involve testing, rather just the ability to speak and understand Spanish..
- Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings commented that she would be supportive of incorporating a longevity pay policy in the future.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to read by title only and adopt Resolution No. 22:009, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARAMOUNT, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2022 MIDYEAR MUNICIPAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ADMINISTER SAID BUDGET AND MAKE SUCH CHANGES AS MAY BE NECESSARY DURING THE FISCAL YEAR TO MAINTAIN STANDARDS AND LEVELS OF SERVICES AND ACHIEVE THE INTENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN PROVIDING MUNICIPAL SERVICES FOR FY 2022." The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen,  
Lemons; Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings;  
and Mayor Olmos  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

7. CONSIDERATION  
Approval of Amended  
and Restated City  
Manager Employment  
Agreement  
CF 43.1026

City Attorney Cavanaugh gave the report.

It was moved by Councilmember Lemons and seconded by Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings to approve the Amended and Restated City Manager Employment Agreement between the City of Paramount and John Moreno. The motion was passed by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Aguayo, Guillen,  
Lemons; Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings;  
and Mayor Olmos  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

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**COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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**Councilmembers**

Councilmember Aguayo encouraged residents to not let a language barrier prevent them from coming to City Council meetings. She also reminded residents that the LA Kings will be hosting a hockey clinic tomorrow followed by a watch party for the US Women's Ice Hockey gold medal game. She thanked all of the presenters for the comprehensive street racing presentation and encouraged resident to continue call in to report these types of illegal activities. She expressed appreciation for the strong relationship the City shares with the various agencies.

Councilmember Lemons reported that at the last SEALCO meeting, it was announced that SELACO will working with local communities in moving toward more regionally focused job fair events that will be supported by SELACO, but run by local entities like chambers of commerce. She thanked all of the volunteers that showed up for the Caltrans cleanup event this past Saturday.

Councilmember Guillen commented that she appreciates the collaborative effort between LASD, CHP to address illegal street racing and intersection takeovers. She also reminded residents to stay alert and remain vigilant to help prevent burglaries

Vice Mayor Cuellar Stallings commented that the Caltrans freeway clean-up was very successful and thanked the volunteers. She also thanked the presenters for the thorough street racing enforcement presentation and encouraged resident to continue calling to report street racing activity. She reported that at the recent PUSD adhoc committee meeting they discussed implementing a pilot pick-up program next school year at Paramount Park Elementary School to address traffic congestion issues.

Mayor Olmos expressed appreciation to Speaker Anthony Rendon for his efforts in making the Caltrans cleanup happen last weekend. She also commented that she attended the PHIT program last weekend and encourage residents to participate in the free program at our local parks.

### **Staff**

City Manager Moreno reminded residents that the City offers live translation during the City Council meetings, as well a translator to interpret any public comments, and encouraged residents not to let language be a barrier.

City Manager Moreno introduced the City's new Building & Safety Manager Johnnie Rightmer.

City Manager Moreno mentioned that City staff will be meeting with Caltrans representatives on Friday to conduct a debriefing from last weekend's freeway cleanup event and asked the City Council to provide any feedback to staff to be shared with Caltrans.

City Manager Moreno also reminder the public that City Hall and the City Yard will be closed on Monday, February 21, 2022 in observance of the President's Day Holiday; but, the Sheriff's Station will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Lastly, regarding environmental sustainability, he reported that the City achieved Tree City USA designation once again and staff presented information on the City's new organic waste recycling program at a recent Paramount Chamber of Commerce meeting.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

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At 7:56 p.m. Mayor Olmos recessed the meeting to closed session to discuss the matter listed below.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -  
EXISTING LITIGATION pursuant to Govt. Code  
Section 54956.9(d)(1) - State of California v. Janssen  
Pharmaceutical; State of California v. Pharmaceutical  
Distributors

Mayor Olmos called the meeting back to order in open session at 8:16 p.m.

City Attorney Cavanaugh reported that the City Council conducted a duly authorize closed session to discuss the matter listed above and unanimously took action to enter into the Participation Agreement with the State of California to receive an amount of approximately \$176,000 in the settlement; and as a result of that action, the City Manager will execute the agreement and forward to the State of California.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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There being no further business to come before the City Council, Mayor Olmos adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m. to a meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. on March 1, 2022.

*/s/ Brenda Olmos*

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Brenda Olmos, Mayor

ATTEST:

*/s/ Heidi Luce*

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Heidi Luce, City Clerk

APPROVED: March 1, 2022

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