



General Council Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2023

Via Zoom Call

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1. Call to Order & Welcome: President Kilpatrick, 7:00 p.m.
2. Flag Salute: Led by: Mr. Baldwin
3. Invocation: Led by: Mr. Baldwin
4. Roll Call: Treasurer Donna Libra - Present: Kilpatrick, Leon, Yu, Libra, Ahlers, Lewin, and Mueller Not Present: Rodriguez, Baghdassarian, Ordubegian and Suh
5. Approval of April Meeting Minutes, **Motion** to approve by Councilmember Lewin, Seconded by Councilmember Mueller. Approved unanimously.
6. Approval of Amended May agenda (move Lions Club to item e. under Community Announcements), **Motion** to approve by Councilmember Lewin, Seconded by Councilmember Libra. Approved Unanimously.
7. Community Reports (3 min and questions
 - a. Youth Council – No update given.
8. Presentation – Los Angeles County Public Works (trash service contract) – Ms. Thompson (Assistant Deputy Director) and Ms. Johnson (Manager, Waste Collection Services) gave the following presentation: First, please reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns about your trash service. We've heard you are pleased with Burtec, and that's great, but let me know if you have any changes or thoughts about improving their service. **PowerPoint Presentation titled: Los Angeles County Residential Franchise – Solid Waste Collection Services.** Current trash collection contract is with Burtec, which commenced in April 2014, and is set to expire next year. **Basic Services provided under that contract** – Separate curbside collection of trash, recyclables, and organic waste; Each customer receives three 96 Gallon Trash Cans

(Black, Blue and Green); Once per week collection; and Free roll-out service to qualifying residents; Senior Discount for those that qualify (25%); Combined Compost/Mulch Give Aways and Paper Shredding Events (2 per year), Sharps Container Collection (2 containers per year); Holiday Tree Collection; Containers for community clean up events; Excess Refuse Collection up to 4x per year up to 5 bags per pick up; Excess green waste collection is up to 4x per year up to 10 bags or bundles per pick up; E-waste collection up to 4x per year up to 10 items per pick up; note: waste collector does not collect Household Hazardous Waste; other services are available for a fee like: A second Blue or Green can, Bear Cans and 4 On-Call pick-ups per year of bulky item collection. New Services Proposed: All Bear Resistant Cans; Minimum Can Roll Out on Bike Lanes (will utilize sidewalks more in certain areas to avoid them being in bike lanes); Green Waste drop-off events (2 per year); No collection in School Zones (30 minutes prior to school starting and ending). **Process:** County releases a Request for Proposal (this details the scope of work and is released to all County registered private waste haulers; Waste haulers submit a proposal; Evaluation Committee reviews proposals and gives each proposal a score; A recommendation is then submitted to the Board of Supervisors who then awards the contract. **Next steps:** Incorporate community feedback into scope of work; initiate solicitation process; Seek Board approval to award contract and then conduct additional community outreach prior to start of new services. Contact Info: 1(888) 253-2652 (CLEANLA) and trash@PW.LAcounty.gov and website CleanLA.com. Report Illegal Dumping – 1(888) 8Dumping or the Works App. President Kilpatrick – Thank you for coming here today to make this presentation to our community. Council and Community Questions – Can you talk a little more about minimizing the trash cans in the bike lanes. Answer – This is to keep the bicyclist safer and not make them go around trashcans in the bike lane into traffic. Business or residential owner will now place the trashcans on the sidewalks. Question – Will we have an opportunity to give feedback on the RFP prior to submission to Waste Haulers. Answer – We try to solicit feedback so that we are making the RFP as inclusive as possible when it goes out to bidding, but it also depends on the services requested and the cost(s) of that service. After we finalize the RFP and waste haulers submit their proposal... we will try to be as transparent as possible, but it generally moves on to the next step in the process i.e., going before the Board of Supervisors. Question – It would be nice to know what some of these additional services will cost the residence of the community. I like all the proposed services, but it also would depend on how much it is going to cost the community. Answer – True. It's just very difficult to say what the cost will be to you, when we have very little control over what bids come in and for how much. Therefore, it is hard to make a guess on costs to residents, when we are not doing the bidding. Question – Just to be sure I am understanding, so the costs of the services we are receiving are not going to go up correct. Answer – Correct. The rates will stay the same at least up until 2024, and we may extend it passed that as well to give us more time to make sure we have the right contract in place. Therefore, we are likely looking at 2025

when the new contract would go into place. Question – In regard to the composting organic waste into the green cans, and the extra costs that go into that service. What data do you have on how much that will cost the community, and will that be a big factor in the bids that come in. Answer – If the costs of that service were to go up, it would likely be from other factors as that service has already been accounted for. This is a statewide initiative to reduce methane gas and landfill volume. Please also note, we have a survey online so please fill that out. Please reach out with any feedback you have and any extra services you think would benefit the community. Question – What can be added to the contract to address the illegal dumping issue we have. Answer – I would not say it is a minor cost, but again, if it is important to the community to try and add a dumping service, then it would go out to the bidders as such, and we would see what we get. Comment – Also consider that I have seen guys in trucks going around picking up items. So that is another option. Additional comment by the County – Because illegal dumping is a growing issue around LA County, we are looking at implementing other measures to try and combat this growing problem. Comment from the community – To me, it would be more valuable to get extra service in the ten or so problem areas on a weekly basis than some of these other services I saw outlined in the presentation.

9. Community Reports (Continued):

- b. Sheriff – Operating Sgt. Ron Manassian (on behalf of Cpt. Rob Hahnlein) gave the following updates – Statistics for April – Part One Crimes – 1 rape, two residential burglaries, twenty larcenies (11 were Catalytic Converters) and 4 GTA. Part 2 Crimes – 2 Narcotic incidents, five identity fraud incidents. We issued 150 citations and forty-six warnings. Compared to last year at this time – Assaults were down, non-residential burglaries were down, residential burglaries up. Citations are up. What areas are you seeing the citations issued the most. Answer – The school area mainly. That is where we are seeing the most citations. Also, in a bit of good news, the Supervisors Office approved extra officers on duty during the summer. We are getting three new deputies.
- c. Los Angeles County Fire – Local Battalion Chief for Station 66 – Month of April – We had forty-nine responses, thirty-nine of which were medical aid calls, and we transported twenty-seven people to the hospital. No fires in the month of April. We’ve completed 1,061 fire inspections in this area so far, which is 55% of the total area. We are making good progress. Only three properties were said to have violations. Questions – Do they notify the residents that you’ve been out there and do you let them know when you’re are coming. Answer – If you are in compliance, the firefighters will submit the form saying you’re in compliance electronically. If you are not, you will get a notice saying as much.

- d. CHP – Officer Keller gave the following updates – We had a total of twelve traffic collisions and two of those were hit and runs, and four of them had parties injured. In April we conducted a few special enforcement operations looking for issues with commercial vehicles. Things such as speed, unsafe lane changes, not being in the far-right lane, too heavy of a load etc. We are also doing Aggressive Driving Enforcement Operations. This includes unsafe lane changes and following too close behind. We are always looking to hire. Please send any candidates our way. Question - How do we get somebody to specific areas in our community. Answer – I will give you my card and please let me know of these situations. We need to know the day/time and where this is happening. Comment – can you please address the issue of speeding around CV High School. It is very dangerous and a problem. Answer – Yes. We will continue addressing this issue and trying to get our officers out there.
- e. CV Chamber – Mr. Mike Baldwin gave the following updates – We just recently had our Hometown Country Fair event and it was a success. We had around 4,500 guests. On Monday the 12th of June, we will be having our Golfing fundraising event at Scholl Canyon Golf Course. It will start at 7:30 a.m. and will be a shotgun start (everyone tees off at the same time at different holes).
- f. CV Cert – No update given.
- g. CV Ready - Fire Council – no update given
- h. CV Water – No update given
- i. CVCA – No update given.
- j. GUSD – Ms. Etchian (Superintendent) and Ms. Friedman (Board member) gave the following updates – Graduation at CV High School is almost here. It will be on June 7th. Today I was able to congratulate 3 Teams: Pacific League Champion Varsity Boys Swim Team; Pacific League Champion Varsity Boys Volleyball Team, and finally, our CIF Champion Girls Lacrosse Team. There was recently a Student Voice Panel at Mountain Ave. Elementary. They had a lot to say about the food they eat, how they like to be treated in class and not having to play in specific zones on break. It was great to hear their feedback and they are truly leaders. I speak to the principals of our various schools and talk about speed and traffic safety. Being patient when dropping their kids off. On Monday we had a CV PTA meeting and are going to have a test run at half the students staying on campus. Then the next week, having the entire school not leave the school for lunch. Questions – Is there any plan to open the entrance to the school on Altura Ave. It has been closed for quite sometime but was helpful in limiting traffic congestion. Answer – At this point we are being super cautious. We want someone at every entrance to look out on who is coming into our school. Question – In terms of closing the campus for lunch. Some students like to go home for lunch. Answer – Keep in mind, food is free on campus. Also, I see kids order food delivered to campus all the time. We are also looking at improving other areas and it is not just about lunch. Many things are happening at the same

time. Comment – it might also help with some of the speeding we have when students leave the campus. This was an issue a long time ago, and I was against it then, but times change, and things are different now. Now I see the benefits. Final note – nothing has been decided on whether we will permanently be closing the campus at lunch. That decision has not been made yet.

- k. Land Use Committee – Ms. Ines Chessum gave the following updates – Our next meeting is the 1st Thursday of every month. It takes place at the library starting at 6:30 p.m. One of the issues we talked about was the design standards ordinance for all residential property. We had a presentation from the County at our LUC meeting. Their intent is to make the streets more pedestrian friendly and walkable. They are dictating where someone can place their garage. I sent along the design standards proposed and the LUC’s letter in response. This does not make sense for area. Many homes in La Crescenta would be non-conformant with this new design standards for garages. Question – Does this only apply to new construction. Answer – Yes this only applies to new construction. Comment – One of the reasons they are pushing for this is to get more people to use public transportation. The problem is, public transportation corridors have the smallest lots, which do not accommodate the new design standards for garages. Ms. Chessum reads the proposed letter written by the LUC, to the County, documenting the communities’ concerns. **Motion** to approve the proposed letter written by the LUC in re: The new design standards ordinance by Councilmember Leon, Seconded by Councilmember Lewin. Approved Unanimously. Nothing new to report regarding the hotel project. Lastly, about the Area Plan, a consultant has not been hired yet, and that is the next step in the process that the county is working on. They did say we can work on our CSD before we finalize the Area Plan. That is a very important thing we need to amend, and amend it quickly.

10. Community Announcements (2 minutes)

- a. Library: Ms. Martha Wiggins gave the following updates – June will be a busy month. On June 6th we have our Sacred Circle Event starting at 6 p.m. at the Library. On Saturday the 10th, we will be having our acrylic painting workshop. Please register on our website as there is limited seating. June 13th, we have Popsicle Art for Teens event. They will make popsicle campuses. On the same day we also have a Quilt Day where people can come to the library and get a square to complete and contribute to the overall design. Then on June 21st we will have a Sherlock Holmes, Who Done It musical. Story Time Event is back for some select days in June and July. The Book Club will also be coming back soon.
- b. Park & Rec – No update given
- c. American Legion – Mr. Mike Baldwin gave the following updates – We have our Armed Forces Day coming up on Saturday. Starts at 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Two-Strike Park. We will have a car show and some emergency vehicles. Also coming up is our Memorial Day service at Two-Strike Park starting at 8:00 a.m. This is put on by

the Parks Department. The Boy Scouts are having their Bingo night on June 24th at the Elks Lodge. First game starts at 6:00 p.m. There will be thirteen games and you will have forty chances to win.

- d. Promplus/Firehouse – No update given.
- e. Lions Club – Mr. Steve Mack, President of the Lions Club, gave the following updates – I am glad to be here with you all today. I'm also the treasurer and community outreach Director at St. Luke's. In fact, we meet at St. Luke's. We meet twice a month. . Wed. and 3rd Wed. of every month. In the summer we meet at the courtyard area and the winter we meet inside. Our local club is 79 years old. We are a service organization. We are involved in a few things, such as: We had a program called Cases for Kids. We collect backpacks and other items to be distributed to foster kids. We also give out scholarships to the students of this community based on service. We are active supporters of events like promplus and firehouse. Please keep in mind, Firehouse is always looking for volunteers. They still have their Wednesday morning breakfast for Rosemont students. It is very important that we have volunteers there. St. Luke's also has a community garden where we provide food to needy individuals. We are having a food drive this Saturday and this will go to all members of the community. Part of it will also go to the Bailey Center. Please come out and attend one of our events and find out a little more about us. Thank you for having me here today.

10. Public Comments

Public Comments and Community Announcements: This is for non-agenda items only. Please submit a speaker card to the President or Vice President. Speakers are allowed 2 minutes. Council may ask questions or respond to the speaker but there will be no debate or decision. The President may refer the matter to the appropriate committee for investigation and report.

- a. Ms. Chessum asks the following questions – Can we do anything about this proposed price increase by CV Water. We are all going to have to pay the bill for all this new infrastructure they need to build in order to make their system compatible with all this affordable housing that is proposed for our area. Council answers – We can try and write a letter to the County and to the Supervisor's office. We can only do so much, but yes, it does not seem right. We'll see what we can about it. Further comments – CV . er is having a forum on this issue on June 13th, so it is likely a good idea for people to go. It will be at 6 p.m. at the Water District.
- b. What can the Council do to help us out with the speeding issues on Community and other streets around the school. Council answers – We have heard about this

problem and are continuing to try and address it. We document all the complaints we received into a matrix and pass that information along to CHP and Sherriff's department and other County agencies. The County is doing a traffic study in some of these areas around the schools. Public Works is currently working on this with us. They are talking about more signage and speed bumps in certain areas. It is a very slow process though, and it takes time. We are also a part of a task force that investigates this issue, and we try and pass along any information we receive. Please send us an email with the exact days and times these incidents occur, and we will pass that information along.

- c. I heard that CV Water was going to speak and be here. I guess they did not. To me it was a huge deal for us to get a letter for CV Water about increasing our property taxes. In my view, it should be on a regular bill not on our property taxes. They do not even spell it out in their letter where the tax is going. They do not specifically say property taxes in their letter. We need to get the word out to the community about this and try and get people involved in any vote they have about this. They are counting on the community not going out and voting. Council – Yes. We'll get the word out there about this and try and spread the news on this.

11. Council Business

- a. Treasurer's Report: Councilmember Libra - **Motion** to approve the April Treasury report as received by Councilmember Lewin, Seconded by Councilmember Leon. Approved unanimously.
- b. Corresponding Secretary –
- c. Committee Reports
 - a. Scholarship Committee – **Motion** to award 5 scholarships in the amount of \$300 each by Councilmember Leon, seconded by Councilmember Lewin. Approved unanimously.

12. Adjourn: the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.