



General Council Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2023

Via Zoom Call

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Please turn off or silence cell phones while inside the Council meeting

1. Call to Order & Welcome: President Kilpatrick, 7:03p.m.
2. Flag Salute: Led by: The Girl Scouts
3. Invocation: Led by: Councilmember Ahlers
4. Roll Call: Recording Secretary: Jeffrey Rodriguez - Present: Kilpatrick, Ahlers, Leon, Ordubegian, Rodriguez, Lewin, and Mueller Not Present: Baghdassarian, Yu, and Suh.
5. Approval of August Meeting Minutes, **Motion** to approve by Councilmember Ordubegian, Seconded by Councilmember Ahlers. Approved Unanimously.
6. Approval of the Amended September General Meeting Agenda (1. Adjourn the meeting in honor of the deputy from Palmdale that was killed. Our condolences to Sheriff's Department 2. Agenda item added to Council Business in re: Proposed Rehab Center at 3011 Francis and 3. Prior to public comments, remind the speakers that they only have 2 minutes to speak) **Motion** to approve by Councilmember Leon, Seconded by Councilmember Ordubegian. Approved Unanimously.
7. Community Reports (3 min and questions
  - a. Youth Council – No update given.
8. Presentation – Los Angeles County Tax Collector (Short Term Rental Regulation) – What is an example of a short-term rental: Air BnB. A short-term rental is classified as renting out a location for less than 30 days in a row. The county code is not changing with this particular ordinance, this is to merely help regulate the code. Currently there are very little regulations in place to monitor and enforce short-term rental violations. This ordinance requires people to meet certain qualifications to obtain a short-term rental license, where currently there is none. Once you obtain a license, you have to continue

to meet certain standards/regulations e.g., duration of stay at the rental location, requiring people to live at the rental location for a certain period of time, and continually monitoring and enforcing the various regulations this ordinance looks to put in place. If this ordinance passes, more staff will need to be hired to deal with all the application, monitoring, guidance, and enforcement of the regulations.

Council/Community Questions or Comments – Tax per night for a Short-term rental is the same as a hotel. Answer – Yes. that is correct. Question – how are you going to deal with upset neighbors who are just complaining because they do not want an “STR” next to them... how will you protect the STR people who are following the rules. Answer - That is where the \$914 application fee comes in to obtain a license. Those funds will go towards the hiring of staff to evaluate situations like you’re describing and come to an unbiased conclusion. Question – Nobody asked if we wanted “STR” in our area. We already have an issue with ADUs in our area. Answer – Please keep in mind, the STR ordinance has been on the books since 2019, we are just looking to possibly amend the already existing ordinance that has very little regulations to it. Question – Is there a way for someone to know how many STRs are in the area. Answer – Not currently, but we may have something like that on our website. We can discuss the possibility. Comment – This is going to make our area less desirable if we allow for STRs to come into the area.

9. Community Reports (Continued):

- b. Sheriff – Cpt. Rob Hahnlein gave the following updates – Statistics for August – Part 1 Crimes – 1 rape (17-year-old male was with a 13-year-old female) 1 robbery – a crew stealing a CC at a residence, 1 commercial burglary, and 15 Larcenies. Part 2 Crimes – 4 vandalism, 5 identity/fraud incidents and 1 narcotic incident. We issued 150 citations and 52 warnings. Wallet thefts are on the rise. Be careful out there. They bump into you and then they steal the wallet. Trunk or Treat is coming up and it's open to everybody. This will be at our Sherriff's station. Casino night got postponed and we will get another date and I will let you know when it is. Community/Council Question – Can we do a haunted jail. Answer – we do not have enough volunteers to pull something like that off. President Kilpatrick mentions the slain officer who was killed on duty. I would like to take a second to thank the Sheriff, Fire, CHP and all the first responders for all they do to keep us safe. Councilmember Ordubegian reads the letter sent to the Sherriff's department expressing our condolences for their tragic loss.
- c. CHP – Officer Keller gave the following updates – For the month of August we had 9 Traffic Collisions, and 1 of those was during a police pursuit and another was a DUI. School is back in session, and we are out there in force. We are on the lookout for vehicles not parking where they should. Please pay attention to your speed and stay off your cell phone. For the entire San Fernando Valley, we issued 2,075 citations. We are still hiring. Please let anyone know that is interested. Officer Boyd reports on an unusual incident for this area that recently took place – Around 11:35 p.m., on

- the E. 210 freeway near Oceanview, we initiated a stop because we notice erratic driving and arrested the driver for suspicion of DUI. While they were inventorying his vehicle they found several narcotics, scale, a machine gun, several high-capacity magazines and \$8000 in cash. They secured a search warrant of the suspects residence and conducted it on Sept 20 in the early morning. They found a large number of illegal firearms, ammunition, high magazine conversion kits, and around 18k in cash. Council/Community questions or comments - Question – Did the suspect live in La Crescenta. Answer - It was in the Glendale side of La Crescenta. Comment – Thank you for keeping our area safe from criminal activity such as this. We really appreciate you stopping this individual and getting them off the streets.
- d. Los Angeles County Fire – Marie Grycan gave the following updates - For the month of August – We had 94 responses, 62 of those were medical calls, and we transported 44 people. We also had 3 fires (Cooking fire, vehicle fire, and a structure fire in the middle of the hurricane). The house fire was accidental and electrical in nature. We have an emergency notification/evacuation system called Genaysis. Everybody is now broken up into different zones, and you can get alerts for your specific zones via an app on the phone, landline etc. if a zone color changes in your area, you will get a notification. Website address: [Protect.genaysis.com](http://Protect.genaysis.com). Community comment – The app is really easy to use. You can follow your zone on the app. It is great.
  - e. CV Chamber – Mr. Mike Baldwin provided the following updates – Crescenta Valley Chamber has moved. We are now co-located where the CV weekly is located. Robin Goldsworthy is now the President of the Chamber. We are going to have a mixer on October 12<sup>th</sup> at Pennsylvania and Foothill. It is being put on by a salon. They will have a taco truck if you are hungry.
  - f. CV Cert – No update given.
  - g. CV Ready - Fire Council – no update given.
  - h. CV Water – There was a main break over the Rosemont Bridge and we are investigating the extent of the damage. We are also repairing a main break on Montrose Ave and are working with Glendale to repair the paving around the area. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.
  - i. CVCA – No update given.
  - j. GUSD – No update given.
  - k. Land Use Committee – Ms. Ines Chessum gave the following updates – Our last LUC meeting was on September 7<sup>th</sup>. We had the developer there to discuss the project at 2906 Fairmont St. The developer explained his recommendations for the site, and the concerns of Public Works regarding the set-back and catch basin. PW has asked us for a recommendation on an Urban vs. Rural design for this project. At the meeting, the LUC recommends leaving as is (rural design) if the catch basin does not need to be moved and the street widened. If it does need to be moved, then the LUC recommends going with an urban design. In follow-up conversations, PW

indicated the catch basin did have to be moved. Therefore, the LUC recommends to the CVTC an urban design for the Fairmont project. **Motion** to accept the recommendation by the LUC to send a letter to PW recommending an urban design for the project by Council member Leon, seconded by Councilmember Libra, Approved unanimously.

10. Community Announcements (2 minutes)

- a. Library: Ms. Martha Wiggins gave the following updates – It is the community that makes this library so vibrant. We had 11,600 patrons walked through the library in August. We have adult programs such as our Adult Book Club Program. We have story time for the kids. We had a gardening class and students got to take home their plants. I also want to give a shoutout to the library staff. We had an emergency the other day and the staff managed it really well thanks to their training. My staff is trained in CPR and how to use a defibrillator. We have also had narcotics overdose training. We are a top tier library and second in LA County as far as the volume we do (book circulation). First is Culver City, then us, and then Diamond Bar.
- b. Park & Rec – No update given.
- c. American Legion – Mr. Mike Baldwin provided the following updates - This Saturday the VFW is doing a Memorial for suicide awareness in regard to our veterans. There will be a vigil from 11-2.
- d. Promplus/Firehouse –

13. 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. Stuart B. (Development)– We have so many new developments that are going to be happening soon. We all have to pay attention to what they are trying to build in our area, and how it will change our community. We have to stand up and say no thank you.
- b. Michael (Development)– Some of us want the look of the community to stay the way it is and others are okay with more development. Do we want our buildings to keep getting taller and taller? We understand some building is needed but let's also be mindful to try and preserve as much of the community look and feel as we can.

- c. Rebecca A. (STR) – Better Neighbors supports the STR ordinance discussed today. We want to keep housing in this area for people to live not for tourist.
- d. Layla B. (STR)- Corporate entities are buying houses to rent them out. There are people who have 90 homes they rent out. Better Neighbors supports the proposed ordinance.
- e. Sarah G. (STR)– We represent local 11 and we support this STR ordinance in La County. It has been shown that having STRs in an area actually raises the cost to rent in that area.
- f. Mike VM (Rehab Center) – Lived here for 6 years. We love this community. We are against the Rehab Facility coming to this area. They keep changing what it is going to be used for and you cannot get an honest answer about much of anything it seems.
- g. Nanor (Rehab Center) – As mentioned, they keep changing what the website says and there is a clear pattern of deceit to make this place look like a spa. I am against the rehab facility. **Presents the Council with a petition signed by 572 residents of the community that are against the Rehab Center.**
- h. Dean B. (Rehab Center) – I would like to voice my opposition to the rehab facility. There will be parking issues. There is no parking on Francis. There is no parking on Ramsdell. This house in the backyard of a neighbors with children, and that does not seem safe.
- i. Kevin Murphy (Rehab Center) – I am pretty heated about this topic for a lot of reasons already mentioned, but also, I have read many articles stating that having a rehab center in your area brings a decline in property value. I am against the Rehab Center.
- j. Suraiya (Rehab Center) – I have been living here since the 70's. I went to CV and La Crescenta Elementary. We do a lot of nature walks right in front of the property, and there are kids playing around it all the time. This is a terrible place for a Rehab Center, and I am against it.
- k. Javier B. (Rehab Center) – I am the next-door neighbor to this facility. This house does not match the area. There is no house in the area that looks like this. It was supposed to be a mansion now it's a rehab facility. I am against the proposed Rehab Facility being built.
- l. George A. (Rehab Center) – I used to live next to a house like this in Hollywood and it was terrible. There were constant issues, and the police were routinely called. My sister also used to live near one, and I had to go over there regularly to kick someone out of their property that came from the rehab center.
- m. Shahin (Rehab Center) – On the website it originally mentioned all types of sex addiction being treated at the center, and then when quickly took it down. Treating that type of addiction is not good with so many children running around the neighborhood. I am against the rehab center.
- n. Paula Sosa (Rehab Center) – Against the rehab center for all the reasons already stated.

#### 14. Council Business

- a. Treasurer's Report: Councilmember Libra - **Motion** to approve the August Treasury report as received by Councilmember Ordubegian, Seconded by Councilmember Mueller. Approved unanimously.
- b. Corresponding Secretary – No update given.
- c. Committee Reports
  - a. Scholarship Committee – No update given.
  - b. Streets and Transportation – Councilmember Mueller gave the following updates – No big updates at this time, but I will report back on the many projects in the queue when their status changes.
  - c. Community Outreach – Pancake Breakfast will be on October 14<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke's Church, from 7 to 11 a.m.
  - d. Public Comments – Council discussion on the topics there were presented by the community during public comments. **Motion** for the Town Council to write a formal letter to the Supervisors Office explaining what occurred at our General Meeting (during the public comment section) and attach the petition that was provided to the Town Council by residents of the community who are in opposition to the rehab center by Councilmember Ordubegian, Seconded by Councilmember Libra, Approved Unanimously. **Motion** to respond to the Tax Collectors Office that we agree with more regulation for STRs, as long as other concerns are also addressed e.g., staffing, effectiveness, a sharp increase of more STRs in our area and costs by Councilmember Leon, Seconded by Councilmember Ordubegian. Approved Unanimously.

12. Adjourn: the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.