



**CITY OF LATHROP  
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2021, 6:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
390 Towne Centre Drive, Lathrop, CA 95330**

**MINUTES**

**PLEASE NOTE: The Special Meeting commenced at 6:01 p.m. Closed Session followed after the conclusion of Item 4.1.**

**1. PRELIMINARY**

1.1 CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Dhaliwal called the meeting to order 6:01 p.m.

*Director of Government Services / City Clerk (City Clerk) Teresa Vargas provided an overview on ZoomGov login instructions for those joining virtually.*

1.2 ROLL CALL Present: Mayor Dhaliwal; Vice Mayor Torres-O’Callaghan;  
Councilmembers: Akinjo, Diallo and Lazard

Absent: None

1.3 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Vice Mayor Torres-O’Callaghan provided the pledge of allegiance.

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

2.1 LATHROP POLICE DEPARTMENT PROJECT UPDATE, GG 21-11

City Manager Stephen Salvatore provided an overview of the progress in the Chief of Police recruitment process; announced upcoming recruitments of the Police Department Command Staff; upcoming vehicle purchases, and the upcoming acceptance of the new Lathrop Police Department Station. City Clerk Teresa Vargas announced public comment letter, dated August 2, 2021, for Item 2.1, submitted by Neal Lawson.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

On a motion by Councilmember Lazard, seconded by Vice Mayor Torres-O’Callaghan, the City Council approved the Consent Calendar, by the following roll call vote, unless otherwise indicated:

Ayes: Akinjo, Diallo, Lazard, Torres-O’Callaghan, and Dhaliwal  
Noes: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

3.1 AWARD CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AND RATIFY PURCHASE ORDERS FOR CIP GG 21-09 CITY HALL RENOVATIONS

Pulled by Councilmember Diallo. City Manager Stephen Salvatore provided additional information regarding the item.

Adopted **Resolution 21-4930** awarding a Construction Contract to Hale Construction, Inc. and ratified Purchase Orders with DLD Design & Consulting for CIP GG 21-09 City Hall Renovations.

4. **SCHEDULED ITEMS**

4.1 CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION REGARDING REGULATION AND PERMIT OPTIONS FOR CANNABIS ACTIVITIES IN THE CITY OF LATHROP

City Attorney Salvador Navarrete provided a brief overview and introduced City Planning Consultant David Niskanen (JB Anderson Land Use Planning). Mr. Niskanen provided the presentation, which included the purpose of the discussion, background on prior City Council Meeting discussions on the matter, the application process, development of potential regulations for commercial cannabis use, overview of a potential selection process, application requirements and fees, and next steps and implementation actions as provided by the City Council. A question and answer period ensued throughout the presentation.

Javier Nuñez (Lathrop resident, in person speaker) spoke in support of permitting commercial cannabis activities; supported the merit based system for local Lathrop businesses. Donald Jimenez (Lathrop resident, in person speaker) spoke in support of permitting commercial cannabis activities; cited potential sales tax revenue for the city and accessibility of cannabis products. Michael Bittaw (Lathrop resident, in person speaker) spoke in support of permitting commercial cannabis activities; supported the developer agreement process; and provided a copy of a memorandum for the record, from City of Stockton Police Chief Eric Jones to City of Stockton City Manager Harry Black, dated July 27, 2021, regarding data related to Cannabis Dispensaries in Stockton. Jennifer McGrath (ZoomGov speaker) introduced herself as an Attorney specializing in land use and business regulations for cannabis; provided information related to Prop 64 (The Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act); and spoke in support of permitting commercial cannabis activities and the use of the developer agreement process. Brendan Floyd (ZoomGov speaker) spoke in support of permitting commercial cannabis activities; cited medicinal benefits for health and mental illnesses. Nicolaus (Nick) Cortez (Lathrop resident, in person speaker) spoke in support of permitting commercial cannabis activities; cited medicinal benefits for health and mental illnesses.

The City Council continued their discussion on the matter. Vice Mayor Torres-O'Callaghan expressed interest in an ordinance to allow options for the regulation and permitting of cannabis activities; supported the concept of commercial business hours to match surrounding businesses; and

supported the developer agreement process. Councilmember Diallo expressed interest in an ordinance to allow options for the regulation and permitting of cannabis activities; supported the developer agreement process; did not support the use of light industrial zoning areas or properties near school zones; supported commercial zoning areas and the use of the developer agreement process. Councilmember Lazard expressed support for the matter; expressed interest in implementing similar application processes used by City of Tracy, Stockton and Riverbank. Councilmember Akinjo opposed the matter. Mayor Dhaliwal expressed support on the matter; and supported allowing one cannabis dispensary per 50,000 residents; and limiting businesses near school zones. Council consensus provided staff with direction to prepare an ordinance for review by the Planning Commission and subsequent consideration of the City Council, for regulation and permit options for cannabis activities.

Mayor Dhaliwal adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 7:58 p.m.

**5. CLOSED SESSION**

- 5.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL: Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)
- 1 Potential Cases

**RECONVENE** – Mayor Dhaliwal reconvened the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

5.2 REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Salvador Navarrete reported that direction was provided to staff; no other reportable action was taken.

- 6. ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business, Mayor Dhaliwal adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

  
Teresa Vargas, CMC  
Director of Government Services / City Clerk

*This meeting was called by a majority of the City Council per Government Code Section 54956.5. Members of the public interested in addressing the City Council during this Special Meeting may address the item(s), which have been described in the notice of this Special Meeting in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.3(a).*