

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the La Mesa City Council  
Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.  
Northmont Elementary Auditorium  
9405 Gregory Street, La Mesa, California 91942

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From 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., members of the public were encouraged to visit informational displays by the Public Works, City Clerk, Community Development, Community Services, Fire and Police Departments.

Mayor Arapostathis called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Mayor Arapostathis; Vice Mayor Alessio; Councilmembers Baber, McWhirter and Parent.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: City Manager Garrett; City Attorney Sabine; City Clerk Wiegelman; Assistant City Manager Humora.

**TOWN HALL MEETING**

**A MEETING WITH THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS LA MESA AND ITS FUTURE**

The Mayor and Members of the City Council welcomed everyone to the meeting and made opening comments.

City Manager Garrett made an announcement regarding the City's actions in response to the incident that took place at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dawn Tol, resident, spoke regarding homelessness, the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018, and the actions the City intends to take to improve the culture of La Mesa.

Sandra Giordano, resident, spoke about City streets, City streetlights, and pets in public places.

Bruce Akins, resident, spoke regarding traffic concerns on Pomona Avenue.

Dave Hartenberger, resident, spoke regarding traffic lights, traffic flow, and his experience with the La Mesa Police Department.

Helen Yapura-Weiler, resident, spoke regarding her concerns with a group home on Joel Lane.

A female resident spoke regarding her concerns with a group home on Joel Lane.

Rebecca McRae, resident, spoke regarding her experience with the La Mesa Police Department.

Cathleen Mills, resident, spoke regarding illegally grown marijuana and the ramifications of Measure U.

Michael Sexton, resident, spoke regarding crime in the City of La Mesa.

Aeiramique Blake spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the City's response to the incident.

Angela Harbin, resident, spoke regarding traffic concerns on Severin Drive, Amaya Drive and Gregory Street, an active beehive on De Camp Drive, the City of La Mesa's trailers and motorhomes ordinance, people parking on sidewalks, and the training of La Mesa police officers.

Kevin Mimms, resident, spoke regarding the City of La Mesa's street sweeping policies.

Marie Knox, resident, spoke regarding her concerns with the flight path of commercial planes.

Edward Pezanoski, resident, spoke regarding his concerns with eucalyptus trees on Gregory Street and the trolley's impact on traffic flow within the City of La Mesa.

Carlos, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018, his conflicting feelings towards the La Mesa Police Department, and ways to bring the community and the La Mesa Police Department together.

Renita Payno, resident, spoke regarding air pollution and the City's response to the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

Mahamed, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the City's response to the incident.

A female resident spoke regarding her concerns with City sidewalks.

Mollie Robertson, resident, spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the City's response to the incident. She also mentioned her concerns with the City's coyote population.

Leslie Gallop asked the Police Chief to comment on the Police Department's School Resource Officer training and de-escalation training.

John Schmitz, resident, spoke regarding the Council subcommittees and the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

Kay Black spoke regarding the La Mesa Police Department's protocols for detaining students and the City's response to the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018.

Tasha Williamson spoke regarding the actions of the juvenile involved in the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the culture of the City of La Mesa community. She encouraged people to not judge others.

Nora Pedraza spoke regarding the incident that occurred at Helix High School on January 19, 2018 and the City's response to the incident.

Senior staff members responded to the questions and concerns of the speakers.

The Mayor and Members of the City Council made closing comments.

No action was taken by the Council.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Arapostathis adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Megan Wiegelman, CMC  
City Clerk