

**Menifee Public Safety Committee  
MINUTES  
Tuesday, June 9, 2020  
Regular Session 3:00 PM**

**City Council Chambers  
29844 Haun Road  
Menifee, CA 92586**

**Matt Liesemeyer, Chair  
Lesa Sobek, Committee Member**



**REGULAR MEETING (3:00 P.M)**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Matt Liesemeyer called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present were: Committee Chair Matt Liesemeyer, Committee Member Lesa Sobek, Assistant City Manager Jeff Wyman, Executive Assistant Mandy Stephens, Code Enforcement Officer Andrea Montes, City Engineer/PW Director Jonathan Smith, Community Services Director Jonathan Nicks, Community Services Manager Jason Hendrix Park Ranger Amanda Ingraham, Fire Captain Scott Philippbar, Fire Marshal Sonya Bu, Riverside Sheriff Deputy Roger Doyle, Police Chief Pat Walsh.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)**

None.

**5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

5.1 March 10, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes.

The committee members approved the minutes unanimously (2-0) with no modifications.

**6. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

6.1 Fire Department Monthly Report

Fire Captain Scott Philippbar provided the monthly report and reported on the significant incidents for the months of April and May. He said that due to COVID-19, fire stations had been closed and that call volume has been down, but had increased in the past four weeks. He also informed the committee that drive by birthdays had been very successful during the past three months.

Committee Member Sobek asked why there was a decrease in call volume. Fire Captain Philippbar said it was because people were worried that

firefighters may be infected with the coronavirus. He reported that there have been no positive tests for any of the firefighters in Riverside County.

Fire Marshal Sonya Bu gave an update for the months of March, April and May. She stated that there have been 80 more residential inspections during April and May. She also reported that there had been daily inspections at the Krikorian site until mid-May, when they stopped. She said that inspections will resume at a later time.

#### 6.2 Riverside County Sherriff Staff Monthly Staff Report

Deputy Doyle provided the monthly report for March, April and May. He said this would be the last meeting that would have a representative from the Sheriff's Department as Menifee would have their own Police Department by the time of the next meeting in July. He said there had not been a significant change in numbers for police activity and they had been taking a reactive approach to calls. The Committee and Police Chief Pat Walsh thanked the Sheriff's Department for their service to the City of Menifee.

#### 6.3 Code Enforcement Monthly Staff Report.

Code Enforcement Officer Andrea Montes provided the Code Enforcement statistics for the months of March, April and May. Officer Montes said that Code Enforcement had been taking a reactive approach to their cases and limiting their notice of violations, except for weed abatement, which they continued to monitor closely. The department has used this time to work on completing open cases.

Committee Member Sobek asked about campaign signs that she had seen around the community. Officer Montes said that under the direction of the previous Code Enforcement Manager, they had been told not to touch election signs and that they would seek direction from Police Chief Walsh. Chief Walsh also said that he will be working on streamlining communication between the departments and look into the ten-day rule for election signs.

#### 6.4 Animal Control Monthly Report

No representatives from the Animal Control were present.

#### 6.5 Public Works/Engineering Report

City Engineer/Public Works Director Jonathan Smith provided the statistics for the months of March, April and May.

City Engineer/Public Works Director Smith stated that the Scott Road Interchange was now fully functional and the LED streetlight conversion had been completed. He also said that his department provided traffic control to Riverside Sheriff Officers (RSO) during the recent protests, while also working on a sinkhole on the same day, which was due to an Eastern Municipal Water District waterline.

Committee Member Liesemeyer asked about the speed survey. City Engineer/Public Works Director Smith said they would be wrapping up in the next few months and is working with RSO and Menifee Police Captain Gutierrez. Committee Member Liesemeyer also inquired if speed signs record data. City Engineer/Public Works Director Smith said they do not and he was working to purchase speed radars.

Committee Member Liesemeyer asked if there was an update on the Salt Creek Trail. Community Services Director Nicks responded as his department is overseeing the project. He said that one mile, located by Hemet, was completed and four miles of Menifee were being worked on. There had been some delays but they were looking at completion by October 2020. Committee Member Liesemeyer asked if it would be open for pedestrians and if there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony, Director Nicks said yes. Committee Member Sobek asked if there would be a ribbon cutting for Scott Road and Director Smith said it would be a virtual ceremony.

Committee Member Sobek asked about the Krikorian site and if there was a wall coming down. Director Smith said the structure was made of large lego type bricks, over rebar, put in concrete. It is a 14-foot hollow wall and the wind blew it over. He says it had been inspected every day and no wall was lost.

#### 6.6 Community Services Monthly Report

Park Ranger Ingraham provided statistics for the months of March, April and May.

Park Ranger Ingraham said they had been following the County's orders in regards to the parks and COVID-19 and that the most recent update was that the restrooms were now open to the public and dog parks remain closed. Maintenance crews have been sanitizing all park equipment. Committee Member Liesemeyer asked about the status of the skate park and Park Ranger Ingraham said it was still closed and would open in phase 3 of the County's reopening plan.

Committee Member Sobek asked how Social Workers Action Group (SWAG) had been assisting during COVID-19 and Park Ranger Ingraham said they had offered hotel vouchers but many people did not accept them. She said they had also been working with 211, Community Cupboard and detox services. Community Services Manager Hendrix also stated that SWAG would be coming back to assist but did not know to what extent and it would be something to discuss with Menifee Police Department. He said it would be a collaborative effort with Code Enforcement, Park Rangers, SWAG and the Police Department. Committee Member Liesemeyer asked about the Independence Day firework show. Community Services Manager Hendrix said Deputy Doyle would be helping with the traffic plan and Black Hawn Security would be assisting with managing social distancing. The Mt. San Jacinto College (MSJC) parking lot would be open from 6:00pm and there will be a pre fireworks show, videos and the fireworks show would start at 9:00pm and last approximately 30 minutes. There will be a total of 407 parking spots; each car will be given two car lengths and people are encouraged to purchase food from local restaurants

as barbecuing is not permitted. He also stated that the fireworks would be set off from Bell Mountain Middle School and that the vehicles would be able to hear the accompanying music for the show by tuning into the Q103.3 radio station.

6.7 School Districts Monthly Report

No representatives from the School Districts were present.

**7. STAFF COMMENTS**

Assistant City Manager Wyman said that staff have been working hard during COVID-19 and the protests and coming up with solutions to any problems arising.

Police Chief Walsh said that the protests have been peaceful and handled well by RSO and that Menifee Police Department would need training from RSO on how to handle these situations. He also let the Committee know that there would be a soft opening for the new Police Department as they were unable to do a grand opening.

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMENTS ON COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

None.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Liesemeyer adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.



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Mandy Stephens, Executive Assistant