

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS**

SPECIAL MEETING – MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The City Council met in Special Session at 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 13, 2009, in the Council Chambers, 3191 Katella Avenue, Mayor Edgar presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members: Mejia, Stephens, Poe and Edgar

Absent: Council Members: None

Present: Staff: Nita McKay, Interim City Manager
Dean Derleth, City Attorney
Todd Mattern, Police Chief
Angie Avery, Recreation & Community Services Director
Steven Mendoza, Community Development Director
Susan C. Vanderpool, City Clerk

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

At this time any individual in the audience may come forward to speak on any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council. Please state if you wish to speak on an item on the Agenda. Remarks are to be limited to not more than five minutes.

Mayor Edgar opened Oral Communications.

Dave Emerson, resident, thanked the Council for rescheduling the meeting to accommodate Council Member Mejia's situation. He thought there were some good candidates but was afraid a decision regarding appointment had already been made.

JM Ivler, resident, appreciated that Council had rescheduled the meeting to accommodate Council Member Mejia, adding his wish for a unanimous decision on the appointment of the new City Council member.

Debbie Feldman, resident, stressed the importance of appointing someone who could be unbiased, and urged Council to do the right thing. She went on to speak about an event that would take place on April 26th at Oak Middle School regarding non-denominational counseling services.

Carol Sylvia, resident, stated former Mayor Dean Grose had not humiliated the community with his passing on of an email. She thought the Associated Press had blown the situation out of proportion which had created a media storm.

John Ellinger, resident, did not think former Mayor Dean Grose should have resigned from office.

Mayor Edgar closed Oral Communications.

4. Interviews for the City Council Vacancy

The City Council interviewed candidates to fill the current City Council vacancy, an unexpired term that ends November 2010.

Mayor Edgar stated staff had conducted an earlier random draw of candidates' names, and asked City Clerk Vanderpool to call each one in turn to the podium.

The City Council then interviewed: Brad Sheridan, Pete Carvajal, Anne Yee, Candace Dewitt-Drucker and Dean Zarkos.

Mayor Edgar opened the floor to nominations.

Council Member Stephens nominated Anne Yee. The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Mejia nominated Brad Sheridan. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Pro Tem Poe nominated Dean Zarkos, seconded by Mayor Edgar. The following roll call vote was conducted:

Roll Call

Council Member Mejia	Nay
Council Member Stephens	Nay
Mayor Pro Tem Poe	Aye
Mayor Edgar	Aye

The motion did not carry.

Mayor Pro Tem Poe nominated Candace DeWitt-Drucker. The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Mejia nominated Pete Carvajal. The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Mejia suggested meeting in Closed Session for further deliberations, and Mayor Pro Tem Poe agreed.

City Attorney Derleth advised against doing so, stating even though Council was appointing a replacement, the position was an elected one and any appointment should be made publicly.

Council Member Stephens pointed out if the Council remained deadlocked on all the candidates, the City would have to hold a costly election. Because of this, Council Member Stephens stated he would support Constantine Zarkos.

Mayor Pro Tem Poe thanked the candidates for coming, and added it was great to have such good people interested in the position. She then thanked Johanna Schlueter for applying; however, the application had been turned in after the deadline.

Mayor Edgar expressed appreciation for the candidates' interest in serving on the Council.

Council Member Mejia thanked all candidates for coming, and stated she felt forced into making a quick decision. She felt an independent candidate should be chosen, and not one brought forward by the Council majority.

Mayor Edgar asked for further nominations, and Mayor Pro Tem Poe nominated Dean Zarkos.

Motion/Second: Poe/Edgar

Carried 3-1 (Mejia cast the dissenting vote): The City Council appointed Constantine "Dean" Zarkos to the City Council seat vacated by former member Dean Grose. The expiration of this term of office will be November 2010.

Roll Call

Council Member Mejia	Nay
Council Member Stephens	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Poe	Aye
Mayor Edgar	Aye

City Clerk Vanderpool gave the Oath of Office to Constantine "Dean" Zarkos, and he then seated himself at the dais.

5. CLOSED SESSION

A. Conference with Labor Negotiator

Agency Negotiators:	Nita McKay, Interim City Manager and Dean Derleth, City Attorney
Employee Organization:	Executive Management, Middle Management and Non-Management Employees; Police Officers' Association; and, the City Employees' Association
Authority:	Government Code Section 54957.6

B. Public Employee Appointment

Title:	City Manager
Authority:	Government Code Section 54957

C. Conference with Labor Negotiator

Title:	Conference with Labor Negotiator
City Representatives:	Dean Derleth, City Attorney
Unrepresented Employee:	City Manager
Authority:	Government Code Section 54957.6

City Attorney Derleth read items 5A-C, and the City Council recessed into Closed Session. The Closed Session was conducted from 8:42 p.m. to 12:54 a.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Edgar reconvened the meeting at 12:55 a.m., and stated there was no reportable action.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 a.m. The next meeting of the City Council is scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2009, at 5:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers.

Troy Edgar, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan C. Vanderpool, City Clerk