

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STANTON
SPECIAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

1. **CLOSED SESSION** None.

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Mayor Warren.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mr. Kevin Carr.

4. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Council Member Ethans, Council Member Ramirez, Mayor Pro Tem
 Shawver, and Mayor Warren.

Absent: None.

Excused: Council Member Donahue.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

5A. **TRANSITION TO DISTRICT BASED CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS – FIRST PUBLIC HEARING**

The City Council adopted a Resolution of Intention on July 11, 2017, initiating the process to transition to district-based elections. Subsequently, the City entered into a contract with National Demographics Corporation ("NDC") to provide demography and district map preparation services. Tonight's Public Hearing represents the first of two required Public Hearings to be held prior to the preparation of draft district maps. In addition, staff will have the opportunity via the City's website to provide information on the districting process to the community and invite public input. Draft district maps created by NDC as well as submitted by members of the public will be presented to the Council and community during subsequent Public Hearings.

Each of the required steps is outlined in a proposed transition schedule presented for Council's approval. To begin the process of creating district boundaries, staff is recommending the Council determine the number of proposed districts and whether or not the office of Mayor is directly elected by the voters. To further aid in developing draft district boundaries, the proposed Resolution presents specific criteria in compliance with state and federal law.

Introduction by Mr. James A. Box, City Manager.

Presentation by Mr. Justin M. Levitt, Vice President, National Demographics Corporation:

- Introduction to Districting
- Election System
- California Voting Rights Act
- Impacts of the California Voting Rights Act
- Project Timeline
- Criteria and Demographics
- Districting Criteria
- Defining Communities of Interest
- Demographic Summary
- Key Community Input

The City Council questioned disenfranchisement of the City's communities and the costs associated with a decision not to transition to a district based election system.

The public hearing was opened.

- Mr. Kevin Carr, Resident, spoke in favor of the City's transition to district based elections, in opposition to the idea of an at-large Mayor, believes that the mapping process should be handled by impartial judges, and commented on the noticing process for these types of public hearings.
- Mr. Norris P. Nguyen, Resident, spoke in opposition to the City's transition to district based elections and the City's current neighborhood activities.
- Mr. David Cadena, Resident, spoke in opposition to the City's transition to district based elections and disagrees with the idea that Stanton residents feel disenfranchised.
- Mr. Robert Lewis, Resident, spoke in opposition to the City's transition to district based elections and commented on the noticing process for these types of public hearings.
- Ms. Barbara Quintana, Resident, spoke in favor of the City's transition to district based elections and commented on the noticing process for these types of public hearings.
- Mr. Jerry Ristrom, Resident, spoke in opposition to the City's transition to district based elections, regarding the City's strong efforts in their community engagement and outreach, and his disagreement with the idea that Stanton residents feel disenfranchised.
- Ms. Jessica Cedillo, Resident, expressed her gratitude to the City Council for providing her with the opportunities that she has been given to actively participate, intern, and volunteer with the City, and commented on the noticing process for these types of public hearings, stating that should residents who want to be active and involved would make an effort and be present like she has at this meeting.
- Mr. Bud Heitman, Resident, spoke in opposition to the City's transition to district based elections and questioned Mr. Justin M. Levitt on how and where the demographic data was collected.

No one else appearing to speak, the public hearing was closed.

The Mayor stated that the following items (4 and 5) would be heard at the second public hearing, which is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 3:00 PM (City Council Special Meeting at Stanton City Hall/Council Chambers - 7800 Katella Avenue, Stanton, CA 90680).

4. Exercise City Council discretion in determining the number of proposed districts and/or whether the office of Mayor shall be directly elected; and
5. Adopt Resolution No. 2017-34 entitled:

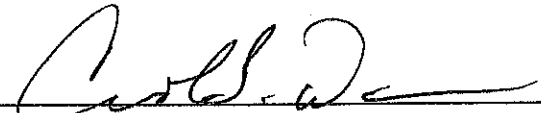
“A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STANTON ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR SINGLE-MEMBER VOTING DISTRICTS FOR THE ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS”.

Motion/Second: Ethans/Ramirez
Motion unanimously carried by the following vote:

AYES: 4 (Ethans, Ramirez, Shawver, and Warren)
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: 1 (Donahue)

1. The City Council finds that this item is not subject to California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to Sections 15378(b)(5)(Organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment); and
2. Conducted the first of five (5) required public hearings related to the creation of geographic districts and the drawing of district boundaries; and
3. Approved the proposed schedule for transitioning to district-based elections, as required by the Resolution of Intention.

8. **ADJOURNMENT** Motion/Second: Warren/
Motion carried at 4:05 p.m.



MAYOR

ATTEST.



CITY CLERK