

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Monday, August 19, 2013.

Following the Invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Michael Orozco, 1<sup>st</sup> grade student at Aspire Titan Academy in Huntington Park. The meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Gomez. Present: Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Karina Macias, and Mayor Mario Gomez; Absent: None.

Mayor Gomez and City Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Michael Orozco for leading the flag salute at the City Council meeting August 19, 2013.

Interim City Attorney Litfin called for public appearances and requested the City Council resolve into a closed session for the following

## **12. CLOSED SESSION**

### **12.3 Pursuant to California Government Code 54957, PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE**

Marilyn Boyette, former City Clerk of the City of Huntington Park from 1976-2001 and Women of the Century, informed City Council that her statement at the August 5, 2013 City Council meeting covered the responsibilities of the City Clerk which were carried out with honesty, integrity, without prejudice and dedication to the City by City Clerk Ramirez for the past 12 years. Ms. Boyette stated that City Clerk Ramirez has been targeted and falsely accused. Ms. Boyette urged City Council to do what is right and just.

Jim Roberts, former Council Member for the City of Huntington Park from 1970-1990, apologized for not being able to present a statement at the August 5, 2013 City Council meeting and asked City Council to eliminate the issue involving an honest, valued and unprejudiced employee of the City. Mr. Roberts urged the City Manager to allow City Clerk Ramirez to continue to do her job as she has done for the past 12 years.

Rodolfo Cruz addressed City Council in support of City Clerk Ramirez.

Richard V. Loya, former Mayor and Council Member for the City of Huntington Park, briefed City Council on the definitions of ethics and professionalism. Mr. Loya addressed City Council in support of City Clerk Ramirez.

Elisa Rudolph-Perez addressed City Council in support of City Clerk Ramirez and urged City Council to do the right thing.

Linda Caraballo, former Council Member for the City of Huntington Park, addressed City Council in support of City Clerk Ramirez

Sandy Orozco, longtime resident of the City of Maywood and southeast community activist representing individuals suffering from Multiple Sclerosis, addressed City Council in support of City Clerk Ramirez.

Mayor Gomez declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 6:19 p.m.

Following the closed session, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 6:40 p.m. Present: Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Karina Macias, and Mayor Mario Gomez; Absent: None.

Interim City Attorney Litfin reported out that in closed session, there was no reportable action taken.

Mayor Gomez and City Council presented a Certificate of Recognition to Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) participants who completed the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Justice 2013 Summer Training. Angie Zavala, representing

CBE, thanked Council Member Macias for being the contact person in the City and for recognizing CBE participants of the Justice 2013 Summer Training. Anabel Vazquez briefed City Council regarding the CBE youth participants' experience in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Justice 2013 Summer Training.

Bahram Fazeli, Policy Director with Communities for a Better Environment, displayed a PowerPoint presentation by Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) regarding the proposed Huntington Park Brown to Green Implementation Plan.

**There being no objection, Mayor Gomez removed from Consent Calendar, Item No. 6.4: Resolution No. 2013-41** and called for oral communications on said item.

Council Member Amezcua addressed his concern with language in Section 4 of Page 2 in Resolution No. 2013-41.

The following members of Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) addressed City Council in support of the proposed Huntington Park Brown to Green Implementation Plan: 1) Rosy Sifon; 2) Adam Ochoa; 3) Marlene; 4) Gerardo Gutierrez; 5) Iris Verduzco; 6) Juan Rosales; 7) Angie Zavala; and 8) Olga Medrano.

Mayor Gomez called for any other oral communications for this item, and hearing none, declared oral communications closed.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

### **6.4 Resolution establishing the City's commitment to collaborate with Communities for a Better Environment on the Brown-to-Green Project.**

#### RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2013-41 establishing its commitment to collaborate with Communities for a Better Environment to implement the Brown-to-Green Project was presented. Motion by Perez, seconded by Hernandez, to adopt Resolution No. 2013-41 with the noted change to Page 2 of Resolution No. 2013-41 to replace Section 4 with Section 3 to read: "Any approvals of legally binding documents or commitment of financial resources of the City must first be approved by the City Council", carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Amezcua, Vice Mayor Perez, Council Members Hernandez, Macias, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Mayor Gomez opened oral communications, indicating that this was the time for anyone in the audience to address the City Council on any matter of City business.

Vanessa Delgado, representative from Primestor Development, Inc., distributed a flyer to City Council regarding upcoming community outreach meetings scheduled on August 24, 2013 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Raul Perez Memorial Park and on August 29, 2013 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. regarding the Downtown Revitalization Project.

Representatives from Enterprising Leaders for the Advancement of Science and Technology in the Inner-City (ElastiCity) briefed City Council on the success of ElastiCity's recent science event at the Huntington Park Library and informed City Council of their future plans and events.

Edmundo Perez addressed his concerns with City Council Resolution No. 2013-39 fixing the rate of taxes to pay set cost of the Public Employees Retirement System and debt service of pension obligations bonds for the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 and levying taxes for said retirement system to the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013.

Linda Caraballo addressed concerns to City Council regarding the constitutional right to freedom of speech and the City's administration.

Alex Reynoso, representing Reynoso's Hit N' Walk, thanked City Manager Bobadilla and Council Member Hernandez for being active with Reynoso's Hit N' Walk. Mr. Reynoso and Council Member Hernandez presented a \$500 certificate towards free advertising in TVC Magazine to America Vive Foundation. A representative from America Vive Foundation invited City Council to attend their upcoming talent show at El Mariachi on September 22, 2013. Mr. Reynoso invited everyone to attend a drug and alcohol awareness event at Salt Lake Park and thanked City Manager Bobadilla for his involvement and dedication to various events. Mr. Reynoso thanked Council Member Hernandez, former Mayor Andy Molina, Leticia Martinez, Executive Director of The Greater Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, and Eve Rodriguez for their involvement and dedication to Reynoso's Hit N' Walk.

Brian Barbosa, producer of TVC Magazine, introduced himself and informed City Council that TVC Magazine is new to the City and that they look forward to working with the City. Mr. Barbosa distributed copies of TVC Magazine.

Rodolfo Cruz addressed City Council in support of City Clerk Ramirez and addressed his concerns with a recently approved resolution fixing the rate of taxes to pay set cost of the Public Employees Retirement System and the Huntington Plaza Apartments.

Robert Cabrales, representing Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), provided an update to City Council regarding Senate Bill 811.

Yvonne Correa informed City Council she recently completed the Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT) class offered by Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina's Office at Salt Lake Park.

George addressed his concerns with the video quality of the City Council meeting recordings broadcast on the local access channel through Charter Communications.

Andy Molina, former Mayor of the City of Huntington Park and representative of the Southeast Churches Service Center, informed City Council that the Southeast Churches Service Center's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is nearly approaching and offered to assist groups in the community that need assistance.

Mayor Gomez called for any other oral communications, and hearing none, declared oral communications closed.

Motion by Perez, seconded by Amezquita, to approve the Consent Calendar, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Amezquita, Vice Mayor Perez, Council Members Hernandez, Macias, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

## **6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK**

6.1 Approve minutes of the following City Council meeting:

6.1-1 Regular meeting held Monday, August 5, 2013

6.2 Approve the reading by title of all ordinances and resolutions. Said titles which appear on the public agenda shall be determined to have been read by title and further reading waived.

### **FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

6.3 Approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated August 19, 2013.

### **END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

## 7. REGULAR AGENDA

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

#### 7.1 Agreement with LA Business Connect, Inc. to provide business technical assistance to local business for the City of Huntington Park.

##### RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approve an agreement with LA Business Connect, Inc. to provide business technical assistance to local business for the City of Huntington Park.

Ruben Sanchez, representing LA Business Connect, Inc., displayed a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed City of Huntington Park Economic Development program to provide business technical assistance to local businesses in the City.

Motion by Gomez, seconded by Amezcuita, to **approve an agreement with LA Business Connect, Inc. to provide business technical assistance to local business for the City of Huntington Park**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Amezcuita, Vice Mayor Perez, Council Members Hernandez, Macias, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Linda Caraballo addressed various concerns to City Council regarding approval of the agreement with LA Business Connect, Inc.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### 7.2 Request for Tow and Storage Fee Increase from H.P. Automotive & Tow, Inc.

##### RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approve the requested fee increase proposed by H.P. Automotive & Tow, Inc.

Motion by Gomez, seconded by Macias, to approve fee increase proposed by H.P. Automotive & Tow, Inc., **LOST** as follows: Ayes: Council Member Macias and Mayor Gomez; Noes: Council Member Amezcuita, Vice Mayor Perez, and Council Member Hernandez; Absent: None.

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### 7.3 2012 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP).

##### RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approve the 2012 Homeland Security Grant Program Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Huntington Park and County of Los Angeles for 2012 Homeland Security Grant Program funding.
2. Authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement between the City of Huntington Park and County of Los Angeles.
3. Approve the Police Department to purchase equipment and services from 3M to complete this approved project.

4. Authorize the Finance Department to issue necessary purchase orders and make payments to facilitate the successful completion of this project.

## **7. REGULAR AGENDA – (Continued)**

Motion by Perez, seconded by Macias, to **approve the 2012 Homeland Security Grant Program Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Huntington Park and County of Los Angeles for 2012 Homeland Security Grant Program funding; authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement between the City of Huntington Park and County of Los Angeles; approve the Police Department to purchase equipment and services from 3M to complete this approved project; and authorize the Finance Department to issue necessary purchase orders and make payments to facilitate the successful completion of this project**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Amezcuita, Vice Mayor Perez, Council Members Hernandez, Macias, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

## **8. CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

- 8.1 **Discussion and/or action regarding the League of California Cities 2013 Annual Conference Resolution Packet to be held in Sacramento, September 18 through 20, 2013.** Motion by Amezcuita, seconded by Hernandez, **to authorize the voting members previously appointed by City Council to vote on behalf of the City at the League of California Cities 2013 Annual Conference to be held in Sacramento, September 18 through 20, 2013 on the proposed Resolution Packet**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Amezcuita, Vice Mayor Perez, Council Members Hernandez, Macias, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

- 8.2 **Receive and file the report by City staff regarding the Annual Rate Adjustment for Residential Refuse Disposal Services provided by Waste Management Inc.** Director of Public Works/City Engineer Enriquez presented a PowerPoint presentation for said item.

Janine Hamner, representing Waste Management, informed City Council that Waste Management Inc. has not received an annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) rate adjustment in a few years and requested Council approval.

## **9. CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

- 9.1 **Approve the Agreement for Provision of Attorney Services pertaining to water rights adjudication matters by and between the City of Huntington Park and Skaja, Daniels, Lister & Permito, LLP.**

Motion by Perez, seconded by Amezcuita, to **approve the agreement for Provision of Attorney Services pertaining to water rights adjudication matters by and between the City of Huntington Park and Skaja, Daniels, Lister & Permito, LLP.**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Amezcuita, Vice Mayor Perez, Council Members Hernandez, Macias, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

## **10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

**11. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

**11.1 Mayor Mario Gomez**

**11.2 Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez**

**11. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS – (Continued)**

**11.3 Council Member Ofelia Hernandez**

11.3-1 Discussion and/or action regarding the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Healthy Walk to Reduce Obesity on September 14 and 15, 2013 from 8:00 am to 12:00 p.m. **There being no objection, Mayor Gomez directed the City Manager to work with the Chief of Police and staff to work on a plan with options to carry out the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Healthy Walk to Reduce Obesity.**

**11.4 Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita**

**11.5 Council Member Karina Macias**

Interim City Attorney Litfin requested the City Council resolve into a closed session for the following:

**12. CLOSED SESSION**

12.1 Pursuant to Government Code Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9  
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Name of Case: Maez v. City of Huntington Park, Case No. VC060007

12.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED  
LITIGATION, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California  
Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: (1)

Mayor Gomez declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 9:21 p.m.

Following the closed session, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 9:51 p.m. Present: Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Karina Macias, and Mayor Mario Gomez; Absent: None.

Interim City Attorney Litfin reported out that in closed session for Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, Name of Case: Maez v. City of Huntington Park, Case No. VC060007, City Council unanimously approved a settlement in the amount of \$7,500; and for Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, there was no reportable action taken.

Mayor Gomez declared the meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m. in memory of the following individual:

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

13.1 Elaine Lopez, wife of Dave Lopez, CBS 2/KCAL 9 News and sister-in-law of Claude Bilodeau, Electrical Supervisor for the City of Huntington Park.

Mario Gomez, Mayor

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Rocio Martinez, Acting City Clerk

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