

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Huntington Park City Council
Monday, October 6, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park, California was called to order at 6:10 p.m. on Monday, October 6, 2014, in the Council Chamber of City Hall at 6550 Miles Avenue, Huntington Park, California; Mayor Rosa Perez presiding.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jesse Vides from Kipp Comienza School.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Mayor Perez.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Rosa E. Perez; Vice Mayor Karina Macias and Council Members Ofelia Hernandez, Valentin Palos Amezcua and Mario Gomez. Other City Officials and employees: Julio Morales, Interim City Manager, Isabel Birrueta, City Attorney, Jorge Cisneros, Chief of Police, Josette Espinosa, Director of Parks and Recreation, Annie Ruiz, Acting Finance Director, Donna Schwartz, Interim City Clerk, Desi Alvarez, City Consultant.

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Steinhart presented the Graffiti Protective Coatings Removal Services

Principal Antonio Amparan, Student Council President Andrew Arriola, and Vice President Isis Dorante along with fellow students Briana Muniz, Lorraine Nunez and Juan Guzman presented information on the Grand Opening of the Huntington Park Elementary Science Lab.

Jorge Cisneros, Chief of Police presented an update on Marijuana Dispensaries Recently Shut Down.

Grant Opportunities for Irrigation and Water Related Projects (Charles Trevino) – Mr. Trevino was not present.

Donna Schwartz, Interim City Clerk and Jeff Klein, Governmental & Legislative Affairs, Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's Division presented an overview of the City of Huntington Park's General Municipal Election to be held on March 2015 Election.

Overview of Closed Session Requirements – was not presented.

City Attorney announced that a subsequent Item be added as Item 18, Overhead Lights on Pacific Boulevard. Immediate action came before meeting after agenda was published. Council approved the addition of Item 18 by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT (CLOSED SESSION ITEMS ONLY) - None

At 6:52 p.m. Mayor Perez recessed to closed session

CLOSED SESSION

1. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) –
Conference with Legal Counsel to Discuss Existing Litigation
Case Name: WRD v. City of Huntington Park et al.
Case Number: LASC Case No. BC512581.
2. Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(2) and 54956.9(e)(3):
Conference with Legal Counsel to Discuss Matter Involving Anticipated
Litigation/Significant exposure to litigation – [One (1) potential case]
3. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4) -
Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation/Initiation of Litigation
(Deciding Whether to Initiate Litigation): [Two (2) potential matters]
4. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) –
Conference with Legal Counsel to Discuss Existing Litigation
CASE NAME: David Bernal v. City of Huntington Park
CASE NUMBER: Los Angeles Superior Court Number VC061938
5. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1) –
Public Employee Employment
Name of Positions Under Consideration: Interim City Manager

At 8:02 p.m. Mayor reconvened to open session. All Council Members present.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

City Attorney Birrueta announced that direction was given on all closed session items with no action taken. She then clarified to the public the rules for public comment by citing government code section 54954.3.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mark Montgomery, representative of Troops and Transition, noted his community involvement, spoke about the program Troops and Transition offers and requested to come back at a later date to provide a presentation.

2. Betty Retama, resident, commented on the conduct of the Police Department with regards to Nick the Greek.
3. Balle Machuca, resident, commented on parking within the City.
4. Jorge Sepulveda, resident, noted businesses closing and how it effects the City's economy and asked for solutions and sidewalk sales on the weekend.
5. Carmen, Linda Walden and Veronica Gallegos, residents, voiced their concerns with speeding vehicles in the area they reside and asked if the City could install speed bumps.

Mayor Perez asked staff to evaluate the area to see if the request is feasible.

6. Rodolfo Cruz, resident, spoke against the marijuana dispensaries that are in the City and would like to see them shut down.
7. Henry Garcia, resident, commented on street parking being an issue in the City.
8. Sandra Orosco, resident of Maywood, commented on the conduct of the Police Department with regards to Nick Ioannidis, the selling of his business. She commented on candidates running in the November Elections and announced that Lynwood would be hosting a Peace Walk.
9. Alex Reynoso, resident, thanked the following: Chief of Police for his efforts in fixing some issues on Broadway; Parks and Recreation Director for efforts in working together with the local non-profits, Council for supporting residents and business owners saying no to a tax increase. He voiced concern with where closed session is placed on the agenda and asked Council and Chief of Police to unite and continue fighting to shut down marijuana dispensaries.
10. Nick Ioannidis, business owner, voiced concern with the issues surrounding his business how he is being treated and saddened that he is moving.
11. Antonio Padilla, resident, noted the traffic and parking problems due to the fiesta on Pacific and Florence currently happening and suggested charging for parking during events.
12. Rosa Rodriguez, resident and volunteer for the Senior program, invited Council to attend the seniors crochet program held at the Huntington Park Community center October 27, 2014 at 11:00 am.
13. Nazrus Halsey, resident of Bell, spoke in support of Nick the Greek.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion was made by Council Member Gomez to approve consent calendar items, and approve the reading by title of all ordinances and resolutions, seconded by Council Member Hernandez. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. Approved Minutes of the following City Council meetings:

- 1 Regular Meeting held Monday, June 16, 2014; and
- 2 Special Meeting held Wednesday, September 17, 2014

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

1. Approved Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated October 6, 2014.

CITY MANAGER

3. Adopted Resolution No. 2014-36, in support of H.R. 5101 (CA-Hahn) passing the National Freight Network Trust Fund Act of 2014

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- 4. Adopted Ordinance 932-NS, amending the zoning map designation from high-density residential (RH) to public facilities (PF) for properties located at 3232 Saturn Avenue, commonly known as South Region Elementary School No. 5
- 5. Adopted Ordinance 933-NS, amending the zoning map designation from manufacturing planned development (MPD) and open space (OS) to public facilities (PF) for properties located at 6361 Cottage Street, commonly known as South Region High School No. 7.

CITY COUNCIL

6. Adopted Resolution No. 2014-37, in support of increased penalties for child sex trafficking.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

REGULAR AGENDA

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

7. Adopt Resolution No. 2014-38, adopting the Annual Special Fund Budgets Prop A, Prop C, Measure R, AQMD, Gas Tax and HP Grand Prix Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Interim City Manager Morales presented the resolution stating that the City Council previously reviewed the proposed budget during the meetings of August 26 and September 17, 2014 the funds reflect revenues and expenditures necessary to meet the City's needs and that the City Council may amend the budget at any time after its adoption.

Motion by Council Member Gomez to adopt Resolution No. 2014-38, adopting the Annual Special Fund Budgets Prop A, Prop C, Measure R, AQMD, Gas Tax and HP Grand Prix Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2014-2015, seconded by Council Member Hernandez. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

8. Adopted Resolution No. 2014-39, adopting the Annual Water/Wastewater Fund Budgets and Expenditures for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-2015.

Interim City Manager Morales presented the resolution and introduced Desi Alvarez, Consultant for the City of Huntington Park who presented a PowerPoint on water and wastewater funds reviewing water supply and cost which included water consumption and water supply changes since 2011, FY 13-14 financial performance revenues and expenses, capital investments: 2 wells to improve system efficiency and mitigate water waste, master plan & water supply reliability project including advanced water treatment facility project and the annual water/wastewater fund budgets and expenditures for FY 14-15. Mr. Morales then spoke in support of staff's recommendation.

Council questioned the expenditures, revenues and grant funding associated with water/wastewater funds.

City's Consultant Alvarez explained the process and timelines for these funds and stressed the importance for moving forward obtaining these monies.

Motion by Council Member Gomez to Resolution No. 2014-39, adopting the Annual Water/Wastewater Fund Budgets and Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2014-2015., seconded by Council Member Amezcuita. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezcuita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

POLICE

9. PRESENTED DURING PRESENTATIONS - Update on Marijuana Dispensaries - Council approved to Receive and file.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

10. Approve Agreement for Street Sweeping Services with Nationwide Environmental Services

Interim City Manager presented the staff report noting previously on July 7, 2014 City Council authorized staff to negotiate a contract with Nationwide Environmental Services and now has the final form of the contract and recommends executing the contract by December 1, 2014 to transition to a new street sweeper.

Council questioned the routes that the waste haulers and street sweepers would be using and if notices would be going out to the residents regarding street sweeping and waste hauling days and times. Staff stated the agencies will work together and yes notices will be provided.

Motion by Council Member Gomez to Authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the contract with Nationwide Environmental Services, seconded by Council Member Hernandez. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezcuita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

CITY MANAGER

11. Discussion / Action on Cost of Additional Performance Bond for United Pacific Waste (UPW) Contract

At the request of a Council Member, Interim City Manager informed the Council that a quote of \$9,000 was provided to add an additional \$300,000 to the performance bond it

was proposed previously but was not executed, currently it is being presented again but it is at the discretion of the Council noting that this would be for one year and reviewed again at that time to see if Council wishes to continue with the additional bond amount. Council Members Amezcuita, Gomez and Vice Mayor Macias support adding the additional amount to the performance bond.

Mayor Perez and Council Member Hernandez both feel the current amount is sufficient.

Motion by Amezcuita to increase bond, seconded by Vice Mayor Macias. Motion passed 3-2 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezcuita, Gomez and Vice Mayor Macias

NOES: Council Member(s): Hernandez and Mayor Perez

12. Approve Agreement with Parking Company of America to Manage Off Street Parking Lots and Overnight Parking Permit Program for the City of Huntington Park

Interim City Manager presented the report.

City Attorney informed the Council that the contracts are attached to the report for review and if there are any changes to note for the record.

Interim City Manager announced changes to the 6330 Rugby Avenue lease agreement the amount of \$ 6,000 should be \$9,000 reflecting the size of the lot and to the provisions regarding capital improvements as to whether the City would make the improvements or the vendor noting it would be cost effective if the vendor made the improvements.

Council Member Hernandez asked Interim City Manager to clarify the overnight parking. He presented a PowerPoint on the parking management proposal providing a proposed overnight parking permit program, pilot program and the scope of service that would be provided by Parking Company of America, staff is hoping to implement after January 1, 2015 and in addition the Police Department will be installing cameras.

Interim City Manager announced that in the future the City is looking into obtaining sensors through grant money that would allow the City to know if a car has been parked in the lot which would reduce cost to the city.

Motion by Council Member Gomez to approve pilot program for City off street parking lots and authorize the Interim City Manager to execute the agreement with Parking Company of America to implement and manage off street parking lots and overnight parking permit program, seconded by Council Member Amezcuita. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezcuita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias
and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

13. Approve Parking Lease Agreement with Parking Company of America to Manage the Parking Structure at 6330 Rugby Avenue (Reference Staff Report Item 12)

Motion by Council Member Gomez to approve parking lease agreement to manage the parking structure at 6330 Rugby Avenue, seconded by Council Member Amezcuita. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezcuita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias
and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

14. Approve Parking Lease Agreement with Parking Company of America to Manage the Parking Structure at 6535 Rugby Avenue (Reference Staff Report Item 12)

Motion by Council Member Gomez to approve parking lease agreement to manage the parking structure at 6535 Rugby Avenue, seconded by Council Member Amezcuita. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezcuita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias
and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

15. Discussion / Action on Alternative Rail Route Options for Eco-Rapid Line

Interim City Manager stated this item is discussion only that the city will have a meeting with MTA along with representative from City of Vernon to discuss alternate routes along with discussion of revitalization of Pacific Blvd.

16. Discussion / Action of City Hall Closure during Weeks of Christmas / New Year's

Interim City Manager asked Council to approve the closure of City Hall during weeks of Christmas / New Year's stating this had been done last year.

Mayor Perez asked that notice go out to the residents ahead of time.

Motion by Council Member Gomez to approve City Hall Closure during Weeks of Christmas / New Year's, seconded by Council Member Hernandez. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

17. Consideration of Ordinance Amending Chapter 11 of Title 5, Amending and Adding Provisions to Chapter 2 of Title 6, Amending Chapter 7 of Title 6, and Adding Chapter 8 to Title 6 of the Huntington Park Municipal Code Relating to Solid Waste

Interim City Manager presented the first reading of the proposed ordinance as stated.

Motion by Council Member Gomez to approve the first reading and introduce Ordinance 934-NS, amending Chapter 11 of Title 5, amending and adding provisions to Chapter 2 of Title 6, amending Chapter 7 of Title 6, and adding Chapter 8 to Title 6 of the City of Huntington Park's Municipal Code as it relates to solid waste, seconded by Council Member Hernandez. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

SUBSEQUENT ITEM

18. Discussion / Action on Overhead lights on Pacific Boulevard.

Interim City Manager introduced City Attorney Birrueta who explained that the Los Angeles County Fire Code has provisions that prohibit the lights from hanging across the streets but that they can hang parallel. She stated that the Interim City Manager would like to propose wire going across to hang the lights.

Council discussed at length the request by County and feel that this has not be addressed previously and is concerned why now. City Attorney noted that we need to

comply and that the City has 21 days but that the County is willing to work with the City if more time is needed.

The Council directed Interim City Manager to find a solution.

Motion by Council Member Gomez to find an alternate solution, seconded by Council Member Hernandez. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Hernandez, Gomez, Vice Mayor Macias and Mayor Perez

NOTES: Council Member(s): None

Mayor Perez went around and asked each department head if they had anything to report

Parks and Recreation Director Espinosa– nothing to report.

Chief of Police Cisneros reiterated on a comment made during public comment regarding stickers and advertisement on public right-of-ways, he stated that the presentation made by GPC will focus on this issue and ask for the citizens to participate. He then reported on crimes in the City and supports the City being transparent.

City Attorney Birrueta – nothing to report.

Interim City Manager Morales reiterated on crimes in the City.

Interim City Clerk Schwartz – nothing to report.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Mario Gomez reiterated on the comment made by Alex Reynoso during public comment on the order of the agenda with regards to closed session and suggested putting a time limit on closed session and if not finished come back. Also asked staff to note down invitations that Council receives and add to their calendar. He commented on the leasing of city parking and asked

City Attorney Birrueta suggested addressing the closed session items first while on a time limit then come back and address the other issues without a time limit.

Mayor Perez stated this was tried before and was unsuccessful.

Interim City Manager Morales noted most of the time is spent on presentations and suggested changing the order of the agenda.

Council Member Amezquita suggested we bring back for discussion order of agenda. Council Member Gomez agreed.

Mayor Perez would also like to bring back for discussion, order of agenda.

Council Member Amezquita commented on Christmas lights and acknowledge the approval of award of contract to Nationwide.

Interim City Manager Morales stated he would bring back for discussion and direction Christmas lights at the next City Council Meeting.

Council Member Hernandez acknowledged the efforts of the Police Department on the closing of the marijuana dispensaries. She commented on water improvements, parking in the City, lights on Pacific Blvd., and invited the public to the 2nd Annual Symposium Breaking the Silence of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

Vice Mayor Macias asked Council for their support in approving the requested resolution.

- Discussion / Action on Resolution in support of Ethnic Studies in LAUSD

Interim City Manager Morales read the resolution at Council's request.

Motion by Council Member Gomez to adopt Resolution No. 2014-40, in support of Ethnic Studies in Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), seconded by Council Member Hernandez. Motion passed by one motion.

Vice Mayor Macias requested to agendize the process of business license. Interim City Manager stated he would bring back to Council at a later date.

Mayor Rosa E. Perez announced the City Clerk had received a phone call regarding the subject ordinance.

- Discussion / Action on Animal Neutering / Spaying Ordinance

Chief of Police stated the department is currently working on the current issue with the city's prosecutors office and will bring it before Council at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:50 pm Mayor Perez adjourned the meeting in memory of Council Member Michael A. Ybarra, City of Vernon to the next Regular Meeting of the City of Huntington Park City Council on Monday, October 20, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna G. Schwartz, CMC
Interim City Clerk