

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the
City of Huntington Park City Council
Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Sergeant at Arms read the Rules of Decorum

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park, California was called to order at 6:01 p.m. on Tuesday, October 18, 2016, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 6550 Miles Avenue, Huntington Park, California; Mayor Graciela Ortiz presiding.

PRESENT: Council Member(s): Valentin Palos Amezcuita, Jhonny Pineda, Karina Macias, Vice Mayor Marilyn Sanabria and Mayor Graciela Ortiz. CITY OFFICIALS/STAFF: Edgar Cisneros City Manager; Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, City Attorney; Cosme Lozano, Chief of Police; Josette Espinosa, Director of Parks and Recreation; Manuel Acosta, Economic Development Manager; Michael Ackerman, Acting Public Works Director/City Engineer, and Donna Schwartz, City Clerk. ABSENT: Jan Mazyck, Interim Finance Director and Martha Castillo, Human Resources Director.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Mayor Ortiz.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kassandra Pocasangre, Miles Avenue Elementary School.

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council presented a "Certificate of Appreciation" to Kassandra Pocasangre for leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council presented a proclamation to Mr. and Mrs. Cristian Markovich, proclaiming October 15th, 2016, as "Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day."

Kevin Hunt, General Manager, Central Basin Municipal Water District, presented a PowerPoint on Water Rate Adjustments.

Maria Figueroa, South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC), presented a PowerPoint presentation on services provided to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

John Yonai, Tierra West Advisors, presented a PowerPoint update on the General Plan.

At 6:49 p.m. Vice Mayor Sanabria excused herself from the Council Chambers.

City Manager Cisneros announced agenda item 8 would be pulled and taken back to the Traffic Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Ortiz read a statement of release regarding charter moratorium clarifying that the temporary moratorium has been put in place for the benefit of the community and not as an indictment against charter schools specifically. The focus is on other amenities needed in the city such as building parks, shopping centers and healthy grocery stores with the quality of life being the main priority for the residents of Huntington Park.

At 6:52 p.m. Vice Mayor Sanabria reentered the Chambers.

1. Maria Pinedo, parent of a child who attends Alliance School, spoke in support of charter schools.

2. Jocielly Aure, Teacher, Middleton Street School, spoke in support of the extension to the moratorium.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Continued)

3. Raul Rodriguez, commented on morals and values, previous comments made by Vice Mayor Sanabria, the behavior of Council and supports charter schools.
4. Valentin Palos Amezquita, commented on various issues: he being escorted out of the last city council meeting, his comments regarding safety, Council Member decisions regarding marijuana dispensaries, charter schools, contracts, and agenda item 3.
5. Wes Parker, commented on a father that was killed by an “illegal,” spoke in opposition to Council, remarked racist, appointment of the two commissioners and obeying the law.
6. Arthur Schaper, spoke in opposition to Council, noted Amezquita being escorted out, commented on decisions made by Council regarding marijuana dispensaries, charter schools, citizens sitting on commissions, “illegals” and citizenship.
7. Ebony Wheaton, CCSA, spoke in support of charter schools and in opposition to the extension of the moratorium.
8. Ingrid Villeda, United Teachers Los Angeles, spoke in support of public schools and the extension of the moratorium.
9. Cynthia Lopez, spoke in support of charter schools and in opposition to the extension of the moratorium.

At 7:20 p.m. Council Member Pineda excused himself from the Chambers.

10. Robin Hvidston, spoke in support of charter schools, nation of laws, commented on the appointment of the two commissioners, asked Council to do the right thing and appoint two citizens, and commented on an article in the *Guardian Newspaper*.

At 7:23 p.m. Council Member Pineda returned to the Chambers.

At 7:24 p.m. Vice Mayor Sanabria excused herself from the Chambers.

11. Daniel Moran, Elementary School Teacher, spoke in support of both public and charter schools, suggested putting a cap on charter schools for control and supports the extension of the moratorium for control and feels it’s a healthy step for both public and charter school sectors.
12. Tessy Garcia, Alta Schools, commented on a previous comment regarding immigration, spoke in support of charter schools and is in opposition to the moratorium.
13. Ayde Bravo, Teacher, noted kids need space, clarified that the moratorium is not against the charter schools but to stop the saturation of them, and voiced concern with charter school teachers not having a background check, being finger printed or having credentials.
14. Sandra Orozco, opposed to the two illegal immigrants appointed to the commissions, commented on Federal law, commented on city attorney and city manager, agrees with charter school teachers should have a background check, noted council receiving campaign contributions, spoke in opposition to Council.
15. Jorge Corona, spoke in support of charter schools stated teachers are qualified and asked Council to support the citizens.

At 7:39 p.m. Vice Mayor Sanabria returned to the Chambers.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Continued)

16. Maria Miranda, Teacher, complimented Council, noted graffiti she had seen and was gone the next day, agrees the city has great public schools, spoke in support of the extension of the moratorium, asked Council to continue to do great work, stand up to those who bully you and supports all the parents who attended.
17. Betty Robinson, We the People Rising, noted a Remembrance Project conference she attended for those killed by illegals and commented on the two appointments.
18. Rodolfo Cruz, commented on comments made by Council at the last city council meeting, feels government is corrupt, mentioned upcoming elections, commented on marijuana being an option, and events at parks used by Council.
19. Lydia Torres, Teacher, feels the City needs to provide green space and more recreation activities for the kids, healthy stores so kids can eat better and feels charter schools need to be regulated and to accept all children.
20. Larissa Mondragon, Aspire, spoke in support of charter schools and opposed to the extension of the moratorium.
21. Ana Magana, spoke in support of public schools, children need more, need funds and asked Council to help move children forward.
22. Laura Herrera, spoke in support of charter schools, opposed to agenda item 3 #5 and asked that it be pulled.
23. Bertha Martinez, Teacher, spoke in support of public schools and the extension to the moratorium.
24. Betty Retama, commented on the Pacific Boulevard project and concerned with it being an inconvenience to peoples businesses and those with disabilities and the behavior of Council.
25. Janet West, spoke in support of Council Member Amezquita, read portions of a resolution regarding commissions, spoke in opposition to the two appointments remarked they should be deported, and commented on agenda item 7.
26. Marisela Padilla, Teacher, Ellen Ochoa Learning Center, spoke in support of the extension of the moratorium and public schools.
27. Marcelina Becerra, asked council to reconsider the extension of the moratorium and spoke in support of charter schools.
28. Juan Jose Manqandi, spoke in support of the extension of the moratorium and all the teachers that work for LAUSD.
29. George Franco, noted City of Bell is asking for volunteers to be on their commissions, commented on the decision by council regarding the marijuana dispensaries and asked to allow the people to vote for the community, commented on agenda item 8, voiced concern with cars parking in the green zone in his neighborhood for days and don't receive tickets signs being taken down and curbs not being painted red on the west side.
30. Robert Lauten, commented on city finances, and spoke in opposition to the Pacific Boulevard project with regard to the sidewalks and bike lanes.

31. Bo Adler, Teacher, South Gate Middle School, commented on comments made by my prior speakers and remarks about illegals and spoke in support of the extension of the moratorium.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Continued)

32. Francisco Rivera, noted bus stops that need attending to that are on Slauson, Florence and Gage, feels Huntington Park can do better, noted his dedication of picking up trash in the city, announced he was the one who removed the graffiti from the sign, reports illegal dumping and commented on him voting.
33. Diana Guillen, spoke in support of public schools.
34. Mike McCoy, voiced concern with things getting worst in the City of Huntington Park, supports charter schools and spoke in opposition to Council.
35. Brenda Najara, Prepa Tech and Aspire, spoke in support of charter schools.
36. Espinosa, spoke in support of public schools.
37. Susan Martinez, PrepaTech/Aspire, spoke in support of charter schools and in opposition to the extension of the moratorium.
38. Ebony Batiste, Teacher for LAUSD, spoke in support of the extension of the moratorium and public schools.

STAFF RESPONSE

Mayor Ortiz asked City Manager Cisneros to clarify the comment regarding the city's finances. City Manager Cisneros stated this is not the case in Huntington Park.

Mayor Ortiz asked City Manager Cisneros to give an update on the Pacific Boulevard construction. City Manager Cisneros stated that it was the goal by Council and staff to complete the project by the holiday season and before the holiday parade takes place and that there was a time line that the funds needed to be expended.

Mayor Ortiz asked to clarify a marijuana dispensaries next to Walnut Park. City Manager Cisneros stated there are zero dispensaries operating in the City of Huntington Park and the one mentioned is not in our jurisdiction but in County area.

Mayor Ortiz asked City Clerk to clarify the application process for the commission. City Clerk Schwartz explained that applications are picked up either by calling or by coming by the Office of the City Clerk, applications are received and provided to Council for review and consideration. Mayor Ortiz also stated each Council Member does their appointment how they wish and how they want to interview and make their appointments.

Mayor Ortiz asked Acting Public Works Director/City Engineer Michael Ackerman to contact Francisco Rivera regarding the bus stops.

Council Member Amezcuita noted a comment by Rodolfo Cruz regarding a tree and the comment made by Laura Herrera regarding consent item 3. City Manager stated staff has discussed the tree with Mr. Cruz and has tried their best to satisfy his concern, with regard to the consent item 3 the item was inadvertently left off the budget and was approved earlier this year.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:46 p.m. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman recessed to closed session.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

At 9:09 p.m. Mayor Ortiz reconvened to open session. All Council Members present.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

City Attorney Arnold Alvarez-Glasman announced Council discussed closed session, no action taken nothing to report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Amezquita pulled item 3 for discussion.

Council Member Pineda called for the question, seconded by Vice Mayor Sanabria to end debate. Motion passed 4-1 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria and Mayor Ortiz

NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

Motion: Vice Mayor Sanabria motioned to approve consent calendar items, seconded by Council Member Macias. Motion passed by the follow votes:

Item 1: Motion passed 4-1.

Item 2: Motion passed 4-1.

Item 3: Motion passed 5-0 with the exception of Amezquita opposed to #5.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. Approved Minute(s) of the following City Council Meeting(s):

1-1 Regular City Council Meeting held Tuesday, October 4, 2016.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria and Mayor Ortiz

NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

FINANCE

2. Approved Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated October 18, 2016.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria and Mayor Ortiz

NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

3. 1) Authorize the expenditure in a not-to-exceed amount of \$76,000 for a Christmas Parade; 2) approve the use of public streets; and the closure of certain streets including Pacific Boulevard between Slauson and Florence Avenues; and closure of portions of Gage, Zoe and Saturn Avenues; 3) authorize the expenditure in a not-to-exceed amount of \$50,000 for Holiday Decorations; 4) ratify the expenditure of \$70,000; and 5) authorize the expenditure of \$425,000 for the fixed route transportation program.

ROLL CALL:

- AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita (3:1-4 with the exception of #5), Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria and Mayor Ortiz
NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita (3:5)

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

REGULAR AGENDA

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

4. Council Appointments to Youth Commission

City Manager Cisneros introduced the item and announced number of appointments for each Council Member.

Mayor Ortiz opened up the appointments.

Appointments as follows:

Council Member Macias appointed Angel De Santiago and Kaitlyn Zesati to the Youth Commission for an unexpired term ending March 2017.

Council Member Amezquita – No appoint.

Mayor Ortiz appointed Karol Gutierrez to the Youth Commission for an unexpired term ending March 2019.

Council Member Pineda – No appoint.

Vice Mayor Sanabria appointed Joel Palma to the Youth Commission for an unexpired term ending March 2019.

5. Appointment of City Council Member to the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board of Trustees

City Manager Cisneros introduced the item.

Motion: Mayor Ortiz motioned to appoint **Vice Mayor Sanabria** to the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board of Trustees for a **two (2) year term**, effective January 2017 first Monday at Noon, seconded by Council Member Macias. Motion passed 5-0 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

- AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria and Mayor Ortiz
NOES: Council Member(s): None

6. Approve Resolution Amending Appointment of Representatives to the Independent Cities Risk Management Authority's Governing Board (ICRMA

Motion: Council Member Amezquita motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2016-48, seconded by Council Member Macias, failed due to substitution motion.

Council Member Pineda requested he be removed from the Board.

Substitute Motion: Council Member Pineda motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2016-

48 appointing **City Manager Edgar Cisneros** as Alternate, **City Clerk Donna Schwartz** as Alternate and **Human Resources Director Martha Castillo** as the Sub Alternate, to the Independent Cities Risk Management Authority's Governing Board (ICRMA), seconded by Mayor Ortiz. Motion passed 5-0 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria
and Mayor Ortiz

NOES: Council Member(s): None

REGULAR AGENDA (Continued)

PUBLIC WORKS

7. Approve Design, Specifications and Advertise for Bids for State Street Complete Street Project

Motion: Mayor Ortiz motioned, with the condition that the City look into the grant to determine whether or not the grant can still be awarded if the project is modified to not include the elimination of a traffic lane, approve design and specifications for the State Street Complete Street Project, authorize the Public Works Department to advertise for bids, approve Environmental Assessment as follows: The proposed project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to 14 California Code of Regulations § 15301 as a Class 1 categorical exemption (Existing Facilities). The project results in minor alterations to existing public facilities involving no significant expansion of the existing use. The project is not anticipated to have any significant impacts with regard to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality. There are adequate utilities and public services to serve the project, authorize Staff, under the currently approved Augmentation Contract, to proceed with necessary work (Bid Advertisement, Bid Analysis, Project Management, Construction management, Inspection, Administration) in compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract, and not to exceed 10% of the project budget for State Street Complete Street Project, seconded by Vice Mayor Sanabria. Motion passed 5-0 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria
and Mayor Ortiz

NOES: Council Member(s): None

8. Review of a Request for Installation of Parking Ticks Along 61st Street Between Maywood and Loma Vista Avenue

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Discussion and/or action regarding a request for installation of Parking Ticks along 61st Street between Maywood Avenue and Loma Vista Avenue.

City Manager Cisneros requested this item go back to the Traffic Authority.

END OF REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

9. Extension to Urgency Ordinance No. 2016-949, Pursuant to Government Code Section 65858, Establishing a Temporary Moratorium on the Establishment and Operation of Charter Schools for Ten Months Fifteen Days within the City

City Manager Cisneros introduced the item.

Mayor Ortiz opened the item up for public comment.

Public Comment

1. Maria Pineda, spoke in support of charter schools and is opposed to the extension of the moratorium.
2. Gloria Rodriguez, spoke in support of both public and charter schools.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEM 9 (CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Public Comment (Continued)

3. Brenda Najara, spoke in support of charter schools and looking for an impasse.
4. Tessy Garcia, spoke in opposition to the extension of the moratorium.
5. Maria Silva, spoke in support of both public and charter schools.
6. Gary Porter, spoke in support of the extension of the moratorium.
7. Sandra Orozco, spoke in support of all the parents, public schools and feels the charter school teachers should go through background checks.
8. Victor Silva, spoke in support of charter schools and is opposed to the extension of the moratorium.
9. Ebony Wheaton, CCSA, noted that a letter from their attorney was emailed to the City Clerk today requesting to distribute to the City Council and spoke in support of the charter schools.

Mayor Ortiz closed public comment and asked the City Attorney to clarify the jurisdictions of LAUSD and the City.

City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman announced that the letter from Arthur Freedman of Shephard Law was received by their office and by the City Council and should be noted by the City Clerk for the record. Mr. Alvarez-Glasman explained that the urgency ordinance is solely for land use not shutting down any existing charter or public school. What is before the Council is for consideration a moratorium in order to allow the city and city staff to review and evaluate development/zoning standards as they relate to charter schools no student is going to be displaced no discrimination to any type of education, they city has the ability under government code to evaluate land uses within its jurisdiction which is different then what a school board does, they have the ability to evaluate school policy and how education is dispensed. The City has the ability to evaluate land use.

Motion: Vice Mayor Sanabria motioned to adopt Urgency Ordinance No. 2016-950, extending Urgency Ordinance 2016-949, establishing a temporary moratorium on the establishment and operation of charter schools for ten months and fifteen days within the City, seconded by Council Member Macias. Motion passed 4-1 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria and Mayor Ortiz

NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS (Information only)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.

At 10:13 p.m. Council Member Macias motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Ortiz. Motion passed 4-1 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Macias, Vice Mayor Sanabria and Mayor Ortiz

NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:13 p.m. Mayor Ortiz adjourned the City of Huntington Park City Council to a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 2016, at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk

