

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Monday, March 7, 2005.

The meeting was called to order in the Council Conference Room at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Noguez. Present: Vice Mayor Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Richard V. Loya, and Mayor Juan R. Noguez. Absent: Council Member Edward Escareño and Council Member Mario Gomez.

Council Member Gomez arrived and took his seat at 6:31 p.m.

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

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

#### OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Approve minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held Tuesday, February 22, 2005.

#### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Approve the Payroll Demands dated March 7, 2005.

#### ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

**Approve the Bear Street Improvement Agreement by and between the City of Huntington Park and the City of Cudahy for street reconstruction of Bear Avenue between Florence Avenue and Walnut Street;** and appropriation of Gas Tax Funds in the amount of \$9,000 to finance the cost.

#### END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

City Clerk Romo presented a request from Council Member Loya for discussion and/or

action regarding the Bylaws for Community Development Commission of the City of Huntington Park and member absences. Motion by Loya, seconded by Noguez, to **authorize staff to prepare the necessary documents to amend the Community Development Commission bylaws to reflect that if a member has two (2) consecutive unexcused absences from Community Development Commission meetings in one (1) month they will not be paid**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Hernandez, Council Members Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Member Escareño.

City Clerk Romo presented a request from Council Member Loya for discussion and/or action regarding his City Council benefit payments and/or savings. Council Member Loya reported that he has saved the City a total amount of \$89,393.64 from 1991 to present.

City Clerk Romo presented a request from Vice Mayor Hernandez for discussion and/or action regarding possible implementation of a senior housing program in the City of Huntington Park. Victor Caballero briefed City Council regarding Human Services Association and the kind of services they offer senior citizens. There being no objection, Mayor Noguez **directed staff to send a letter to the Los Angeles Commission on Aging to find out their status with the City and appointed a commission of Vice Mayor Hernandez and Council Member Gomez to research information and programs available regarding senior housing in the City and report back to City Council.**

City Clerk Romo presented for discussion and/or action a request from Vice Mayor Hernandez for a letter of support to Comunidad Development Corporation for improvement of efficiency and capacity-building childcare programs. Yvonne Chavez, Executive Director of Comunidad Development Corporation, briefed City Council regarding the Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP) program created to prepare all four year olds to enter school ready to learn. Ms. Chavez asked for a letter of support and to be considered as a recipient for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and other funding in the future. Motion by Loya, seconded by Noguez, **to authorize staff to send a letter of support to Comunidad Development Corporation**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Hernandez, Council Members Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Member Escareño.

City Manager Korduner requested City Council discuss and/or take action regarding a request from the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging to nominate a recipient to be recognized by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 for their dedication to community service in the City of Huntington Park. Following a discussion, **City Council nominated Linda Marquez as the recipient to be recognized by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on Wednesday, May 25, 2005.**

Director of Finance Pruyn requested to adopt a cellular phone monthly allowance for employees who qualify as special circumstances pursuant to the existing Cellular Phone/Pager Policy. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Hernandez, **to adopt a cellular phone allowance of \$60 a month for employees who qualify as special circumstances pursuant to the existing Cellular Phone/Pager Policy**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Hernandez, Council Members Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Member Escareño.

Following the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Noguez. Present: Vice Mayor Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Richard V. Loya, and Mayor Juan R. Noguez. Absent: Council Member Edward Escareño and Council Member Mario Gomez.

Council Member Gomez arrived and took his seat at 7:04 p.m.

Leonardo's presented a check in the amount of \$10,000 to the City for the Police Activities League (PAL) program. Mayor Noguez and Assistant Chief of Police Peeler presented a proclamation and a badge to Leonardo's on behalf of the City and the Huntington Park Police Department for their donations to the City's PAL program.

Interim Director of Parks and Recreation Putnam introduced Parks and Recreation Coordinator Sonia Matamoros. City Council presented Mrs. Matamoros with a Proclamation and a Certificate of Appreciation for her service to the citizens of Huntington Park.

Mayor Noguez introduced Victor Franco and Carolina Jobenich with Channel 52 Telemundo. Victor Franco invited City Council to attend the featuring of two (2) new "Novelas" that Telemundo is promoting at Salt Lake Park on Thursday, March 17, 2005. Dante D'Eramo, Executive Manager at The Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Chamber is working with Telemundo to make it a safe event and that it is at no cost to the City.

Presentation by Transportation Consultant Martin Gombert of Mobility Advancement

Group regarding the status of transit services in the City. Mr. Gombert informed City Council that due to lack of riders in some streets there will be route and schedule changes in the Combi Service and that the service will now start at 6:00 a.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Gombert also informed City Council of concerns addressed by the riders and the use of Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) passes. **There being no objection, Mayor Noguez asked Mr. Gombert to report back to City Council with future transit change recommendations and solutions to the concerns of the riders and the use of an MTA pass or EZ pass.**

Mayor Noguez 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.

Ronald Garcia, Southern California Edison Regional Manager Public Affairs, addressed City Council regarding storm related issues. Mr. Garcia stated that there were some parts of the City that experienced blackouts for up to four (4) days due to the storm.

Nick Ioannidis addressed City Council to wish them good luck with the City's General Municipal Election and asked the City to support his Annual Immigrants Day celebration on April 21, 2005.

Elisa Rudolph, President of Board of Director of American Cancer Society Los Angeles Central Unit, asked the City to host an event for Hispanic National Cancer Awareness Month on April 23, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Rudolph stated that cancer survivors will be honored at this event. Motion by Loya, seconded by Hernandez, to establish as "**subsequent need**" item, a request on behalf of the American Cancer Society Los Angeles Central Unit for the City to host an event for the Hispanic National Cancer Awareness Month, as the item arose after the posting of the agenda, necessitating City Council's immediate consideration and/or action, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Hernandez, Council Members Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Member Escareño. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Loya, to **approve the request for the City to host an event for the Hispanic National Cancer Awareness Month on Saturday, April 23, 2005 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Civic Center Park**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Hernandez, Council Members Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Member Escareño. Mrs. Rudolph also announced that March 14 and 15, 2005 are the American Cancer Society Daffodil Days.

Dante D'Eramo, Executive Manager at The Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, announced that their 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Arrival of the Easter Bunny celebration at Park Theatre on Pacific Boulevard will be Saturday, March 19, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. Mr. D'Eramo stated that they will be featuring Sponge Bob Square Pants the movie free of charge and giving away candy. Mr. D'Eramo invited City Council and City staff to attend the Bally's Total Fitness Grand Opening on Saturday, March 12, 2005; and the State of the City Address at the Family Center on Thursday, March 10, 2005 at 7:30 a.m.

Alberto Tovar, Senior Executive of Pacific Charter School Development, Inc., updated City Council regarding the status of the Charter School process and stated that he would like to begin construction as soon as possible. Mr. Tovar informed City Council that he will be attending the State of the City Address at the Family Center on Thursday, March 10, 2005 at 7:30 a.m.

Yvonne Correa informed City Council that she attended a two (2) day tour of schools and expressed her pleasure with the proposed Charter School facilities. Ms. Correa wished everyone good luck with the City's General Municipal Election tomorrow and encouraged everyone to get out and vote.

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

Chief Deputy City Clerk Ramirez announced that this is the time and place set to consider any public comment regarding a grant application for 2005 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and purpose for use of the eligible funds. The Chief Deputy City Clerk reported that no written communications had been received in the Office of the City Clerk. Mayor Noguez declared the public hearing open and called for oral communications and hearing none, Mayor Noguez declared the public hearing closed. Motion by Loya, seconded by Gomez, to **accept the 2005 Justice Assistance Grant and approve designation of funds**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Hernandez, Council Members Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Member Escareño.

Assistant City Engineer Fu presented a request from Blockbuster Fireworks to lease City-owned property at the northwest corner of Salt Lake Avenue and Florence Avenue for

firework sales by the Huntington Park High School Sports Club. **There being no objection, City Council continued this item to April 2005.**

Interim Director of Parks and Recreation Putnam presented for discussion and/or action the City's Centennial Celebration concept as proposed by the Arts and Culture Commission and authorize the creation of a steering committee to coordinate the events of the Centennial Celebration. **There being no objection, City Council authorized the formation of a Centennial Advisory Committee with representation from The Greater Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce and the Arts and Culture Commission to explore a year long calendar of events and report back to City Council.**

ORDINANCE NO. 742-NS. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK ADDING CHAPTER 26A TO TITLE 5 OF THE HUNTINGTON PARK MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE **REGULATION OF CABLE SYSTEMS OPERATING WITHIN THE CITY** was read by title. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Hernandez, that reading in full of Ordinance No. 742-NS for first reading be waived, and that Ordinance No. 742-NS be introduced and approved for first reading, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Hernandez, Council Members Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Member Escareño.

Motion by Loya, seconded by Gomez, to establish as “**subsequent need**” item, a closed session for CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: (1); as the item arose after the posting of the agenda, necessitating City Council's immediate consideration and/or action, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Hernandez, Council Members Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Member Escareño. City Attorney Leal requested the City Council resolve into a **closed session** pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9 for CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: (2). Mayor Noguez declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 8:20 p.m. City Clerk Romo was excused from the closed session.

Following the closed session, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 8:37 p.m. Present: Vice Mayor Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Mario Gomez, Council Member Richard V. Loya, and Mayor Juan R. Noguez. Absent: Council Member Edward Escareño.

City Attorney Leal reported out that in closed session a status report was provided.

Mayor Noguez declared the meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m., in memory of Eileen Gerardi, former Treasurer for the City of Huntington Park and Mary Jane Cabrera, mother of Teresa Cabrera, Council Member for the City of Bell Gardens.

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Juan R. Noguez, Mayor

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Elba Romo, City Clerk