

**MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of the  
City of Huntington Park City Council  
Tuesday, October 4, 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 6:17 p.m. on Tuesday, October 4, 2016, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 6550 Miles Avenue, Huntington Park, California; Mayor Graciela Ortiz presiding.

PRESENT: Council Member(s): Valentin Palos Amezquita, Jhonny Pineda (arrived at 6:43 p.m.), Karina Macias, Vice Mayor Marilyn Sanabria and Mayor Graciela Ortiz. CITY OFFICIALS/STAFF: Edgar Cisneros City Manager; Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, City Attorney; Noel Tapia, Assistant City Attorney; Cosme Lozano, Chief of Police; Josette Espinosa, Director of Parks and Recreation; Jan Mazyck, Interim Finance Director; Manuel Acosta, Economic Development Manager; Michael Ackerman, Acting Public Works Director/City Engineer, Martha Castillo, Human Resources Director, and Donna Schwartz, City Clerk.

**INVOCATION**

The invocation was led by Mayor Ortiz.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ashely Serrano.

**PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

California Highway Patrol (CHP) presented "Certificates of Recognition" to City of Huntington Park Police Officers for the "10851" Auto Theft Recovery Award.

Council presented "Certificates of Appreciation" to those who volunteered at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Recovery Day (SRD), Implemented by the Los Angeles Unified School District held September 9, 2016.

Council presented a proclamation to Seargent Abigail Valle, proclaiming "October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month."

City Manager Edgar Cisneros announced that an item is being added to the agenda, that copies are available to the public and asked City Attorney Arnold Alvarez-Glasman to explain. Mr. Alvarez-Glasman stated that an item arose after the posting of the agenda necessitating City Council's immediate consideration, staff is requesting to add this item as item 8 the Extension of the Urgency Ordinance, Pursuant to Government Code Section 65858, Establishing a Temporary Moratorium on the Establishment and Operation of Charter Schools within the City. Mr. Alvarez-Glasman further noted the request is to schedule the extension for the October 18<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting which is required by law for a 10 day notice, reviewed and accepted by Council. Mr. Alvarez-Glasman informed Council that to add the item there needs to be a motion and a second and a 3/4 majority vote.

**Motion:** by Vice Mayor Sanabria motioned to add item 8 to the agenda, 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

Mayor asked City Manager Edgar Cisneros if the staff report was distributed to all Council. Mr. Cisneros stated yes and that copies were available to the public.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

At 6:55 p.m. Vice Mayor Sanabria left the Chambers.

1. Pastor Concepcion Roque, Ministerios Mahanaim, presented a card and a cake to the Huntington Park Police Department, accepted by Chief Cosme Lozano, for all their support and dedication to the residents and the community.
2. Ivan Mata, spoke in regards to vehicles speeding down California and nothing being done, asked that motor bikes patrol this area, suggested hiring more officers and is concerned that someone might get hurt.
3. Jose Barra, Acting Manager, Huntington Park Library, introduced himself and stated that he will be working in place of the library manager as acting manager, while she is out on maternity leave and announced various events taking place at the library.

At 7:00 p.m. Vice Mayor Sanabria returned to the Chambers.

4. Joan Lias, made a suggestion regarding building parking structures to increase the supply of parking in the city.
5. Roman Gonzales, commended Council and the residents of Huntington Park for getting involved with the community and cleaning it up.
6. Sandra Orozco, made remarks toward the City Manager and the City Attorney, commented on alleys in the city, commented on the construction being done on Pacific Boulevard, previously asked for a forensic audit and asked what is being done, remarked fraud and misappropriation of funds.
7. Rodolfo Cruz, commented on trees being maintained stating that his neighbor on Passaic has a pine tree that needs to be trimmed, contracts being supervised, the need for more police officers and noted graffiti in front of the courthouse.
8. Francisco Rivera, noted his efforts of cleaning graffiti in the city, stated the bus stops are no longer being pressure washed by the contractor, stated he contacted the contractor, would like to have a meeting with the person who supervises the contracts, pleased with the construction on Pacific Boulevard and the police department.
9. Jorge Corona, spoke in support of Aspire Antonio Maria Lugo school.
10. Ebony Wheaton, CCSA, spoke in support of charter schools and opposed to the moratorium.
11. Vaughn Becht, spoke about past presidents.
12. Raul Rodriguez, Americas 1<sup>st</sup> Latinos, asked Council to do the right thing and eliminate the two illegals on the commissions and appoint citizens, commented on the invocation, spoke in opposition to Council, commented on those elected and remarked he requested a forensic audit and is still waiting.

Mayor asked City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman to explain the public comment rules. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman explained that public comments must be addressed to the Council.

13. Robin Hvidston, We the People Rising, asked Council to obey the law, commented on the two commissioners and feels citizens of Huntington Park should hold these positions, acknowledged police officers and those who were awarded for locating stolen vehicles and asked Council to resend the two commissioners.

14. Valentin Amezquita, commented on the city clean-up, feels with a robust budget the city can hire more employees to clean the street and the alleys, noted cleaning alleys by his council colleagues was political, spoke in support of charter school, commented on agenda item regarding Measure M, feels it will provide a lot of jobs and supports light rail in the city, and noted there is a parking issue not only for commercial but residential as well.

### **STAFF RESPONSE**

Mayor Ortiz asked Chief Lozano to look into the concern that was brought up by Ivan regarding the speeding on California.

Mayor Ortiz asked City Manager Cisneros to follow up with Public Works regarding the contract the city has for pressure washing bus stops.

Mayor Ortiz clarified her comment from the last council meeting regarding the moratorium and the number of schools Huntington Park has, noting the city has 22 schools not 20 which contributes to traffic issues but that Chief Lozano is working with the schools, with regard to graduate rates, for this school year it is 95% for Huntington Park High School and 94% for Marquez High School. She stated she called around and Huntington Park High School, Marquez High School, Alliance and Aspire all have room for residents wishing to attend.

Mayor Ortiz asked City Manager Cisneros to follow up with Mr. Cruz regarding the pine tree. Ms. Ortiz noted that Public Works had assessed all the trees as well as the tree company on Passaic Street and asked if they can go back out and assess the pine tree. City Manager asked if Mr. Cruz can provide his information with staff and perhaps meet with the arborist so the tree can be addressed.

Vice Mayor Sanabria asked public works to find out if the tree is on private property before considering trimming the tree. Ms. Sanabria announced that at the last council meeting there was a report from the Finance Director which gave a positive outlook on the city's economic growth and asked City Manager to clarify. City Manager Cisneros stated the City of Huntington Park is enjoying \$2 million in revenues over expenditures.

Mayor Ortiz asked City Attorney to clarify the added item regarding the moratorium. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman stated the added item is a step required as the city moves forward to consider whether or not to extend the moratorium or not

Council Member Amezquita would like to add to a future agenda hiring an additional police dispatcher. City Manager Cisneros stated that the position is currently in recruitment.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:41 p.m. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman recessed to closed session.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR  
(Government Code Section 54957.6(a)) - Regarding Represented Employees  
City's Designated Representative(s) for Negotiations: Edgar Cisneros, City  
Manager  
Employee Organization: Police Officers Association (POA)

At 8:20 p.m. Mayor Ortiz reconvened to open session. All Council Members present.

### **CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Assistant City Attorney Noel Tapia announced Council discussed closed session no action taken nothing to report.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

**Motion:** Vice Mayor Sanabria motioned to approve consent calendar items, 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

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

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

1-1 Regular City Council Meeting held Tuesday, September 20, 2016.

### **FINANCE**

2. Approved Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated October 4, 2016

## END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

## REGULAR AGENDA

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

3. Continued from the September 20<sup>th</sup> Regular City Council Meeting – Approve First Amendment to Contract with Bennett Landcare for Landscaping Maintenance Services

**Motion:** Mayor Ortiz motioned to approve first amendment to contract for a three (3) year term, no extensions, with Bennett Landcare for the Landscaping Maintenance Services contract, authorize the City Manager to execute such agreement and approve budget appropriation of \$162,810 for account #111-8095-431.56-60 and \$2,186 for account #231-8010-415.56-41, 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

### **FINANCE**

4. **Approve Additional Budget Appropriation for MTA Grant Funds to Complete a General Plan Update**

#### RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Authorize Finance Director to make an additional budget appropriation for \$70,000 in account 222-5030-431.56-41.

**Motion:** Vice Mayor Sanabria motioned to approve, seconded by Council Member Macias. Motion failed for lack of a vote and due to a substitute motion.

Council Member Macias would like this item continued so that an update can be brought before Council before approval.

**Substitute Motion:** Mayor Ortiz motioned to continue item to the next City Council Meeting so that staff can present an update, 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

**5. Resolution Establishing Fund Balance Policies as Required Pursuant to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54**

**Motion:** Mayor Ortiz motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2016-45, establishing fund balance policies that are consistent with the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, 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

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**6. Authorize a Pledged Revenue and Funds Resolution for Publicly Owned Entities Pursuant to the Submittal of an Application to the State Water Resources Control Board for Financial Assistance and/or Grant Funding for Well No. 17**

**Motion:** Council Member Macias motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2016-46, as part of the grant funding for improvements to Well 17, and authorize the City Manager to sign financing agreement, amendments, and certifications for funding under the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, 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

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**7. Resolution of the City Council Supporting Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Sponsored Measure M to Fund Local Transportation Improvements**

**Motion:** Mayor Ortiz motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2016-47, Supporting the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) sponsored Measure M to fund local transportation improvements, 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. Extension of Urgency Ordinance No. 2016-949, Pursuant to Government Code Section 65858, Establishing a Temporary Moratorium on the Establishment and Operation of Charter Schools within the City**

**Motion:** Vice Mayor Sanabria motioned to adopt the Staff Report as the Official Written Report Required by Government Code Section 65856(d) and schedule the Extension for Urgency Ordinance No. 2016-949 for the October 18, 2016 City Council meeting, 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

**END OF REGULAR AGENDA**

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS** (Information only)

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS** – None.

**COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, commented on charter schools and allowing them to come into the city, feels a moratorium for a study isn't necessary, suggested retrofitting the buildings to allow whatever use, doesn't mind another charter school, commented on public safety and spoke in support of good schools and should be based on their performance, thanked staff and wished everyone a good evening.

Council Member Karina Macias, thanked staff for all their hard work, thanked her colleagues for attending the clean-up the city had, responded to Council Member Amezquita's comment regarding cleaning up is political and feels it is the council's civic duty to participate as public servants to help keep the city clean, it is important for the residents to see council participating and lead by example, she announced her attendance at the tree planting event and recognized students who participated, spoke in support of Measure M and the collaboration with MTA, and wished everyone a good night.

Council Member Jhonny Pineda, responded to Council Member Amezquita's comments regarding charter schools and notes that residents are concerned with the schools adding more traffic. Mr. Pineda announced his attendance at a Smart Cities event noting the issue of technology being one of the subjects adding revenue and suggested the city look into this. He also suggested wireless internet be looked into as a revenue generating source in the city, a community college or a private university, thanked staff for all their work and wished everyone a good night.

Vice Mayor Marilyn Sanabria, responded to Council Member Amezquita's comment regarding education and clarified that it is very important to her, with regard to public safety she supports the city's police department, and his use of public comment taking the time to attack staff and the efforts of council. Ms. Sanabria responded to the comment regarding the City clean-up stating she takes her child to events in the community to instill values and care of the community.

At this time Council Member Amezquita interrupted Vice Mayor Sanabria's comments. Mayor Ortiz called Council Member Amezquita out of order followed by his first warning, Council Member Amezquita continued, Mayor Ortiz gave him his second warning, Council Member Amezquita continued to be out of order, Mayor Ortiz then asked Seargent of Arms to escort Council Member Amezquita out of the chambers.

At 9:15 p.m. Mayor Ortiz called for a brief RECESS.

At 9:19 p.m. Mayor Ortiz RECONVENED the meeting with all Council Members present with the exception of Council Member Amezquita previously escorted out.

Mayor Ortiz allowed Vice Mayor Sanabria to finish her comment.

Vice Mayor Sanabria apologized on behalf of Council Member Amezquita's unprofessionalism, she announced the "Hauntington" Park Halloween event on October 31, 2016 from 3 to 9 p.m. and invited the public to attend and wished all a good night.

Mayor Ortiz, thanked staff for all their hard work, recognized the Tree People and staff for a successful event that took place on Saturday, thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for getting the Girls Softball league up and running, that she will sponsor any 11 to 14 year old girl who wants to play softball and that tomorrow is the deadline, she announced parenting classes at Salt Lake Park and for more information to contact the Parks and Recreation Department and again thank staff for all their hard work.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:23 p.m. Mayor Ortiz adjourned the City of Huntington Park City Council to a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2016, at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk