

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Monday, June 21, 2010.

Following the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Noguez. Present: Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Vice Mayor Mario Gomez, Council Member Elba Guerrero, Council Member Andy Molina, and Mayor John R. Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Mayor and City Council presented a City tile plaque to Chief of Police Paul Wadley in recognition of his outstanding leadership, guidance, and exemplary service to the community. Chief of Police Wadley thanked the City for allowing him to serve the community for 34 years and stated that although he did not reside here, this is his home and it will be hard to leave.

Mayor and City Council presented a Certificate of Recognition to Nicholas and Elizabeth Alexander on behalf of Nick Alexander of Alexander Imports for their outstanding accomplishments, significant contributions to the local economy and generosity to local community organizations.

Emma Gutierrez, representing the Miles Elementary School Parent Center, thanked City Council for the opportunity to showcase a variety of items such as handbags, hats,

jewelry, and baskets made of used potato chip bags, plastic bags, newspapers, and other recyclable items. Mayor and City Council presented Certificates of Recognition to the following for their service and participation in the "Re-use Recycle for a Cleaner Planet" Program at Miles Elementary School Parent Center: 1) Maria Cardenas (not present); 2) Angela Carrillo; 3) Maria Covarrubias; 4) Maria De Jesus; 5) Minerva Delgadillo (not present); 6) Lidia Escobedo (not present); 7) Emma Gutierrez; 8) Maria Lugo (not present); 9) Consuelo Ortiz (not present); 10) Alejandra Pineda; 11) Maria G. Rodriguez; 12) Narda Verde (not present); and 13) Minerva Zapata (not present).

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.

Diane Spalding read a letter to City Council on behalf of a group of citizens opposing the item on the City Council agenda concerning META2000's proposed El Grito event and distributed copies. Ms. Spalding expressed their concerns to City Council regarding the request from META2000 for the City to contribute \$50,000 and waive \$56,474.49 in City fees associated with their El Grito event when the City is in financial crisis. Ms. Spalding also expressed their concerns with a five (5) year commitment with META2000 for this event; and allowing alcohol at the park.

Leticia Ferrer addressed City Council regarding the item on the agenda pertaining to the El Grito event and asked City Council not to allow alcohol at the park. Ms. Ferrer stated that the El Grito is a televised event and that allowing alcohol could portray a bad image about the Hispanic community.

Maria Elena Arreola addressed her concern to City Council regarding META2000's proposal to serve alcohol near the park during the El Grito event and stated that she foresees a problem with disorderly conduct at the event.

Nick Ioannidis addressed his concern to City Council regarding an ongoing problem with illegal activities taking place in the parking lot of his business, which he shares with the mortuary. Mr. Ioannidis also addressed his concern with elevated tree roots affecting his property that were planted by the owner of the mortuary without permission and asked City Council for assistance with this matter.

Ronald V. Garcia, Southern California Edison Regional Manager Public Affairs, informed City Council that they have been working on identifying equipment that is need of replacement and repairs. Mr. Garcia also informed City Council that there will be a service interruption soon and to keep in mind that higher rates are approaching in the summer for Edison customers, which is the reason their energy conservation program is offered to small business at no cost.

Adrian Yule, representing La Rouche PAC, thanked City Council for adopting a resolution in support of the Homeowners Protection Act approximately one (1) year ago and informed City Council of financial issues and banking reforms affecting the country's economy. Mr. Yule distributed copies and urged City Council to consider supporting the Cantwell-McCain Glass-Steagall Act amendment to stop derivatives market. Mr. Yule stressed the importance of having a space program and taking proactive measures to stop the oil spill in the Gulf Coast.

Leticia Martinez, representing the American Cancer Society, informed City Council that she was in Washington D.C. to support increasing the budget for health in order to aid the endeavor of finding a cure for cancer. Ms. Martinez stressed the importance of finding the resources when diagnosed with breast and uterine cancer.

Eve Rodriguez, Chair of the American Cancer Society Southeast Cities Relay for Life, thanked the City for supporting their annual Relay for Life June 19-20, 2010, especially Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Member Guerrero, and Chief of Police Wadley. Ms. Rodriguez announced that this year, the Relay for Life received approximately \$36,000 in donation that will go toward the fight against cancer and that they are still accepting donations. Ms. Rodriguez also stated that Huntington Park City employees collectively donated \$1,900 toward the cause.

Salvador Velazco, representing the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, thanked City Council and all who participated in this year's Relay for Life event. Mr. Velazco also thanked Director of Parks and Recreation Espinosa for allowing them to use Salt Lake Park for this event.

Alex Young introduced Manuel and Sergio Pineda, Coaches of the Juventa Soccer Team, which placed 1st in the COPA League in Southern California and asked City Council to recognize them for their dedication to the youth in the community. Mr. Young addressed his concerns to City Council regarding organizations requesting that the City waive fees associated with their events while residents are being notified of a water and sewer rate increase. Mr. Young stated that if organizations do not have the funds to conduct their events, they simply should not have them.

Guadalupe Hernandez, on behalf of a group of women, addressed their concerns to City Council about being approached by Parks and Recreation employees asking them to obtain a permit because they exercise as a group. Ms. Hernandez stated that they are merely a group of friends exercising together free of charge not an organization and asked City Council to waive the \$200 a month fee the Parks and Recreation Department is asking them to pay.

Esther Guzman addressed City Council in support of residents who utilize the City parks for exercising and promoting health. Ms. Guzman informed City Council that she supports META2000's proposed El Grito event at the park without involving the consumption of alcohol. Ms. Guzman urged City Council not to allow alcohol at this event, to keep the parks alcohol free, and to promote a positive image of the community.

Yvonne Correa addressed her concerns to City Council regarding the length of META2000's El Grito event, their request for waiver of fees in addition to a City contribution for the event, and their request to serve alcohol at the event. Ms. Correa stated that Central America, South America, and Mexico have zero tolerance for alcohol in honor of the El Grito celebration. Ms. Correa asked City Council what their commitment is to this organization so as to budget for their event especially when the City is in a financial crisis. Ms. Correa expressed her concern of residents not being able to use the park during the length of the event and stated that she does not want any under the table deals.

Rosa Meza stated that she has supported City Council in the past and has assisted with various events in the City over the years but strongly opposes any event where alcoholic beverages will be served due to potential problems and negative influence on the community. Ms. Meza asked City Council to consider bringing positive and educational events to the community instead.

The meeting recessed at 7:05 p.m. and resumed at 7:10 p.m.

Silvestre Quiroz, Public Affairs Specialist with the Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP), thanked Director of Parks and Recreation Espinosa and Assistant City Manager Shear for coordinating the art exhibit currently displayed at City Hall and for preparing certificates for the graduating class of Cordona Family Childcare. Mr. Quiroz informed City Council that LAUP is currently working with Southeast Cities Schools Coalition on making childhood education available to children in the community and distributed copies of an overview of preschools in the area. Mr. Quiroz presented City Council with a pledge form and urged them to sign showing their support for LAUP's endeavors.

Luis Garcia addressed City Council on behalf of a local church group to oppose alcoholic beverages to be served at the park. Mr. Garcia stated that serving alcohol at an event of such magnitude will increase the risk of people driving under the influence of alcohol, therefore posing a threat to the lives of the people in the community and the surrounding cities.

Vicente Ortiz, representing META2000, informed City Council that he was not here to argue for the beer at the El Grito event. Mr. Ortiz stated that he has been accused of corruption and was not going to allow that. Mr. Ortiz wanted to state publicly that he has supported all electeds but he has always said he was not asking for anything in return. Mr. Ortiz informed City Council that other cities like the City of Long Beach have beer gardens at large events which are successful events where there are no incidents. Mr. Ortiz encouraged people to familiarize themselves with the complex process for acquiring permits to sell alcohol at an event.

Manuel Pinedo addressed his concern to City Council regarding being mistaken for an organization by Parks and Recreation employees, thus asking them to pay for using the park and to provide liability insurance because he exercises with a group of kids. Mr. Pinedo asked that the Parks and Recreation staff focus on the people who are conducting criminal activities at the park instead of those individuals who exercise to stay healthy; and asked City Council to look into this matter.

Alejandra Pineda addressed her concern to City Council regarding the Police Department procedures when a resident calls to report graffiti and/or dangerous or illegal

activity. Ms. Pineda stated that the Police Department informed her that those types of crimes are low in priority due to lack of patrol units available to respond to the call at the time.

Council Member Guerrero left her seat at 7:27 p.m.

Eduardo Carvajal thanked Mayor Noguez and City Council for doing a great job throughout the year and asked City Council to bring back the El Grito event to the City of Huntington Park because it is tradition and it brings a lot of publicity to the City.

Council Member Guerrero returned to her seat 7:30 p.m.

Rosa E. Perez addressed her concerns with the request from META2000 for the City to waive fees and financial contribution for the El Grito event. Ms. Perez stated that although she supports Vicente Ortiz and does not oppose the beer garden, due to the City's budget deficit, the City had put out a ballot measure to raise the Utility Users' Tax in order to avoid City employee layoffs and that giving City funds would be like losing two (2) City employees. Ms. Perez also expressed her concern with paying a fee to exercise at the park.

Leilani Hickman addressed City Council regarding the proposed item on the agenda to allow the El Grito event to take place at the park and stated that this event is neither profitable nor beneficial to the City, local merchants, and residents.

Don Brabant, President of The Greater Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, thanked everyone, especially City Manager Korduner for participating in their Annual Golf Tournament on Thursday, June 17, 2010. Mr. Brabant invited everyone to attend their "Special Occasions and Party-Planning Expo" on Sunday, July 18, 2010. Mr. Brabant informed City Council that they finally reached an agreement with Circus Berny and thanked City Council for their help with the process. Mr. Brabant stated that he would like to clarify that the Chamber of Commerce has never asked to have alcohol at their events.

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

City Attorney Leal requested the City Council resolve into a **closed session** pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6, CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS, Agency designated representative: Gregory D. Korduner, Employee organizations: General Employees' Association, Police Officers' Association, Police Management Association, and Non-Represented Employees' Association. Mayor Noguez declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 7:37 p.m. City Clerk Ramirez was excused from the closed session.

Following the closed session, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 7:47 p.m. Present: Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Vice Mayor Mario Gomez, Council Member Elba Guerrero, Council Member Andy Molina, and Mayor John R. Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Clerk Ramirez announced that in accordance with published notice, this is the time and place set to invite public comment regarding the 2010 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. The 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 Guerrero, seconded by Gomez, to **approve solicitation of the 2010 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant in the amount of \$62,122**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Approve minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held Monday, June 7, 2010.

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

Approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated June 21, 2010.

Adopt the City's Investment Policy Statement for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Authorize staff to issue Request for Proposals (RFP) for Installation of Safety Netting at Salt Lake Park Ball Diamonds.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

City Manager Korduner presented for discussion and/or action the findings, determination, and order of the Civil Service Commission for Police Officer David Welp. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Guerrero, **to affirm the decision of the Civil Service Commission to deny Police Officer David Welp's appeal**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Manager Korduner requested designation of voting delegates and alternates for the League of California Cities Annual Business Conference in San Diego, September 15 through 17, 2010. **There being no objection, City Council appointed Mayor Noguez as the voting delegate and Vice Mayor Gomez as the alternate for the League of California Cities Annual Business Conference in San Diego, September 15 through 17, 2010.**

Director of Finance Padilla presented for discussion and/or action the Budget Ad-Hoc Committee recommendations and expenditure reductions to the City's Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Guerrero, **to approve the Budget Ad-Hoc Committee recommendations and expenditure reductions to the City's Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget with the caveat that staff look into consolidating the Parks and Recreation, Arts & Culture Commission, and Youth Commission and/or converting said commissions into advisory boards rather than commissions and report back to City Council**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Director of Parks and Recreation Espinosa presented for discussion and/or action a request from META2000 for the following: 1) approval of a Facility Use Agreement with META2000 to use Salt Lake Park Soccer Circle, Baseball Fields, and parking lots to conduct the 2010 "El Grito" event; 2) waiver of fees associated with this event in the total amount of \$56,474.49; 3) a City contribution of \$50,000 for this event; 4) a 5-year exclusive contract with the City for this event; and 5) a permit for a beer garden to be located outside the park to serve alcoholic beverages at this event. Following a discussion, motion by Gomez, seconded by Guerrero, **to approve META2000's El Grito event in concept and to form an Ad-Hoc Committee comprised of Vice Mayor Gomez and Council Member Guerrero to work with META2000 and City staff to discuss META2000's various requests and report back to City Council with recommendations**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Director of Community Development Gray presented a recommendation by the Health and Education Commission to change the time of the Health and Education Commission meetings to 5:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Motion by Guerrero, seconded by Molina, **to approve the recommendation by the Health and Education Commission to change the time of the Health and Education Commission meetings to 5:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice

Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-35. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA, **ADOPTING THE SECOND AMENDED JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT OF THE ORANGELINE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** was presented. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Guerrero, to adopt Resolution No. 2010-35, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-36. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK **APPROVING THE APPLICATION REQUESTING GRANT MONIES FROM THE BASEBALL TOMORROW FUND** was presented. Motion by Guerrero, seconded by Molina, to adopt Resolution No. 2010-36, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-37. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK **DECLARING THE CITY AS A HEALTHY EATING, ACTIVE LIVING (HEAL) CITY** was presented. Motion by Molina, seconded by Gomez, to adopt Resolution No. 2010-37, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

ORDINANCE NO. 855-NS. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK CALIFORNIA AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 3 OF THE HUNTINGTON PARK MUNICIPAL CODE TO **INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MEMBERS FROM THREE TO FIVE** was read by title. Motion by Molina, seconded by Gomez, that reading in full of Ordinance No. 855-NS for first reading be waived, and that Ordinance No. 855-NS be introduced and approved for first reading, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Guerrero, Molina, and Mayor Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Attorney Leal requested the City Council resolve into a **closed session** pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE. 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 Ramirez was excused from the closed session.

Following the closed session, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 8:34 p.m. Present: Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Vice Mayor Mario Gomez, Council Member Elba Guerrero, Council Member Andy Molina, and Mayor John R. Noguez; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Attorney Leal reported out of that in closed session regarding Conference with Labor Negotiators, Agency designated representative: Gregory D. Korduner, Employee organizations: General Employees' Association, Police Officers' Association, Police Management Association, and Non-Represented Employees' Association, a status report was given by City Manager Korduner, no reportable action taken; and Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release, a status report was given by retained counsel, no reportable action.

Mayor Noguez declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

John R. Noguez, Mayor

Rosanna M. Ramirez, City Clerk