

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Tuesday, January 21, 2014.

Following the Invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Kevin Christian Hernandez, 6<sup>th</sup> grade student at Lucille Roybal-Allard Elementary School. The meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Gomez. Present: Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Karina Macias, and Mayor Mario Gomez; Absent: None.

Mayor Gomez and City Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Kevin Christian Hernandez for leading the flag salute at the City Council meeting January 21, 2014.

Mayor Gomez and City Council presented a proclamation to Curacao for their contributions and for serving as a corporate sponsor.

Mayor Gomez and City Council presented a Certificate of Recognition to Gloria Enciso for Francisco Gonzalez, owner of Northgate Market in South Gate, for his service and commitment to ending hunger in our community through his monthly food donations to Santa Martha Church in Huntington Park.

Motion by Perez, seconded by Macias, to establish as “**subsequent need**” item, a request from Council Member Hernandez for discussion and/or action regarding the City partnering with organizations on immigration seminars throughout the City, as the item arose after the posting of the agenda, necessitating City Council's immediate consideration and/or action, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Amezquita, Vice Mayor Perez, Council Members Hernandez, Macias, and Mayor Gomez; Absent: None.

Yesenia Acosta, representing the Law Offices of Scott Warmuth, briefed City Council regarding legal services offered by Liga Legal, including immigration, and briefed City Council on upcoming free seminars commencing February 22, 2014. Ms. Acosta asked City Council for assistance by allowing use of a facility, tables and chairs. Ms. Acosta thanked Council Member Hernandez and City Manager Bobadilla for their assistance with this request.

Motion by Amezquita, seconded by Molina, to **approve the City of Huntington Park to partner with Liga Legal to provide legal services to the community and to conduct immigration seminars throughout the City; and allow use of a City facility, tables and chairs**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Amezquita, Vice Mayor Perez, Council Members Hernandez, Macias, and Mayor Gomez; Absent: None.

## **10. CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

### **10.1 2014 Employment Agreement for the position of City Manager between the City of Huntington Park and Rene Bobadilla.**

#### RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approve the 2014 Employment Agreement with Rene Bobadilla to continue as Huntington Park City Manager.

Nicholas Alexander, representing Nick Alexander Imports, distributed copies of a letter and addressed City Council to express support for City Manager Bobadilla. Mr. Alexander briefed City Council regarding their long standing relationship with the City of Huntington Park, which was recently reinvigorated by City Manager Bobadilla. Mr. Alexander stated that Nick Alexander is the largest contributor to the City's sales tax base with over \$205 Million in sales just last year alone. Mr. Alexander asked City Council to consider renewing City Manager Bobadilla's employment contract if they value the future financial success of the City.

Richard V. Loya, former Mayor and Member of the City Council, addressed City Council regarding water conservation education and asked City Council to consider a shorter term and a 6-month severance for the proposed City Manager

contract.

Rodolfo Cruz addressed concerns with the proposed employment agreement for the City Manager.

Edmundo Perez addressed concerns with the proposed employment agreement for the City Manager, including the proposed salary. Mr. Perez also addressed concerns with the salary of the City's Finance Director and any City employee making over \$100,000 a year.

Raquel Toscano expressed displeasure with City Manager Bobadilla and asked City Council to make a clear decision regarding the employment agreement for the City Manager.

Henry Garcia read a statement and addressed City Council in support of City Manager Bobadilla and stated that the City would be in bad shape if it was not for him and congratulated him on his work as a City Manager in the short time he has held his post.

Catalina Peraza, representing the General Employees' Association (GEA), addressed City Council to request that City Council take into consideration City employees and the community when making the decision on the employment agreement for the City Manager.

Emma Gutierrez addressed City Council in support of City Manager Bobadilla and asked City Council to approve the proposed employment agreement and support City Manager Bobadilla.

Antonio Padilla addressed City Council in support of City Manager Bobadilla and thanked him for assisting him in the past. Mr. Padilla asked City Council to consider renewing his employment agreement and possibly renegotiate his salary.

Interim Assistant City Attorney Larsen briefed City Council regarding changes from the previous employment agreement for the City Manager to the new proposed agreement.

Vice Mayor Perez read a copy of an email sent to City Council from a former City employee commending City Council for hiring City Manager Bobadilla and expressed support for City Manager Bobadilla.

Council Member Macias stated that at this time, she is not confident enough to make a decision to approve an agreement for the employment of the City Manager and asked her colleagues to respect her views and prospective.

Council Member Amezcuita stated that there is no urgency to approve the employment agreement for the City Manager today and that he would like to receive a list of accomplishments from City Manager Bobadilla and a performance evaluation of his job in order to make a decision.

Council Members Amezcuita and Macias excused themselves from the meeting at 6:54 p.m.

Mayor Gomez expressed support for City Manager Bobadilla and stated that at the last meeting, City Council received the accomplishments a performance evaluation of the City Manager. Mayor Gomez stated that the City Manager position should not be political and that City Council appointed him for the job and that he has done a great job.

Council Member Hernandez expressed support for City Manager Bobadilla and stated that he is the right person for the job and the community. Council Member Hernandez stated that Mr. Bobadilla is available to City Council and the residents all the time and commended him for bringing transparency to the City's budget and for engaging in community outreach through Town Hall meetings.

Motion by Perez, seconded by Hernandez, to **approve the 2014 Employment Agreement with Rene Bobadilla to continue as Huntington Park City Manager with the amendment to the proposed agreement to reduce the severance to 12 months**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Perez, Council Member Hernandez, and Mayor Gomez; Absent: Council Members Amezcuita and Macias.

Mayor Gomez 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.

Jose Mendrano addressed concerns to City Council regarding a rental agreement and payment arrangements made at the Huntington Park Plaza, formerly known as Rugby Plaza Senior Housing. Mr. Mendrano asked City Council who from the City is authorized to pay the rent subsidy to the property management at Huntington Park Plaza.

Candelario Perez addressed concerns regarding a rent increase at Huntington Park Plaza and stated that he was promised by City administrators that his rent would not increase as a result of a transaction involving the sale of the building. Mr. Perez also stated that the rent subsidy has not gone into effect.

Director of Finance Morales stated that he will meet Mr. Medrano and Mr. Perez at the Huntington Park Plaza to address their concerns to the property management.

Edgar Gordillo commended Vice Mayor Perez for her involvement with a community meeting held recently regarding a battery recycling company. Mr. Cruz expressed his support and congratulated City Manager Bobadilla.

Vivian Morada and Jonah Rudolph, representing Michaels Furniture, briefed City Council regarding the history of the furniture store and informed City Council that they are being forced to close their store in Los Angeles. Ms. Morada requested approval of a tent sale in front of their parking lot to be extended from 1 month to 2 consecutive months in order to bring their inventory and customer base from Los Angeles to Huntington Park.

Rodolfo Cruz addressed concerns regarding City Council and property taxes in Huntington Park. Mr. Cruz stated that residents have to know what is going on in the City.

Edmundo Perez addressed concerns regarding a transaction involving the sale of former Rugby Plaza Senior Housing.

Henry Garcia expressed support for City Manager Bobadilla, Mayor Gomez, Vice Mayor Perez, and Council Member Hernandez for always being involved in the various events throughout the City. Mr. Garcia asked individuals to stop the political bullying against Mr. Bobadilla and work together for the betterment of the community.

Andy Molina, former Mayor and Member of the City Council, addressed City Council in support of City Manager Bobadilla and congratulated City Manager Bobadilla.

City Manager Bobadilla thanked City Council for their support and stated that he will be presenting the City's accomplishments in 2013 next month. Mr. Bobadilla informed City Council that he will continue to work with the community and City Council to continue to provide the great service that the City of Huntington Park deserves.

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

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

## **6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

6.1 Approve minutes of the following City Council meeting:

6.1-1 Regular meeting held Monday, January 6, 2014

## **6. CONSENT CALENDAR – (Continued)**

- 6.2 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**

- 6.3 Approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated January 21, 2014.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

- 6.4 **Resolution approving the application for grant funds from the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development for the Salt Lake Park Splash Pad Project.**

#### RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2014-2 approving the application for grant funds from the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development under its Housing-Related Parks (HRP) program for the Salt Lake Park Splash Pad Project was presented. Motion by Perez, seconded by Hernandez, to adopt Resolution No. 2014-2, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Perez, Council Member Hernandez, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Members Amezcuita and Macias.
2. Authorized the Director of Parks and Recreation and/or the Mayor to execute and submit all related grant application documents.

### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- 6.5 **Second Reading of Ordinance approving and extending an existing franchise to ExxonMobil Oil Corporation for use and maintenance of a pipeline.**

#### RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approve the Second Reading, by title only and waive further reading, and adopt Ordinance No. 927-NS extending an existing franchise to ExxonMobil Oil Corporation, its Successors and Assigns, for the use and maintenance of a certain twelve-inch pipeline in, under, and along the easterly forty feet of Santa Fe Avenue in the City of Huntington Park was read by title. Motion by Perez, seconded by Hernandez, that reading in full of Ordinance No. 927-NS for second reading be waived, and that Ordinance No. 927-NS be approved for second reading and adopted, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Perez, Council Member Hernandez, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Members Amezcuita and Macias.

### **END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

## **7. HEARING**

### **7.1 Adopt the City of Huntington Park 2011, 2012, and 2013 Annual Housing Element Progress Report.**

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Open the public hearing to receive any comments, and hearing none.
2. Close the public hearing and consider all public testimony.
3. Adopt the City of Huntington Park 2011, 2012, and 2013 Annual Housing Element Progress Report.

Albert Fontanez, Senior Planner, briefed City Council regarding the Annual Housing Element Progress reporting requirements and process.

Motion by Perez, seconded by Hernandez, to adopt the City of Huntington Park 2011, 2012, and 2013 Annual Housing Element Progress Report, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Perez, Council Member Hernandez, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Members Amezcua and Macias.

## **8. REGULAR AGENDA**

### **FINANCE DEPARTMENT**

#### **8.1 Update on the City's Parking Citation Amnesty Program.**

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Receive and file a status report on the City's Parking Citation Amnesty Program.

Danny Bueno, Management Analyst and Annie Ruiz, Finance Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the City's Parking Citation Amnesty Program.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

#### **8.2 Consideration to reappoint Juan Anaya and Laura Herrera to serve on the Planning Commission.**

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Reappoint Juan Anaya to serve on the Planning Commission for a four-year term.
2. Reappoint Laura Herrera to serve on the Planning Commission for a four-year term.

Motion by Perez, seconded by Hernandez, to approve the reappointment of Juan Anaya and Laura Herrera to serve on the Planning Commission for a four-year term ending February 1, 2018, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Perez, Council Member Hernandez, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Members Amezcua and Macias.

**8. REGULAR AGENDA – (Continued)**

**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**8.3 Approve of Facility Use Permit and fee waiver request for American Cancer Society.**

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approval of Facility Use Permit and fee waiver for American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" Event.

There being no objection, Mayor Gomez so ordered this item approved.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**8.4 Contract Amendment with H.P. Automotive & Tow, Inc.**

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approve Amendment No. 2 to Amended and Restated Agreement for Furnishing of Towing and Storage Service and Designation as an Official Police Garage for the City of Huntington Park.

Motion by Perez, seconded by Hernandez, to approve Amendment No. 2 to Amended and Restated Agreement for Furnishing of Towing and Storage Service and Designation as an Official Police Garage for the City of Huntington Park, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Perez, Council Member Hernandez, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: Council Members Amezcua and Macias.

**9. CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

**9.1 Approve a City Council Travel/Conference Budget.**

Following a briefed discussion and there being no objection, Mayor Gomez directed staff to report back to City Council with a proposed City Council Travel/Conference Budget to allow Council Members to attend three (3) conferences per year.

City Manager Bobadilla announced that the following item will be presented at the next Council meeting:

**9.2 Update on the Eco Rapid Transit Project.**

**11. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

**12. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

**12.1 Mayor Mario Gomez**

**12.2 Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez**

**12.3 Council Member Ofelia Hernandez**

**12.4 Council Member Valentin Palos Amezcua**

**12.5 Council Member Karina Macias**

### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Gomez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

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Mario Gomez, Mayor

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Rocio Martinez, Sr. Deputy City Clerk