

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the
City of Huntington Park City Council
Tuesday, August 16, 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, August 16, 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; 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 Jazmin Chupina.

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council presented a "Certificate of Appreciation" to Jazmin Chupina for leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council presented a Proclamation to Avila's El Ranchito Celebrating their "50th Year Anniversary."

Mr. Frank Tamborello, Executive Director, Hunger Action LA, presented an update on the Hunger LA and Market Match Program.

Not in attendance - Brief overview of Senator Lara's "Young Senators Program" by Joseph Nunez, Young Senators Program Director, Office of Senator Ricardo Lara

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Merlinda Gomez-Vargas, commented on Council not attending the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" event that had taken place in June.

Mayor Ortiz announced that four of the Council Members had attended a conference at that time and noted that they had participated in fundraising, donated baskets and participated in previous "Relay for Life" events. Ms. Ortiz also noted that City employees were in attendance representing the City and that at her request volunteers were sent to help in the set-up and clean-up of the event.

2. Susana Martinez, parent of a student at Aspire Academy, spoke in opposition to the new start time at Aspire Academy and the extra traffic lane on Carmelita and the danger it imposes.
3. Ed Ramirez, commented on a parking citation he received, the process to pay, notices not being received and asked who he can speak to.

Mayor Ortiz directed the Chief of Police to follow-up with Mr. Ramirez's concerns.

4. Rodolfo Cruz, commented on a widow that was broken at his home, over grown trees in his neighborhood, trash in the City, taxes Seniors have to pay, debt, monies being distributed, spoke in opposition to Council, would like to see more police officers, noted gangs in the City and people not cleaning up after their dogs at the parks.
5. Guillermina Gonzalez, parent of a student at Aspire Academy voiced concern with the new start time at Aspire Academy and the hardship it has caused to the families, monies paid for crossing guards should go towards education, and asked Council to reconsider the start time.
6. Rocio Corona, parent of a student at Aspire Academy, commented on no security or traffic control at Aspire Academy and asked Council to reconsider the new start time.
7. Denise Robles, Executive Director, LA CAUSA Youth Build, spoke about the program they assist those who have not graduated from high school, provide vocational training and announced information sessions every Thursday at 1:30 p.m. at 5400 E. Olympic Blvd, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA.
8. Cecilia Gallardo, parent of a student at Aspire Academy stated the new start time at Aspire Academy doesn't allow school to open an early morning program and asked Council to reconsider.
9. Miriam Torres, parent of a student at Aspire Academy spoke in regards to the new start time at Aspire Academy stating the time interferes with the time she is to be at work and asked Council to make the time flexible for those parents that work.

Mayor Ortiz asked for all those parents of students at Aspire Academy leave their phone number with Ms. Crum, if they have to leave the meeting early.

10. Sandra Orozco, thanked channel 52 for attending the meeting, announced she was nominated as Democrat Woman of the Year Assembly 63, spoke in opposition to Council attending the City of Maywood's council meeting, commented on federal laws being broken, acknowledged We the People Rising, commented on John Noguez, City Attorney and City Manager.
11. Francisco Rivera, thanked those who beautify Pacific Boulevard, commented on GPC no longer pressure washing and cleaning the bus stops, noted he picks up trash in the city, and avenues looking bad.
12. Vaughn Becht, commented on the word bureaucrat.
13. Robin Hvidston, We the People Rising and Remembrance Project, commented on the two commissioners and asked that they be removed, feels the two seats should go to citizens in the city, announced the Remembrance Project will be attending couple of hearings for citizens who were killed by an "illegal."
14. Wes Parker, spoke in opposition to Council, commented on the Pledge of Allegiance, illegals, Constitution, sister cities, lack of law, commented on an agenda item regarding purchase of police vehicles, Mexican government, and people being killed by "illegals."
15. Arthur Schaper, spoke in opposition to Council, commented on "illegals," mentioned Efren Martinez, Senator Lara, the two immigrants and feels they shouldn't be on the commissions, commented on marijuana, religious rights, immigration laws, and a letter to the District Attorney.
16. Janet West, addressed comments made by Macias at the last meeting regarding racism, noted the difficulty she has while using the head phones, asked that English be spoken, and noted she has helped the homeless and disabled that are Latinos.

At 7:08 p.m. Mayor Ortiz gave Arthur Schaper his 1st warning for being out of order.

17. Nick Ioannidis, commented on his life in Huntington Park and issues that have occurred, noted his accomplishments, Americanism and invited Council to come to his house to see his shrine.
18. Valentin Amezquita, commented on previous City Council meeting regarding Dial-A-Ride contract, the process of approval, financial evaluation, challenges to the budget, noted he mentioned to City Manager if contract was given to Fiesta Taxi, he would have suggested a one year contract and base it on performance to make sure they perform, commented on racism and the word illegal.

STAFF RESPONSE

Mayor Ortiz announced to the parents of Aspire Academy to leave their information with Ms. Crum.

Mayor Ortiz asked Chief Lozano to respond to the parking issue at Aspire Academy and address the traffic meetings where herself, Principals, District Officials and Charter Officials who attended. Chief Lozano stated various issues regarding traffic and parking at Nimitz, HP Elementary and Aspire schools were presented by the surrounding residents. Chief Lozano stated City staff began to involve the community, school officials and various stake holders through various meetings. Out of these meetings improvements were in engaged which included the staggered start times, which was based on agreements by the City, the schools and the residents. Mayor Ortiz also noted that the schools weren't meeting various conditions which was first presented to the Planning Commission. City Manager Cisneros explained the conditions to Aspire Academy were imposed by the Planning Commission and were done as a compromise with Aspire and if the current condition doesn't work out then staff can review and explore where things can be improved. Mayor Ortiz stated that all administrators from the three schools agreed that there would be police presence at the schools in the morning for safety reasons and suggested the parents or representative for the parents attend the meetings. Chief Lozano asked that the parents inform the police department when there are meetings and that the police department is more than happy to attend or if the parents want to call and schedule a meeting they are happy to accommodate.

Council Member Amezquita suggested earlier times.

Mayor Ortiz noted that Charter Schools set their own times. It was agreed upon by both the City and the schools. Chief explained the time that was set was entirely agreed upon by Aspire. Mayor Ortiz feels it is important for the parents to attend the meetings and that she would be attending the next meeting and encouraged her colleagues to attend.

Mayor Ortiz acknowledged LA CAUSA program.

Mayor Ortiz addressed Ms. Orozco's comment regarding attendance at the City of Maywood council meeting. Ms. Ortiz noted the event the City of Maywood is having and the concerns the residents of Huntington Park have with regard to traffic and blocking of the city's streets and if the City of Maywood isn't listening then she will address them during public comment to represent the residents of Huntington Park and asked Council Member Pineda to also address. Mr. Pineda reiterated the concerns and complaints by the Huntington Park residents regarding the traffic from the previous event and wants to ensure that the City of Maywood complies with the City of Huntington Parks procedures for the upcoming event.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:25 p.m. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman announced corrections to the titles of the closed session items and recessed to closed session.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(2)(1)

Atenea Reyes v. City of Huntington Park

2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2) (1)) – One matter

(added) H.P. Tow Services v. City of Huntington Park

At 8:00 p.m. Mayor Ortiz reconvened to open session. All Council Members present.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman announced Council discussed closed session items 1 and 2, stating for item 1) the item was settled unanimously by Council, direction was given to resolve the matter with in the direction provided, for item 2) Council unanimously agreed to authorize Special Counsel to review and prepare cross complaint naming all appropriate actions and cross defendants.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Macias pulled item 4 for discussion.

Motion: Council Member Macias motioned to approve consent calendar items 1-3, seconded by Vice Mayor Sanabria. Motion passed by the follow votes:

Item 1: Motion passed 4-1.

Item 2: Motion passed 5-0.

Item 3. Motion passed 5-0.

See below Roll Calls.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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

1-1 Regular City Council Meeting held Tuesday, July 19, 2016.

ROLL CALL:

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

NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

POLICE

2. Authorized the appropriation of funds to purchase and equip two (2) new 2017 Police Department police vehicles from the FORD MOTOR COMPANY, specifically South Bay Ford in Hawthorne, CA, authorized additional budget appropriation of \$94,970.60 from the Supplemental Frontline Law Enforcement Fund, Account 122-7010-421.74-10 and authorized the Chief of Police to purchase the vehicles and associated equipment.

ROLL CALL:

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

NOES: Council Member(s): None

3. Authorized the appropriation of funds to purchase and install emergency response equipment for two (2) new police patrol vehicles, authorized additional budget appropriation of \$30,089.00 from the Police Forfeiture Fund, account

#229-7010-421.74-10 and authorized the Chief of Police to purchase the vehicles and associated equipment.

ROLL CALL:

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

NOES: Council Member(s): None

4. Resolution to Approve the Standard Agreement between the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Grant Assistance Program (GAP) and the City Huntington Park for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-2017 ABC Grant Assistance Program Funding

Pulled by Council Member Macias for discussion.

Vice Mayor Sanabria suggested more information be brought back to Council and for the public's knowledge.

Motion: Mayor Ortiz motioned to approve the Standard Agreement with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Grant Assistance Program, adopt Resolution No. 2016-32, Authorizing Chief of Police, Cosme Lozano to enter into an Agreement with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control and authorize the Finance Department to make payments to facilitate the successful completion of this project, seconded by Vice Mayor Sanabria. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

NOES: Council Member(s): None

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

REGULAR AGENDA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

5. Resolution Consenting to the Inclusion of Properties within the Territory of the City of Huntington park (The "City") in the California Municipal Finance Authority (CMFA) Open Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2016-33, related to the City's participation in the California Municipal Finance Authority ("CMFA") Open Property Assessed Clean Energy ("PACE") Program;
2. Authorizing the CMFA to accept applications from property owners, conduct contractual assessment proceedings and levy contractual assessments within the City and authorizing related actions; and
3. Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager, or designee thereof, to execute all documents and take any actions necessary and appropriate to carry out the intent of this resolution.

City Manager Cisneros requested the item be continued to the next City Council meeting

Motion: Vice Mayor Sanabria motioned to continue item to the next City Council meeting, seconded by Mayor Ortiz. Motion passed 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 Expenditure of Funds for a Public Information Program through the Gateway Cities Council of Governments

City Manager Cisneros presented the item.

Motion: Mayor Ortiz motioned to approve the expenditure of \$15,000 from account number 219-0250-431.59-15 for a public information program through the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, seconded by Vice Mayor Sanabria. Motion passed 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

7. Approve Resolution Fixing the Annual Pension Tax Rate to Pay the City's Pension Obligation Bond Annual Debt Service and a Portion of the Cost of Public Employees' Retirement System for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

City Manager Cisneros introduced Interim Finance Director Mazyck who presented the item.

Council Member Amezquita commented on his previous question on whether the City can say no.

At this time Vice Mayor Sanabria **Called for the Question**, seconded by Council Member Macias. Call for the Question 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: Council Member Macias motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2016-35, Fixing the Rate of Taxes to Pay the Cost of the Public Employees Retirement System for the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and Levying Taxes for Said Retirement System to the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2016, seconded by Vice Mayor Sanabria. 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

POLICE

8. Approve Renewal of Agreement with Trittech for Annual Software Maintenance Services and Approve Payment for Service for a One-Month Period

Chief of Police Lozano presented the item.

Motion: Council Member Macias motioned to approve renewal of agreement with Tritech for Software maintenance services, approve the payment for service for a one-month period not covered by the agreement and authorize Chief of Police to execute agreement, seconded by Council Member Pineda. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

NOES: Council Member(s): None

PUBLIC WORKS

9. Approve Renewal and/or Amendment to Contract with Trimming Land Company (TLC) for Tree Maintenance Services

City Manager Cisneros presented the item.

Vice Mayor Sanabria recommended a three-year agreement instead of a four-year agreement.

Motion: Vice Mayor Sanabria motioned to approve a three-year agreement with Trimming Land Company (TLC) Tree Maintenance Services contract, authorize the City Manager to execute such agreement and authorize the Finance Department to make any necessary budgetary changes/adjustments, seconded by Council Member Macias. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

NOES: Council Member(s): None

10. Approve Payment of Invoices to Computer Services Company for Traffic Signal Services Rendered in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-2016

City Manager presented the item.

Motion by Council Member Macias motioned to approve payment of invoices to Computer Services Company totaling \$35,107.16 from account 221-8014-429.56-41 for FY 2015-16 for traffic signal services, seconded by Council Member Pineda. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

NOES: Council Member(s): None

END OF REGULAR AGENDA

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS (Information only)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Valentin Palos Amezcuita, commented on the marijuana ordinance, suggested industrial areas i.e. Slauson/Randolph be changed to mixed use which would be a huge benefit for the City and to encourage the marijuana applicants to find locations further north of Slauson and Randolph. Mr. Amezcuita mentioned previously

his recommendation for rent control for those seniors on a fixed income while asking for support from his colleagues and feels something can be done at the local level. He commented on Freedom of Religion, bringing in a bigger hospital into the City, suggested another strategic plan meeting, thanked staff and wished those present a good night.

Council Member Karina Macias, thanked staff and police department for a successful National Night Out event, thanked staff for the beautification project on Pacific Boulevard, announced her attendance at the Friends of the Library event, reminded the public that the City did not get rid of the Dial-A-Ride program but improved the service and that there was a lot of good comments regarding the service, she addressed Council Member's Amezquita's comment regarding staff's work and feels staff works hard for the City. Ms. Macias asked the Public Works Director Ackerman to provide Council with an update on the cross walks.

Council Member Jhonny Pineda, thanked staff for the successful National Night Out event, announced he met an organization that informs the youth regarding reckless driving and would like to put together an event in the City and asked for his colleagues support. Mr. Pineda announced the Huntington Park Fellows finished the program and encouraged staff to prepare projects to be completed during the program time. Mr. Pineda asked staff to bring back to Council an update on the Pacific Boulevard project.

Vice Mayor Marilyn Sanabria, addressed Council Member Amezquita's comment regarding time spent on approving the marijuana licenses. She remarked this isn't true and noted her time has been spent on meeting and greeting residents, non-profits and other resources to bring into the City services for homelessness, thanked staff and the police department on a successful National Night Out event, she thanked Council Members Pineda, Macias and Mayor Ortiz for attending the event. Congratulated the Friends of the Library for their services and wished everyone a good night.

Mayor Graciela Ortiz, directed the City Manager to review resolution regarding Council comments and time allotted. Mayor Ortiz asked Parks and Recreation Director Espinosa the status of the girls softball sign ups and asked that the information be distributed to the schools, she thanked staff for a successful National Night Out event and for including the youth, acknowledged the Friends of the Library event, announced numerous compliments regarding the Dial-A-Ride services were received, wished all the students a happy new school year and wished everyone a good night.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:48 p.m. Mayor Ortiz adjourned the City of Huntington Park City Council to a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2016, at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk