

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the
City of Huntington Park City Council
Tuesday, May 4, 2021

The City Council conducted this meeting in accordance with California Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-25-20 and N-29-20.

The Rules of Decorum were played prior to the start of the Regular Meeting.

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park, California was called to order at 6:03 p.m. on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 6550 Miles Avenue, Huntington Park, California; Mayor Graciela Ortiz presiding.

PRESENT: Council Member(s): Manuel “Manny” Avila, Marilyn Sanabria, Karina Macias, Vice-Mayor, Eduardo “Eddie” Martinez and Mayor Graciela Ortiz.

CITY OFFICIALS/STAFF: Ricardo Reyes, City Manager; Raul Alvarez, Assistant City Manager; Araceli Almazan, City Attorney; Sergio Infanzon, Director of Community Development/Acting City Clerk; Cesar Roldan, Director of Public Works; Cosme Lozano, Chief of Police; Nita McKay, Director of Finance & Administrative Services; ABSENT: Cynthia Norzagaray, Director of Parks & Recreation;

INVOCATION

Invocation was led by Mayor Ortiz.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by City Council Member Macias.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of Proclamation in Support of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week 2021 – Chief Lozano thanked the following employees: Communications Supervisor Nick Pacheco, Communications Operators Bryan Menendez, Eileen Rodriguez, Joanna Casillas, Juan Herrera, Jose Almanza, Irene Marquez, and Liliana Haley
2. Chief Lozano introduced the newly promoted Sergeant Mario Diaz.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Jose Rivera submitted a public comment about the ongoing issues in the alley on 58th street. Mr. Rivera stated that this area has become a new homeless, drug users, and drinking hangout spot and asked the City Council to resolve this situation at the location.

STAFF RESPONSE

Mayor Ortiz responded to Mr. Rivera by letting him know that she received his email with pictures and a video of the place, and will be forwarding it to the Chief of Police. She also mentioned that Public Works has cleaned the area, but the trash accumulates again within one or two days. The City of Huntington Park has a current RFP out that will hopefully bring a nonprofit organization to work with the transient community and see what resources the city can provide.

City Manager provided a response and stated that City Staff will continue addressing this issue.

City Manager requested for the City Council to consider adding two items to the agenda, and asked the City Attorney to present the motion.

City Attorney Araceli Almazan stated that there were two items that required immediate action and both items came to the attention of the city after the posting of the agenda. As such both items can be added to the agenda as subsequent need items upon a motion and a second. She also stated that it was required a two

third vote to add each of these two to the agenda. Item #9 and item #10 that is how they will be identified. Item #9 is consideration and approval to enter into emergency contract agreement to repair vandalized street lights, and electrical components. Item #10 is a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park California demanding that the LA County Sheriff department releases more information related to the shooting of Isaias Cervantes by an LA County Sheriff deputy, and demanding an investigation into the shooting by the LA County District Attorney Office, California Attorney General Office, and the United States Department of Justice.

Mayor Ortiz entertained a motion to add items #9 and #10 as presented by our City Attorney.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria made a motion to add items #9 and #10 as presented by our City Attorney, seconded by Council Member Macias. Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

At 6:26 p.m. Mayor Graciela Ortiz, recessed to closed session

City Attorney Araceli Almazan asked the City to recess into closed session to discuss the matter listed under the close session portion of the agenda.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
Name of Case: Palacios, Esteban v City of Huntington Park
Claim No. 18-134040
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL –EXISTING LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
Construction Industry Force Account Council v. City of Huntington Park
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCP03947

At 7:19 p.m. Mayor Graciela Ortiz reconvened to open session with all Council Members present.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

City Attorney Araceli Almazan made the following announcement: The minutes should reflect that with all five members of the Council present both items on the close session portion of the agenda were discussed:

1. Item #1 - Council was briefed, direction was provided, nothing further to report.
2. Item #2 - Council was briefed, direction was provided, no reportable action was taken. This concluded the closed session report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Council Member Macias moved to approve the consent calendar from the May 4, 2021, Regular Meeting, seconded by Council Member Sanabria. Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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

1-1. Regular City Council Meeting held April 20, 2021

FINANCE

2. Approved Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrant(s) dated May 4, 2021

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC WORKS

3. REJECT ALL DESIGN-BUILD PROPOSALS RECEIVED FOR THE AQUATICS CENTER PROJECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 4.10 CITY RIGHTS OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO RE-ADVERTISE

Director Cesar Roldan presented the item.

Motion: Council Member Macias moved to reject all bids for the Aquatics Center Project in accordance with section 4.10 [City Rights] of the Request for Proposal (RFP), and authorize staff to modify the content in the Statement of Qualifications (SOQ), and RFP in conformance with all applicable design-build standards, and authorize the Public Works Department to re-advertise the SOQ, and RFP in accordance with Public Contract Code, Division 2. General Provisions [1100 -22355], Part 3; Contracting by Local Agencies [20100 - 22178], Chapter 4; and Local Agency Design-Build Projects [22160 - 22169]. Seconded by Council Member Sanabria. Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

4. CONSIDERATION AND AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FROM QUALIFIED ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS TO DRAFT THE LOCAL ROADWAY SAFETY PLAN

Director Cesar Roldan presented the item.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria moved to authorize staff to publish and solicit a Request for Proposal (RFP) from qualified engineering consultant firms to draft the Local Roadway Safety Plan, seconded by Mayor Ortiz. Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

5. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO REHABILITATE CIP 2020-03 COTTAGE RESERVOIR AT WELL 15

Director Cesar Roldan presented the item.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria moved to approve the contract with Utility Service Co., Inc. (A SUEZ Company) for the rehabilitation of CIP 2020-03 Cottage Reservoir at Well 15 as the lowest responsive and responsible proposer for a not-to-exceed amount of \$647,882.28, approve a budget transfer in the amount of \$250,000 from Account No. 283- 8040-432.76-11 Sewer Fund Capital Project-Water & Sewer Master Plan to Account No. 283-8040-432.76-18 Sewer Fund Capital Project- Cottage Reservoir/Well 15 and a budget transfer in the amount of \$250,000 from Account No. 681-8030-461. 76-11 Water Fund Capital Project -Water & Sewer Master Plan to Account No. 681-8030-461.76-18 Water Fund Capital Project-Cottage Reservoir/Well 15, and approve an appropriation in the amount of \$212,671 to Account No. 681- 8030-461.76-18 Water Fund Capital Project-

Cottage Reservoir/Well 15, which includes a ten percent (10%) contingency of \$64,788, and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract agreement seconded by Council Member Macias, motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

6. Continued from the April 20, 2020. Regular City Council Meeting
CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A TEMPORARY AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE PARKING SERVICES TO KEMP BROS CONSTRUCTION

Motion: Mayor Ortiz moved to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute the temporary agreement, seconded by Council Member Sanabria, Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

Discussion:

Council Member Sanabria suggested to have a report at the end of the contract. Director Infanzon stated that a report can be provided every quarter.

ROLL CALL:

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

POLICE

7. **CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT REIMBUSIBLE GRANT FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51,788 AND APPROVE THE STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT FOR GRANT YEAR 2019 BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES AND THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK**

Chief Lozano presented the item.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria moved to accept reimbursable grant funding and increase estimated revenues in the amount of \$51,788 in account number 230-0000-335.30-70 (State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)); and approve a budget appropriation in the amount of \$51,788 to account number 230-7219-421.74-10 Capital Equipment for the purchase of police radio equipment; and authorize the City Manager to be designated as the Grantee Official for the purpose of executing grant objectives, the grant agreement, and documentation. seconded by Council Member Avila, Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

CITY MANAGER

8. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTIONS 2-10.01 AND 2-10.02 TO TITLE 2, CHAPTER 10 OF THE HUNTINGTON PARK MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION LIMITS UNDER AB 571**

City Manager Ricardo Reyes presented the item.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria moved to waive first reading and introduce the Ordinance adding Section 2-10.01 "Authorization" and Section 2-10.02 "Limitations on

Campaign Contributions" to Title 2, Chapter 10 of the Huntington Park Municipal Code regarding campaign contribution limits under AB 571; and schedule the second reading and adoption of said Ordinance, as described above, at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council seconded by Mayor Ortiz Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

Discussions:

Vice Mayor Martinez asked about the pros and cons of having unlimited contributions, also asked about what other cities around the area do. Director Sergio Infanzon stated that there are a couple of cities in the Southeast that have contributions limits, but the majority do not have limits on campaign contributions. Historically, the City of Huntington Park has not had any limits but did it sometime around 2004 or 2005.

The City Manager also talked about how historically the city have not had campaign contribution limits.

ROLL CALL:

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

END OF REGULAR AGENDA

ITEMS ADDEDD TO THE AGENDA

9. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO EMERGENCY CONTRACT AGREEMENT TO REPAIR VANDALIZED STREET LIGHT, ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS

STAFF RESPONSE

Mayor Ortiz asked if Public Works Director could explain this item.

Director of Public Works stated that this was an important topic the department has been dealing in the last several months due to the stealing of electrical equipment. He stated that there are street lights that are not working out and Public Works is having employees come in at 4 a.m. in the morning to make sure the lamps are working. It is not just one streetlight, but the entire block. The department will have an electrician fixing, repairing, and replacing all the wire that has been stolen. Public Works will have a contractor fixing the lights and installing a concrete cover to protect the electrical equipment.

Council Member Sanabria asked if the city can post the wire theft hotline, so individuals know where to report it.

City Manager will continue working with our Police Department and Public Works Department to try to address the issue as quickly as possible. Wire theft is a serious issue that affects the quality of life of the residents. The city is spending roughly about 50,000.00 quarterly on addressing this issue, and is looking for other preventive solutions. PD is also working to catch those responsible. Anyone watching at home we do encourage to report any suspicious activity to the Police Department.

Mayor Ortiz asked what would be an estimated timeline to get all lights back working completely. Director of Public Works stated that it would take about a month.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria moved to approve entering into an emergency contract agreement to repair vandalized street light, electrical components, seconded by Council Member Macias, Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

CITY COUNCIL

10. **RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK CALIFORNIA DEMANDING THAT THE LA COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT RELEASE MORE INFORMATION RELATED TO THE SHOOTING OF ISAIAS CERVANTES, BY AN LA COUNTY SHERIFF DEPUTY AND DEMANDING AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE SHOOTING BY THE LA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICE, CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL OFFICE AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.**

Motion: Council Member Sanabria moved to approved a **resolution of the city council of the city of Huntington Park California demanding that the LA County Sheriff department release more information related to the shooting of Isaias Cervantes, by an LA County Sheriff deputy and demanding an investigation into the shooting by the LA County District Attorney Office, California Attorney General Office and the United States department of Justice**, seconded by Council Member Macias, Motion passed 5-0-0, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

END OF PUBLIC HEARING

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS – City Manager wished all the mothers a Happy Mother’s Day.

Public Works Director reminded residents they can still go to the Public Works yard to change oil containers. Public Works will be open this Friday.

Community Development Director announced that next week the Casa Bonita will go to escrow, and the exchange agreement will be completed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS –

Council Member Avila wished a Happy Mother’s Day.

Council Member Sanabria thanked all the employees and wished everyone a Happy Mother’s Day, especially to those who play a double role. She also wished a Happy Birthday to City Manager Ricardo Reyes.

Council Member Macias thanked staff for their continuous work throughout this past year. Reminded all residents tomorrow May 5 from 9-12 at Salt Lake Park vaccines will be available for residents sixteen years of age and over. She wished a Happy Mother’s Day to all Mothers. This week is Teachers Appreciation Week, she thanked all teachers.

Vice Mayor Martinez, thanked staff for making sure the meeting was conducted safely. Also wished a Happy Birthday to City Manager Ricardo Reyes, and a Happy Mother’s Day to all the beautiful mothers in the city. He thanked all teachers and everyone who came to the Community Cleanup held on April 24. He stated that there was a great attendance of over fifty volunteers. Mr. Martinez also stated that the city is really trying to address illegal dumping, street pollution, and street litter. The city is looking at ways to engage the community, educate the community, and making sure City of Huntington Park stays safe.

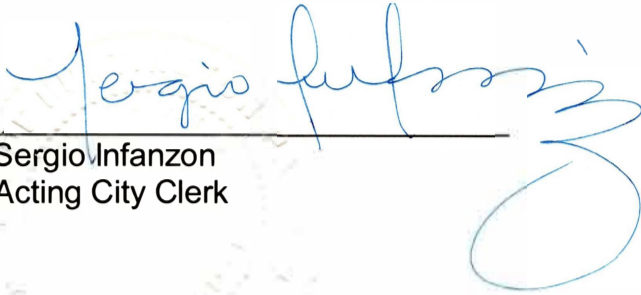
Mayor Ortiz thanked Public Works, and Parks staff for Earth Day event. It is unfortunate that some Walnut Park residents thought they were part of the cleaning as well. The Mayor reached out to some of them and gave them the County supervisor’s phone number. She also stated that this year the City of Huntington Park did not hear any complaints regarding residents leaving trash outside. That had a lot to do with our Public Works Department coming in on Sunday and making sure it was clean. She reminded the City Manager and the Chief of Police regarding the alley on 58th St. discussed during public comment. She thanked all her fellow educators and teachers that will celebrate this coming Teachers Appreciation Week. She also reminded the residents of the RBI

program. The City has sign ups, and are looking for coaches. Happy Birthday to our City Manager. Regarding illegal dumping a student reach out to me with an idea about placing trash cans on different corners within residential areas. This can be discussed by our Public Works and Staff here at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Ortiz adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m. to a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sergio Infanzon
Acting City Clerk