

**MINUTES**  
Regular Meeting of the  
City of Huntington Park City Council  
Tuesday, May 18, 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 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 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; Cosme Lozano, Chief of Police Works; 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. National Police Week Proclamation presented by Vice Mayor Martinez
2. Senior Officer Promotion – Chief of Police, Cosme Lozano introduced Senior Officer Mike Parsa and his family
3. Mental Health Awareness Proclamation presented by Mayor Ortiz.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Mr. Jose Rivera, Leticia Valdez, and Adriana M. made comments on the ongoing situation at the alley on 58<sup>th</sup> St. The residents asked for more patrolling in the area. They stated that Police Officers and Public Works are doing their job, they address the issue and clean the streets, but the transients living on the streets, they go back and create a problem in the area for the residents making loud noises and trashing the area. Neighbors are asking for more Officers to patrol the area.

**STAFF RESPONSE**

2. Chief of Police provided a response to the situation at the alley on 58<sup>th</sup> Street and Soto. He stated that officers have been dealing with the concerns in the alley and with the individuals that are persistent about staying there. The Police Department will start coordinating with code enforcement this week to inform the business owners along that alley not to dispose any cardboard boxes and other materials that the homeless individuals can use to create new encampments. PD has also added three-pre plan patrols daily to that alley which should make a difference in days or weeks to come. PD is trying to allow the homeless outreach team to essentially work the problem so we can try to provide services and information and hopefully try to get some of these individuals out of the streets and into some real shelters, this is the real solution.
3. Public Works Director stated that he continues to coordinate with the Chief of Police and his team in order to ensure all alleys get clean up. Daily loads of trucks are full; this happens multiple times a day. Public Works will continue to help the community stays clean.

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

**At 6:28 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)  
Construction Industry Force Account Council v City of Huntington Park  
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCP03947

**At 7:18 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, the item listed on the close session portion of the agenda was discussed:

1. Item #1 - Council was briefed, no final action was taken, nothing further to report. It is appropriate to proceed with the open portion of the agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Motion:** Council Member Sanabria moved to approve the consent calendar from the May 18, 2021, Regular Meeting, 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

**OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK**

1. Approved Minute(s) of the following City Council Meeting(s):  
1-1. Regular City Council Meeting held May 4, 2021

**FINANCE**

2. Approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrant(s) dated May 18, 2021

**CITY MANAGER**

3. Adopt Ordinance 2021-01 approving 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
  1. RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION  
Waive second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2021-01, approving adding sections 2-10.01 and 2-10.02 to Title 2, Chapter 10 of the Huntington Park Municipal Code regarding campaign contributions limits under AB 571.

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

4. **APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF WORK PERFORMED AS PART OF CIP 2019-11 HIGH-INTENSITY ACTIVATED CROSSWALK BEACON AT GAGE AVENUE AND BISSELL STREET PROJECT**

Director Cesar Roldan presented the item.

**Motion:** Council Member Sanabria moved to approve acceptance of work performed by Elecnor Belco Electric, Inc. for the construction of CIP 2019-11 High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk beacon at Gage Avenue and Bissell Street, authorize staff to execute the Notice of Completion and direct the City Clerk to file the NOC with the Los Angeles County Recorder's Office, and release Elecnor Belco Electric, Inc. invoice no. 5 for the amount of \$38,380.77 and 5% retention amount of \$9,736.55 for a total of \$48,117.32, 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

**5. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY EXPRESSING THE INTEREST TO EXCHANGE CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT HIGHWAY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS FUNDING TO SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM LOCAL FUNDS**

Director Cesar Roldan presented the item.

**Motion:** Council Member Macias moved to approve applying the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act funding towards the Slauson Avenue Project – TIP ID LA0G1669, and Authorize the City Manager to execute a letter requesting to participate in Metro's Surface Transportation Program Local Exchange Program on or before the May 28, 2021 deadline, 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

**6. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDING FOR THE REHABILITATION CIP 2020-03 COTTAGE RESERVOIR AT WELL 15**

Director Cesar Roldan presented the item.

**Motion:** Mayor Ortiz moved to approve Environmental Assessment pursuant to 14 California Code of Regulations § 15301 as a Class 1 categorical exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and authorize staff to record the Notice of Exemption with the County of Los Angeles County Clerk's Office, 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

**7. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AN INCREASE TO PURCHASE ORDER NO. 2542 FOR THE EXPENSE OF IMPORTED WATER**

Director Cesar Roldan presented the item.

**Motion:** Council Member Avila moved to approve an increase to Purchase Order No. 2542 in the amount of \$275,000 from Account No. 681-8030-461.41-00 (Water Supply); and Authorize staff to process Central Basin Municipal Water District invoices for the remaining fiscal year 2020-2, 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

**8. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT POST-PANDEMIC AMENDMENTS TO PERSONNEL POSITIONS**

Director Cesar Roldan presented the item.

**Motion:** Mayor Ortiz moved to approve changes to the Public Works Department personnel positions for Fiscal Year 2020-21 as outlined in the revised Department Organizational Chart, 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

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

**9. APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH AN EXECUTIVE SEARCH FIRM TO CONDUCT AN EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT FOR THE CITY CLERK POSITION**

City Manager Ricardo Reyes presented the item.

**Motion:** Council Member Sanabria moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with an executive search firm to conduct an executive recruitment for the City Clerk position, 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 REGULAR AGENDA**

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS** – Director of Public Works informed Council of the traffic signal at Pacific and Florence. LA County was called and found one of the chips damaged. The County came to fix the issue as quick as possible. It should be working now or tomorrow in the morning.

Vice Mayor Martinez stated that they were complaints from residents regarding the water on Hill and Cudahy. The work that is being done is producing discoloration and making the water brown. The pressure of the water with the new system is pulling everything in. This should take a couple of weeks to get fixed.

Community Development Director thanked the City Council and residents for attending the Informational Housing Element workshop last week. The final number of viewers was 283 in English and 37 in Spanish, and the City has received about 70 surveys regarding the Housing Element. Director encouraged the residents to continue participating. There will be three more informational meeting at our parks. A table with information will be set at the entrance of City Hall, and a second informational workshop in being planned. The public will have the opportunity to review documents and continue to provide more comments for about two or three more months. The final product will be brought before the planning commission and then taken to the City Council.

Chief of Police stated that the school year is about to end and some of the schools are planning to have a commendation event, therefore, PD offered Council and school officials any assistance or assessment from the Police Department with the coordination

of those events for traffic control or other safety related issues.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS** – None

**COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

**Councilmember Avila** – Nothing reported

**Council Member Macias** thanked staff for a great meeting. She reminded everyone that there was a food pantry the week of May 20 from 1-3 p.m. at the Community Center. She stated that at the Center they continue accepting new seniors, if anyone is 60 years or older they qualify. She also provided an update on the West Santana Branch: City will be providing information via social media and a presentation will be added to the council agenda.

**Councilmember Sanabria** Thanked staff for conducting a safe meeting.


**Vice Mayor Martinez** thanked staff, as always for keeping the meeting safe. He reminded the residents to get vaccinated. He also stated that illegal fireworks have a negative impact in the community, it affects our seniors and pets. Let's unite to stop the illegal fireworks in our community.

**Mayor Ortiz** reminded the public and colleagues about the Dodgers RBI program. Practices will start June 12, 2021. If there are any coaches interested, please have them contact Parks & Recreation. City of Huntington Park partnership with Girls Scout is free. Graduations are coming, therefore there is a display outside city hall next to the Police Department and will be there until the end of June for those who want to take pictures.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Ortiz adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m. to a regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Sergio Infanzon  
Acting City Clerk