

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Monday, December 5, 2005.

The meeting was called to order in the Council Conference Room at 6:30 p.m. by Vice Mayor Guerrero. Present: Council Member Juan R. Noguez, Council Member Mario Gomez, Council Member Elba Romo, and Vice Mayor Elba Guerrero. Absent: Mayor Ofelia Hernandez.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Approve minutes of the adjourned regular meeting of the City Council held Monday, November 14, 2005.

Approve minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held Monday, November 21, 2005.

**Deny claim filed by Austriberto Cabral**, Date of Incident: September 24, 2005 and refer to the City's insurance administrator.

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.

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

**Approve Proposition A Discretionary Incentive Grant Program Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** for Collecting and Reporting Data for the National Transit Database for Report Year 2003 between the City and the **Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA)** for a term of one year ending June 30, 2005.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Approve the Payroll Demands dated December 5, 2005.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – Received and filed

Minutes of Traffic Authority meeting held November 28, 2005.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

City Clerk Ramirez presented for discussion and/or action a request on behalf of Southeast Cities Relay for Life-American Cancer Society to conduct a "Benefit Christmas Bazaar" on Saturday, December 10, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in front of the Rite Aid Store on Pacific Boulevard. Motion by Romo, seconded by Gomez, to **approve the request from the Southeast Cities Relay for Life-American Cancer Society to conduct a "Benefit Christmas Bazaar" on Saturday, December 10, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in front of the Rite Aid Store on Pacific Boulevard**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Noguez, Gomez, Romo, and Vice Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: Mayor Hernandez.

City Attorney Leal requested the City Council resolve into a **closed session** pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9, CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION, Name of case: Huntington Park vs. 6208 Alameda Corporation, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court, Case #BC24217; and CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: (2). Vice Mayor Guerrero declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately at 6:35 p.m. City Clerk Ramirez was excused from the closed session.

Following the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Mayor Guerrero. Present: Council Member Juan R. Noguez, Council Member Mario Gomez, Council Member Elba Romo, and Vice Mayor Elba Guerrero. Absent: Mayor Ofelia Hernandez.

Vice Mayor Guerrero 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.

Enrique Murillo, President of American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), addressed City Council to inquire about his prior request for rent control in the City and asked City Council to consider its implementation.

Sharon Lee, President of The Greater Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, invited City Council to attend a Fraud Seminar on Tuesday, December 6, 2005 at 8:00 a.m. and the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Holiday Mixer at Fotorama on Thursday, December 8, 2005 at 5:00 p.m.

Ronald V. Garcia, Senior Vice President of The Greater Huntington Park Chamber of

Commerce, informed City Council that the Fraud Seminar is to make businesses aware of theft during the Holiday season.

Dante D'Eramo, Executive Manager of the Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, informed City Council that due to the receipt of counterfeit \$100 bills by businesses in the City, the Fraud Seminar will also cover the detection of counterfeit bills.

Adrian Kirk, Director of Community Relations of Aspire Charter School in Huntington Park, thanked City Council for the opportunity of addressing their concerns at the last City Council meeting.

Eugenia Mendoza, parent of a student at Aspire Charter School, thanked City Council in advance for their consideration of the proposal by Aspire Charter Schools to open a permanent school in the City.

Linda Kite, Coordinator of Healthy Homes Collaborative, informed City Council that the City of Los Angeles has a proactive code enforcement program that is in charge of ensuring the health and safety of their residents by making sure that homes are lead free and asked City Council to consider implementing a similar program.

Felipe Aguirre, Council Member for the City of Maywood, informed City Council that he is familiar with the success of the code enforcement program in the City of Los Angeles and that the City of Maywood might consider implementing the program.

Pedro Olguin, representing Community Legal Services, asked City Council to look into implementing the proposed code enforcement program.

Rafael Castro, resident of the City of Maywood, informed City Council that the water in the City of Maywood might be contaminated. Mr. Castro asked City Council, as a neighboring city, to cooperate with the City of Maywood to investigate the matter. City Manager Korduner referred Mr. Castro to Director of Field Services Poole regarding this matter.

Rafael Barajas, representing the Community Legal Services, read a survey study to City Council regarding landlords and tenants in the City and stated that rent control is in high demand in the City of Huntington Park. Mr. Barajas stated that the City needs a systematic program of property inspections to eliminate health problems such as asthma due to lack of property maintenance or contaminated water.

Don Brabant, representing Apartment Association, informed City Council that he is familiar with the City of Los Angeles' systematic code enforcement program and that it is expensive to maintain. Mr. Brabant stated that property owners would lose rights if the program is implemented. Mr. Brabant asked City Council to consider property owners as well as tenants.

Hector Alvarado, resident of the City of Maywood, informed City Council that residents of the City of Maywood are facing exposure to contaminants, especially lead, at home and the workplace. Mr. Alvarado also informed City Council that there is a park on Slauson Avenue that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has classified as one of the most contaminated sites in the country and that there is a proposal to put an incinerator at this location. Mr. Alvarado asked City Council to help get rid of the contamination.

Maria addressed her concerns to City Council regarding the living conditions at a housing building on Rugby Avenue near 57<sup>th</sup> Street and regarding the lack of police response to a shooting that occurred on Rugby Avenue. Chief of Police Narramore referred her to Lieutenant Leinen.

Elena Martin, resident of Huntington Park, informed City Council that she is impressed with the City's services, especially the Police Department for their professional and courteous response to calls. Ms. Martin also congratulated the City on the Graffiti Removal Program.

A gentleman asked City Council to consider the systematic code enforcement program in the City to address health issues due to mold and lead found in some residences.

A woman stated that she is disappointed with the uninhabitable conditions of some of the homes in the City and asked City Council to get involved in this matter.

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

City Clerk Ramirez announced that in accordance with published notice, this is the time and place set to obtain the views and opinions of Huntington Park residents regarding the City's Urban Water Management Plan. The City Clerk reported that no written communications had been received in the Office of the City Clerk. Vice Mayor Guerrero declared the public hearing open and called for oral communications and hearing none, Vice Mayor Guerrero declared the public hearing closed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-62 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK CALIFORNIA TO **ADOPT THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK 2005 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN** was presented. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Gomez, to adopt Resolution No. 2005-62, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Noguez, Gomez, Romo, and Vice Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: Mayor Hernandez.

City Clerk Ramirez announced that the public hearing set to consider an Application for a Taxicab Owner's Permit for MidValley Express Taxi was continued.

Director of Finance Pruyn presented for discussion and/or action the Proposed Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget Preparation and Adoption Schedule. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Noguez, to **approve the Proposed Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget Preparation and Adoption Schedule**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Noguez, Gomez, Romo, and Vice Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: Mayor Hernandez.

Director of Community Development Gray requested approval of First Amendment to Professional Services Agreement with Karen Warner Associates to provide assistance with the administration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Program, and other related administrative services for a term ending December 31, 2006. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Noguez, to **approve the First Amendment to Professional Services Agreement with Karen Warner Associates to provide assistance with the administration of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Program, and other related administrative services for a term ending December 31, 2006**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Noguez, Gomez, Romo, and Vice Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: Mayor Hernandez.

Director of Community Development Gray requested approval of the Rental Property Enhancement Program and authorize staff and the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance establishing the Rental Property Enhancement Program. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Gomez, to **approve the Rental Property Enhancement Program and authorize staff and the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance establishing the Rental Property Enhancement Program**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Noguez, Gomez, Romo, and Vice Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: Mayor Hernandez.

Director of Community Development Gray requested approval of the Agreement for Consulting Services by and between the City of Huntington Park and Hogle-Ireland, Inc. to provide planning staff. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Noguez, to **approve the Agreement for Consulting Services by and between the City of Huntington Park and Hogle-Ireland, Inc. to provide planning staff**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Noguez, Gomez, Romo, and Vice Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: Mayor Hernandez.

Council Member Noguez left his seat at 7:58 p.m. and returned at 8:00 p.m.

Chief of Police Narramore presented for discussion and/or action a report on a Red Light Camera Enforcement Program recommending that the City not implement the program at this time. **There being no objection, Vice Mayor Guerrero so ordered this report be received and filed.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-61. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK ESTABLISHING FEES PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 726-NS FOR THE REGULATION OF TAXICABS AND LIMOUSINES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF HUNTINGTON PARK was presented.

Council Member Gomez left his seat at 8:05 p.m. and returned at 8:07 p.m.

Victor Caballero, representing MidValley Express Taxi, addressed City Council regarding the item on the agenda pertaining to fees for taxicabs and stated that the average annual certification fee for taxicabs is \$1,000 or higher in the Southeast cities and that the new amounts proposed by the City are fair.

Jorge Morales, representing Fiesta Taxi, addressed City Council regarding the item on the agenda pertaining to fees for taxicabs and stated that they do not have the method for measuring gross receipts required to calculate the Annual Certification Fee, which is 1/10 of 1% gross receipts. Mr. Morales also stated that it is reasonable to pay \$1,000 in annual certification fees and asked City Council to take into consideration all other expenses required.

**There being no objection, Vice Mayor Guerrero so ordered staff to conduct a survey of taxicab fees in surrounding cities and report back to City Council.**

The meeting recessed at 8:28 p.m. and resumed at 8:34 p.m.

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: City Manager, Employee organizations: General Employees' Association, Police Officers' Association, Police Management Association, and Non-Represented Employees' Association. Vice Mayor Guerrero declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 8:35 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 9:18 p.m. Present: Council Member Juan R. Noguez, Council Member Mario Gomez, Council Member Elba Romo, and Vice Mayor Elba Guerrero; Absent: Mayor Ofelia Hernandez.

City Attorney Leal reported that in closed session on the item regarding Conference With Labor Negotiators, City Council by unanimous vote authorized staff to present the last, best, and final offer to all the employee negotiation groups.

Vice Mayor Guerrero declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. to Tuesday, December 13, 2005 at 5:30 p.m.

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Elba Guerrero, Vice Mayor

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Rosanna M. Ramirez, City Clerk