

Minutes of the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Tuesday, April 26, 2005.

Following the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Hernandez. Present: Council Member Juan R. Noguez, Vice Mayor Elba Guerrero, Council Member Elba Romo, and Mayor Ofelia Hernandez. Absent: Council Member Mario Gomez.

Mayor Hernandez announced that the special meeting was called for the purpose of considering and/or taking action regarding **rent increases at senior citizen housing** projects and for CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: (1)

Mayor Hernandez 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.

Graham Jones, President of Western Community Housing, announced that an amended letter will be sent to Casa Bonita residents informing them that there will be a rent increase of 5% instead of 10% effective May 1, 2005. Mr. Jones apologized for the inconvenience the previous letter may have caused and made himself available to answer any questions.

Pedro Ezequiel Olguin, representing the Los Angeles Community Legal Center, on behalf of Casa Bonita residents, addressed City Council to request a freeze on rent increases at Casa Bonita for one (1) year. Mr. Olguin stated that this will allow them to negotiate with Casa Bonita and to look for other resources that may possibly subsidize rent.

The following individuals addressed City Council in support of rent control and a rent freeze: 1) Rafael Barajas; 2) Antonio Bonilla; 3) Elisencio Iglesias; 4) Pedro; 5) Maria; 6) Martha Castillo; 7) Rosa Meza; 8) Alice Salinas; 9) Esther Guzman; 10) Gloria Enciso; 11) Juan Bautista Vera; and three (3) more individuals.

Council Member Noguez left at 6:25 p.m. and returned at 6:27 p.m.

The following individuals addressed City Council in opposition to rent control and a rent freeze: 1) Nancy Ahlswede; 2) Don Brabant; 3) Pedro Perez; 4) Eddie Benitez; 5) Marial Sanders; and 6) Linda Guevara and Peter Eitel.

Vice Mayor Guerrero left her seat at 6:50 p.m. and returned at 6:53 p.m.

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

City Attorney Leal requested the City Council resolve into a **closed session** for CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section

54956.9: (1). Mayor Hernandez declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 7:09 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 7:44 p.m. Present: Council Member Juan R. Noguez, Vice Mayor Elba Guerrero, Council Member Mario Gomez, Council Member Elba Romo, and Mayor Ofelia Hernandez. Absent: None.

City Attorney Leal reported out of closed session that this matter is not under consideration based on significant exposure to liability and that City Council approved the appointment of a Housing Ad-Hoc Committee to include the following: 2 residents from Casa Bonita, 2 representatives from Casa Bonita Management, 2 representatives from the Housing Authority, and designated City officials; and for individuals to contact Director of Community Development Gray regarding the formation of the committee.

Mayor Hernandez declared the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Ofelia Hernandez, Mayor

Rosanna M. Ramirez, City Clerk