

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Monday, November 3, 2008.

The meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Guerrero. Present: Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Vice Mayor Mario Gomez, and Mayor Elba Guerrero. Absent: Council Member Juan R. Noguez and Council Member Elba Romo.

Mayor Guerrero recessed the meeting for an event at Robert H. Keller Park in recognition of Native American Heritage Month at 6:01 p.m.

Following the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 6:14 p.m. by Mayor Guerrero. Present: Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Vice Mayor Mario Gomez, Council Member Juan R. Noguez, Council Member Elba Romo, and Mayor Elba Guerrero. Absent: None.

Mayor Guerrero and City Council read a biography and presented plaques in

recognition of National Immigrants Day to the following individuals who migrated to this country: 1) Jaime and Angelica Mendez (nominated by Council Member Hernandez); 2) Salvador Garcia (nominated by Council Member Romo); 3) Nick Ioannidis (nominated by Council Member Noguez); 4) Father Rody Gorman (nominated by Vice Mayor Gomez); and 5) Mahmoud Mohsenian (nominated by Mayor Guerrero).

Council Member Romo left her seat at 6:21 p.m. and returned at 6:23 p.m.

Vice Mayor Gomez left his seat at 6:26 p.m. and returned at 6:27 p.m.

Mayor Guerrero and City Council thanked the individuals in attendance for performing in honor of Native American Heritage Month and presented them with City pins.

City Clerk Ramirez presented a request from Council Member Noguez for discussion and/or action regarding membership in the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Frank Gurule, Vice Mayor of the City of Cudahy, addressed City Council in support of SCAG and stated that he is currently the 27th District representative for the Cities of Bell, Huntington Park, Commerce, Cudahy, Maywood, Vernon, and Bell Gardens. Mr. Gurule introduced Stan Carroll, Mayor of the City of La Habra Heights and Linda Jones, SCAG representative and urged Council to join SCAG in order to vote on very important issues that will impact the abovementioned cities. Motion by Hernandez, seconded by Gomez, **for the City of Huntington Park to join the Southern California Association of Governments**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

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.

Claude Bilodeau and Yadira Lopez, representing the General Employees Association (GEA), addressed City Council for the following: 1) to announce that the GEA in conjunction with the Police Officers Association (POA) will have their annual Christmas toy drive and thanked the City Manager and Chief of Police for their support in this endeavor; 2) in support of Jaime Mendez for reappointment to the Civil Service Commission; and 3) in support of the item on the agenda regarding the City Hall Holiday schedule and asked City Council to consider closing Friday, December 26, 2008 and Friday, January 2, 2009.

The following students from St. Matthias Elementary School addressed City Council to request the City's financial support in order for their class to take an educational fieldtrip to Washington D.C. and New York: 1) Anthony Gomez; 2) Daniel Asala; and 3) Annie Mendrano. Vice Mayor Gomez requested staff to look into transportation funds for this request.

Andy Molina, representing Southeast Churches Service Center, invited everyone to attend the C.O.S.E.C.H.A. (Combined Southeast Care for the Hungry Alliance) Harvest Ball on November 11, 2008.

Leo Vargas addressed his concern to City Council regarding signage prohibiting parking on Tuesdays around Middleton Elementary School since tomorrow is Election Day and his polling place is located inside this school. City Manager Korduner stated that measures are taken on Election Day to remedy this issue.

Alan Egre, representing La Rouche PAC, urged City Council to adopt a Homeowners and Bank Protection Act resolution, presented a video, and distributed literature.

An activist representing LeRouche PAC briefed City Council regarding his views on today's economy and asked City Council to consider the Homeowners and Bank Protection Act.

Antonio Gizzo addressed City Council in opposition to the Dance and Entertainment Permit for La Casa Honduras Restaurant.

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

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Approve minutes of the special meeting of the City Council held Monday, October 13, 2008.

Approve minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held Monday, October 20, 2008.

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.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Approve the Payroll Demands dated November 3, 2008.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – Received and filed

City Manager report on California Contract Cities Association 28th Annual Fall Seminar in San Luis Obispo held October 17-19, 2008, in accordance with AB 1234.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

City Clerk Ramirez presented a request from Council Member Romo for staff to identify streets that would be bicycle friendly for bike paths; and investigate and pursue grants through MTA and Cal Trans for bike racks throughout the City. **There being no objection, Mayor Guerrero directed staff to research the feasibility of the City becoming bicycle friendly by identifying streets to be used for bike paths; and pursuing grants for bike racks throughout the City; and report back to City Council at the next Council meeting.**

City Clerk Ramirez presented a request from Council Member Noguez for discussion and/or action regarding the use of office space every Tuesday by the Assembly Member Elect. **There being no objection, Mayor Guerrero directed the City Manager to work with the City Attorney and report back to City Council with a Facility Use Agreement for the Assembly Member Elect to use office space in City Hall.**

City Clerk Ramirez presented for discussion and/or action a request from Council Member Gomez to waive fees for the film production company Zula Entertainment. **Following a brief discussion, this item was continued to the next meeting.**

City Clerk Ramirez presented a request from Council Member Gomez for discussion and/or action regarding the feasibility of funding and implementing a Downtown Beautification Program for the Holidays. **Following a discussion, Mayor Guerrero directed the Police Department Code Enforcement Division to contact businesses in the Downtown Area to bring up to code the aesthetics of their storefront and for Field Services Department to work with MAG Sweeping, Inc. regarding more frequent cleaning in the Downtown Area.**

City Manager Korduner requested discussion and/or action regarding the City Hall Holiday schedule. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Romo, **to approve closure of City Hall on Friday, December 26, 2008 and Friday, January 2, 2009**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Manager Korduner presented for discussion and/or action correspondence from Jaime Mendez requesting reappointment for a six (6) year term on the Civil Service Commission. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Gomez, **to reappoint Jaime Mendez to the Civil Service Commission for a term of six (6) years ending December 31, 2014**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Director of Finance Padilla requested denial of a **Dance and Entertainment Permit for Jose Alvarado, owner of La Casa Honduras Restaurant** located at 6030 Santa Fe

Avenue. Francisco Rivera, representing Central American Restaurant Association, addressed City Council in support of La Casa Honduras Restaurant and asked City Council to reconsider the recommendation to deny a Dance and Entertainment Permit. Mr. Rivera stated that Huntington Park is a multicultural City and that this restaurant is one of the few that serves as a place for social gatherings for Central American individuals. Mr. Rivera also stated that the restaurant has a new owner and that he should not be at fault for incidents involving the previous owner. The following individuals addressed City Council in support of approving an application for Dance and Entertainment Permit to La Casa Honduras Restaurant: 1) Laura Maribel Rodizno; 2) Minerva Delgado; 3) Ana Villalobos; 4) Augustina Sentino; 5) Maria Elena Espinal; 6) Lidia Posas; 7) Jose Ramon Johnson; 8) Jose Mejia; 9) and Yadira Galindo. Council Member Gomez left his seat at 7:22 p.m. and returned at 7:25 p.m. Julio Giron, representing La Casa Honduras Restaurant, stated that based on a police call report, the restaurant is being confused with another restaurant located down the street and that a letter was sent to the Mayor addressing the issue as well as requesting approval of a Dance and Entertainment permit. Council Member Noguez left his seat at 7:34 p.m. and returned at 7:37 p.m. Armando Chavira, Attorney representing La Casa Honduras, presented the following documents to City Clerk Ramirez on behalf of his client Jose Alvarado: 1) correspondence memorializing the argument in favor of granting the permit; 2) correspondence from the Consulado General de Honduras in support of the restaurant; 3) a copy of the ABC license for the restaurant; 4) a copy of the CAD calls for service for La Casa Honduras Restaurant (Santa Fe Avenue) and calls for Honduras Kitchen (Slauson Avenue); 5) petition in support of the restaurant signed by 6 merchants in the same shopping center; and 6) petition in support of the restaurant signed by 626 patrons of the restaurant. Mr. Chavira stated that Mr. Alvarado is requesting to have dancing and entertainment three days a week and that he currently holds the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the sale of beer and wine, which was transferred from the previous owner of the restaurant. Mr. Chavira also stated that Mr. Alvarado assumed ownership of the restaurant in March of 2008. City Attorney Leal stated that based on the lack of entirety in facts and inconsistency in this matter, he recommended City Council bring this item back following a thorough analysis. **Following a discussion, Mayor Guerrero ordered staff to report back to City Council with an updated report and recommendations.**

Director of Finance Padilla requested approval of budget adjustments to Fiscal Year 2007-2008 City Budget; and transfer of general fund surplus to various reserve funds at the conclusion of the 2007-2008 fiscal year end audit. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Gomez, to **approve the budget adjustments to Fiscal Year 2007-2008 City Budget; and transfer of general fund surplus to various reserve funds at the conclusion of the 2007-2008 fiscal year end audit**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Director of Community Development Gray requested approval of Agreement between the City of Huntington Park and South East One Media for Services relating to the Huntington Park Business Improvement Districts "Children's Fair" Event on January 6, 2009. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Gomez, to **approve the Agreement between the City of Huntington Park and South East One Media for Services relating to the Huntington Park Business Improvement Districts "Children's Fair" Event on January 6, 2009**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Director of Community Development Gray requested approval to postpone a previously approved Activity in Public Places Permit No. 08-15 to the Church of Nazarene of Huntington Park for a "5K Run/Walk Against Obesity" to Saturday, August 1, 2009, subject to approval from all applicable City departments and local public agencies and subject to the applicant providing full payment to the City of its full costs prior to the permit issuance. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Hernandez, to **postpone a previously approved Activity in Public Places Permit No. 08-15 to the Church of Nazarene of Huntington Park for a "5K Run/Walk Against Obesity" to Saturday, August 1, 2009, subject to approval from all applicable City departments and local public agencies and subject to the applicant providing full payment to the City of its full costs prior to the permit issuance**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Director of Community Development Gray requested approval of Activity in Public Places Permit No. 08-35 to Saint Matthias Church in order to conduct their annual "Virgen de Guadalupe Procession" on December 12, 2008, subject to approval from all applicable City departments and local public agencies. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Noguez, to **approve Activity in Public Places Permit No. 08-35 to Saint Matthias Church in order to conduct their annual "Virgen de Guadalupe Procession" on December 12, 2008, subject to approval from all applicable City departments and local public agencies**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Chief of Police Wadley requested approval of Gardena Police Department Agreement for the “Avoid the 100 DUI Campaign (West) Los Angeles County” between the Gardena Police Department and Huntington Park Police Department; and authorize the Chief of Police to execute the agreement. Motion by Gomez, seconded by Hernandez, to **approve the Gardena Police Department Agreement for the “Avoid the 100 DUI Campaign (West) Los Angeles County” between the Gardena Police Department and Huntington Park Police Department; and authorize the Chief of Police to execute the agreement**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Director of Parks and Recreation Espinosa requested that approval of Agreement between the City of Huntington Park and Tomark Sports Inc. for Installation of Nylon Netting Between Salt Lake Park Ball Diamonds #2 and #3 in the amount of \$29,744.24. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Hernandez, to **approve the Agreement between the City of Huntington Park and Tomark Sports Inc. for Installation of Nylon Netting Between Salt Lake Park Ball Diamonds #2 and #3 in the amount of \$29,744.24**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Director of Field Services Viramontes requested that Bid Proposal M-110, be awarded to the recommended vendors for the procurement of four (4) replacement vehicles; approve purchase orders; and authorize payment upon delivery. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Gomez, that **Bid Proposal M-110, be awarded to the following vendors for the procurement of four (4) replacement vehicles; approve purchase orders; and authorize payment upon delivery: 1) Cerritos Dodge- 2009 Dodge Charter R/T Hemi \$31,382; 2) Maurice J. Sopp & Son- 2009 Regular Cab Truck \$19,767; and 3) Hans Lander George Chevrolet-2009 Cab & Chassis Heavy Duty Truck 24,148; and a 2009 Animal Control Body \$16,858**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Resolution Nos.: 2008-71, 2008-72, 2008-73, and 2008-74, were presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-71. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK **FIXING THE EMPLOYER’S CONTRIBUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE’S MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE ACT FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE GENERAL EMPLOYEES’ ASSOCIATION AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 2007-61.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-72. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK **FIXING THE EMPLOYER’S CONTRIBUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE’S MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE ACT FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE POLICE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 2007-62.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-73. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK **FIXING THE EMPLOYER’S CONTRIBUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE’S MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE ACT FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE POLICE OFFICERS’ ASSOCIATION AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 2007-63.**

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-74. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK **FIXING THE EMPLOYER’S CONTRIBUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE’S MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE ACT FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE NON REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 2007-64.**

Motion by Noguez, seconded by Hernandez, to adopt Resolution Nos.: 2008-71, 2008-72, 2008-73, and 2008-74, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Member Hernandez, Vice Mayor Gomez, Council Members Noguez, Romo, and Mayor Guerrero; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Mayor Guerrero declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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Elba Guerrero, Mayor

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Rosanna M. Ramirez, City Clerk