

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Tuesday, February 17, 2004.

The meeting was called to order in the Conference Room at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Escareño. Present: Vice Mayor Juan R. Noguez, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Mario Gomez, Council Member Richard V. Loya, and Mayor Edward Escareño. Absent: None.

Motion by Gomez, seconded by Loya, to approve the Consent Calendar, with the exception that Council Member Loya abstained on the item regarding attendance to the National League of Cities 2004 Congressional City Conference. SUBSTITUTE MOTION by Loya, seconded by Gomez, to approve the Consent Calendar, with the exception that Council Member Loya abstained on the item regarding attendance to the National League of Cities 2004 Congressional City Conference and that the Police Department items regarding the Agreement for Employment for Chief of Police and the Agreement for Employment for Assistant Chief of Police be removed from the Consent Calendar and continued to the next City Council meeting, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Noguez, Council Members Hernandez, Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Escareño; Noes: None; Absent: None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

Minutes of the adjourned regular meeting of the City Council held Monday, January 26, 2004.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council held Monday, February 2, 2004.

Approve attendance of Mayor Escareño to the National League of Cities 2004 Congressional City Conference March 5 through 9, 2004 in Washington D.C. for an approximate cost of \$2,552.25. Vice Mayor Noguez and Council Member Gomez stated that funds may be used from their travel accounts, if needed, for the Mayor to attend this conference.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Approve the Payroll Demands dated February 17, 2004.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Approve additional costs in the amount of \$320 for professional services provided by Gail Lyon for the City's Downtown Business Improvement District **Dia de Los Reyes Magos** event held on January 6, 2004.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Award the consultant, AD/S Architectural Designs and Signs, for the design of two (2) electronic reader board signs, and the preparation of a contractor's bid package in the amount of \$3,500.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM – Received and filed

City of Huntington Park Administrative Regulation Donation of Leave Time Program.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

City Clerk Romo presented for discussion and/or action a request from Council Member Loya regarding the concept of formation of the **San Antonio Police Department**, a local police department of local cities in the Southeast. Following a discussion, there was **no action taken**.

City Clerk Romo presented for discussion and/or action a request from Mayor Escareño for the City to co-sponsor Oldtimer's First Annual Vivienda y Salud 2004 community fair on Saturday, February 28, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Family Center. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Loya, **for the City to co-sponsor Oldtimer's First Annual Vivienda y Salud 2004 community fair on Saturday, February 28, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Family Center**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Noguez, Council Members Hernandez, Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Escareño; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Clerk Romo presented for discussion and/or action a request from Council Member Loya for City Council to support Measure R "the Safe and Healthy Neighborhood Schools Improvement Act of 2004". Motion by Noguez, seconded by Loya, **for City Council to support Measure R "the Safe and Healthy Neighborhood Schools Improvement Act of 2004"**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Noguez, Council Members Hernandez, Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Escareño; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Clerk Romo presented for discussion and/or action a request from Mayor Escareño to change banking services to Washington Mutual. Motion by Loya, seconded by Gomez, **to change banking services from Wells Fargo to Washington Mutual**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Noguez, Council Members Hernandez, Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Escareño; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Manager Korduner requested Council Members discuss options, select a transit consultant, or direct staff to prepare a Request for Proposals (RFP). Motion by Loya, seconded by Gomez, **to direct the City Manager to retain a transit consultant**, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Noguez, Council Members Hernandez, Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Escareño; Noes: None; Absent: None.

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 Mayor Escareño. Present: Vice Mayor Juan R. Noguez, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Mario Gomez, Council Member Richard V. Loya, and Mayor Edward Escareño. Absent: None.

Mayor Escareño 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.

Yvonne Correa, representing the American Cancer Society, invited City Council to attend a reception for cancer survivors on Saturday, February 28, 2004 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the lobby of City Hall. Ms. Correa stated that this event will be sponsored by the American Cancer Society and encouraged cancer survivors to attend.

Jena Glymph-Williams, representing the Los Angeles Unified School District Huntington Park High School, addressed City Council to request that the Huntington Park High School be considered to obtain Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the replacement of the gymnasium windows.

The following addressed their concerns to City Council regarding discontinuation of the City's Dial-A-Ride program: 1) Maria Dolores Garcia; 2) Lurdes Granados; and 3) nine (9) more individuals.

Jorge Ramos presented City Council with a petition containing 49 signatures to continue the Dial-A-Ride service in the City of Huntington Park.

A woman presented City Council with a petition containing 53 signatures to continue the Dial-A-Ride service in the City of Huntington Park.

Victor Caballero, representing Fiesta Taxi, stated that Fiesta Taxi is working in conjunction with the Oldtimers Foundation to provide better service to the community.

Robert Rodriguez, Chief Operating Officer of Oldtimers Foundation, stated that the

rumor that the City is eliminating the Dial-a-Ride program is not true and that the new program will enhance services not eliminate services.

George Cole, Executive Director of Oltimers Foundation, briefed the public on the history of the Oldtimers Foundation and announced that transit service will continue in the City.

Felipe Nery Sanchez, President of Advocacy Community Teamwork (ACT), informed City Council that the ACT organization has been working with the Honduras Embassy to provide information to the community regarding the culture of Honduras.

Mario Amaya, representing the Honduras Embassy, invited City Council to attend an exposition of the culture of Honduras at the Huntington Park Library. Mayor Escareño referred the representative of Honduras Embassy to the City's Arts and Culture Commission.

Sam Peña, representing Diversified Paratransit Inc., announced that the City of Huntington Park did not award the contract for transit services to Diversified Paratransit Inc, but that the transit services will continue in the City.

Three (3) students addressed City Council to request that the Huntington Park Library Homework Center program not be discontinued as a result of lack of funding.

A student at Huntington Park High School addressed City Council to request authorization to display flags at street poles along Miles Avenue that represent a variety of clubs at Huntington Park High School.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 723-NS. AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK ALLOWING FINANCIAL OFFICES ON THE GROUND LEVEL OF THE PACIFIC PASEO (P-P) ZONE was read by title. Motion by Noguez, seconded by Hernandez, that reading in full of Urgency Ordinance No. 723-NS for first and final reading be waived; and that Urgency Ordinance No.723-NS be introduced and approved for first and final reading and adopted, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Noguez, Council Members Hernandez, Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Escareño; Noes: None; Absent: None.

Fernando Madrid, representing Household Financial Company, invited City Council to attend their grand opening in the future and stated that Household Financial Company looks forward to working with the City.

Sergio, Branch Manager of Washington Mutual, thanked City Council for changing banking services to Washington Mutual and stated that he will support the community.

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-9. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK DETERMINING THAT MICHAEL J. GWALTNEY IS INCAPACITATED TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF POLICE CAPTAIN FOR THE PURPOSE OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISABILITY RETIREMENT was presented. Motion by Loya, seconded by Gomez, to adopt Resolution No. 2004-9, carried as follows: Ayes: Vice Mayor Noguez, Council Members Hernandez, Gomez, Loya, and Mayor Escareño; Noes: None; Absent: None.

City Attorney Dominguez requested the City Council resolve into a **closed session** pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9 for **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**, Name of case: City of Huntington Park vs. 6208 Alameda Corporation, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court, Case #BC24217. Mayor Escareño declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 8:12 p.m. City Clerk Romo was excused from the closed session.

Following the closed session, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 8:23 p.m. Present: Vice Mayor Juan R. Noguez, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Mario Gomez, Council Member Richard V. Loya, and Mayor Edward Escareño. Absent: None.

City Attorney Dominguez reported out that in closed session City Council gave further direction to the City Prosecutor on a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Escareño declared the meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m., in memory of Esther Hennes, wife of former Mayor Herb Hennes for the City of Huntington Park.

Edward Escareño, Mayor

Elba Romo, City Clerk