

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Monday, September 16, 2013.

Following the Invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Carlos Reyes, 6<sup>th</sup> grade student at Nimitz Middle School in Huntington Park. The meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 6:02 p.m. by Vice Mayor Perez. Present: Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Karina Macias, and Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez; Absent: Mayor Mario Gomez.

Vice Mayor Perez and City Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Carlos Reyes for leading the flag salute at the City Council meeting September 16, 2013.

Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, 59<sup>th</sup> District Assembly Member, introduced himself to City Council and stated that he would like to work with the community in Huntington Park.

Interim City Attorney Litfin called for public appearances and requested the City Council resolve into a **closed session** for the following:

### **13. CLOSED SESSION**

#### 13.1 Pursuant to Government Code Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Name of Case: Addison Weeks, Kenneth Chan and Brian Sloma v. City of Huntington Park, et al., Case No. EDCV13-1257

Vice Mayor Perez declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 6:10 p.m.

Following the closed session, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. Present: Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Karina Macias, and Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez; Absent: Mayor Mario Gomez.

Interim City Attorney Litfin reported out that in closed session for Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, Name of Case: Addison Weeks, Kenneth Chan and Brian Sloma v. City of Huntington Park, et al., Case No. EDCV13-1257, City Council unanimously gave direction to defend the lawsuit for the City and City-affiliated entities.

Vice Mayor Perez and City Council presented a donation check in the amount of \$7,651 on behalf of the former Business Improvement District to America Vive Performing Arts Studio to go towards a trip for a competition in Orlando, Florida. Miriam LaGuardia, representing America Vive Performing Arts Studio, thanked City Council for their support and assistance.

Vice Mayor Perez and City Council presented Certificates of Recognition to the following companies in Huntington Park that have made the Sanitation District's 17th Annual Good Corporate Citizens list: 1) Aircraft X-Ray Laboratories; 2) Bodycote Thermal Processing (not present); 3) Golden Tiger (not present); 4) Roger's Poultry Company (not present); 5) Alloy's Cleaning Inc. (not present); and 6) Wire Guard Systems, Inc. (not present).

Vice Mayor Perez and City Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Huntington Park Police Officers Association on behalf of the American Cancer Society Southeast Cities Relay for Life for their support and assistance with the Relay for Life Event held June 22-23, 2013 at Salt Lake Park.

James Enriquez, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, displayed a PowerPoint presentation regarding programs and services funded by the CalRecycle Abatement of Illegal Disposal Sites Grant.

Vice Mayor Perez 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.

Linda Caraballo addressed concerns to City Council regarding a closed session item in the Successor Agency of the Community Development of the City of Huntington Park agenda and expenses listed in the warrant Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated September 16, 2013. Ms. Caraballo inquired regarding the status of a request for proposals for City Attorney services.

Interim City Attorney Litfin stated for the record on the item addressed for litigation, there is an outside law firm handling that case, City staff has set up a system in which all litigation does not go to the City Attorney but rather select from a list of qualified attorneys approved by the City's Joint Powers Agreement insurance company, which is to the benefit the City.

Director of Finance Morales stated for the record that as with Interim City Attorney Litfin, most individuals work for companies or corporations; checks are not cut to Interim City Attorney Litfin but to Rutan & Tucker, LLP, which is the firm that the City engages involving a number of attorneys. This is also the case with the litigation matters, though there is a primary attorney, there are a number of supporting attorneys associated within those law firms; therefore it is a material misstatement to say that just one individual is getting paid.

Rodolfo Cruz addressed concerns regarding the City's pension tax; the City's Oversight Committee and its members; and the City's involvement with a recent transaction pertaining to the Huntington Park Plaza, formerly Rugby Plaza Senior Housing.

Edmundo Perez addressed concerns regarding the Oversight Board and the City's involvement with the sale of four properties.

Enrique Murillo addressed City Council in support of allowing a new water company to supply water to the residents of the City that can provide senior citizens with a discount in their water bill.

Francisco Ibarra, Customer Service Supervisor at Huntington Park Library, informed City Council of the upcoming events and classes offered at the Huntington Park Library and distributed flyers to City Council.

Colleen Chambers addressed concerns to City Council regarding the current condition of Pacific Boulevard and numerous violations to Ordinance 857-NS, including sale of merchandize and food on sidewalks, and illegal signage. Mr. Chambers suggested the City review Ordinance No. 857-NS to address the current issues on Pacific Boulevard prior to working on the proposed revitalization of Pacific Boulevard.

Isabel Belderain and Rogelio Ceñudo invited City Council to a grand opening event for Tap Royal International on September 27, 2013; this company offers trips from Huntington Park to Las Vegas, NV and areas of Mexico along the Pacific region.

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

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

## **6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK**

6.1 Approve minutes of the following City Council meeting:

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR – (Continued)**

- 6.2 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**

- 6.3 Approve Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated September 16, 2013.
- 6.4 Approve the month-to-month agreement with Carl Warren & Company for third party administration of general liability claims.**

**RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:**

1. Approve the month-to-month agreement with Carl Warren & Company for third party administration of general liability claims.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

**7. HEARING**

- 7.1 Public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).**

**RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:**

1. Open the public hearing to receive any comments.
2. Close the public hearing.
3. Adopt Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) and authorize the City Manager to transmit this report to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by September 27, 2013.

Following a brief presentation by Manny Acosta, Housing and Community Development Manager, regarding the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report; and comments by City Council, motion by Amezquita, seconded by Hernandez, to **adopt Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) and authorize the City Manager to transmit this report to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by September 27, 2013**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Amezquita, Hernandez, Macias, and Vice Mayor Perez; Noes: None; Absent: Mayor Gomez.

Linda Caraballo addressed concerns with attorney fees paid in the amount of \$10,000 to Rosanna Ramirez listed in the Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated September 16, 2013.

Interim City Attorney Litfin announced that the City of Huntington Park and Rosanna Ramirez reached a settlement to resolve Ms. Ramirez continued employment with the City. The parties have agreed to end their employer-employee relationship. Parties have resolved their differences with a mutual release of all legal claims. The matter was settled to the mutual satisfaction of the parties. The City wishes to thank Ms. Ramirez for her dedicated years of service.

## **8. REGULAR AGENDA**

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

#### **8.1 Approve purchase of computer hardware & technology equipment for enhanced crime reporting and tracking.**

##### **RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:**

1. Approve the purchase of Dell computers, monitors, and Crossroads Software for the Police Department for an amount not to exceed \$67,762.45 using 2009 ARRA Justice Assistance Grant funds.
2. Authorize the Finance Department to issue necessary purchase orders and make payments to facilitate the successful completion of this project.

Motion by Amezquita, seconded by Hernandez, to **approve the purchase of Dell computers, monitors, and Crossroads Software for the Police Department for an amount not to exceed \$67,762.45 using 2009 ARRA Justice Assistance Grant funds; and authorize the Finance Department to issue necessary purchase orders and make payments to facilitate the successful completion of this project**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Amezquita, Hernandez, Macias, and Vice Mayor Perez; Noes: None; Absent: Mayor Gomez.

## **9. CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA**

## **10. CITY ATTORNEY'S AGENDA**

## **11. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

## **12. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

### **12.1 Mayor Mario Gomez**

**12.1-1 Discussion and/or action regarding formation of an Ad-Hoc Committee regarding uncollected parking tickets.**

**12.1-2 Discussion and/or action regarding continuing membership with the Southeast Cities Education Foundation (formerly Southeast Cities Schools Coalition).**

### **12.2 Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez**

### **12.3 Council Member Ofelia Hernandez**

**12.4 Council Member Valentin Palos Amezcuita**

**12.5 Council Member Karina Macias**

Interim City Attorney Litfin called for public appearances and requested the City Council resolve into a **closed session** for the following:

**13. CLOSED SESSION**

13.2 Pursuant to Government Code Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9  
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Name of Case: Water Replenishment District of Southern California vs. City of Huntington Park, Case No. BC512581

13.3 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED  
LITIGATION, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California  
Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: (2)

13.4 Conference with Legal Counsel – Initiation of Litigation, pursuant to  
California Government Code Subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9: Number  
of potential cases: (1).

Vice Mayor Perez declared the meeting resolved into closed session to be held immediately in the adjoining conference room at 8:10 p.m.

Following the closed session, the meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 9:05 p.m. Present: Council Member Valentin Palos Amezcuita, Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Karina Macias, and Vice Mayor Rosa E. Perez; Absent: Mayor Mario Gomez.

Interim City Attorney Litfin reported out that there was no action taken in closed session for the following: 1) Conference with Legal Conference – Existing Litigation, Name of Case: Water Replenishment District of Southern California vs. City of Huntington Park, Case No. BC512581; 2) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: (2); and 3) Conference with Legal Counsel – Initiation of Litigation, pursuant to California Government Code Subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9: Number of potential cases: (1).

Vice Mayor Perez declared the meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

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Rosa E. Perez, Vice Mayor

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Rocio Martinez, Acting City Clerk