

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Huntington Park City Council
Monday, May 4, 2015

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park, California was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 4, 2015, in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 6550 Miles Avenue, Huntington Park, California; Mayor Karina Macias presiding.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Karina Macias; Vice Mayor Graciela Ortiz and Council Members, Valentin Palos Amezcuita, Jhonny Pineda and Marilyn Sanabria. Other City Officials and employees: John Ornelas, Interim City Manager, Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, City Attorney, Jorge Cisneros, Chief of Police, Josette Espinosa, Director of Parks and Recreation, Jan Mazyck, Interim Finance Director, Manuel Acosta, Economic Development Manager, and Donna Schwartz, City Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Amezcuita.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Mayor Macias.

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council presented a proclamation to Mr. Neal Geisler for his 22 Years of Service with the City of Huntington Parks Schools as a Pupil Services and Attendance Counselor.

Council presented a proclamation to the Boy Scouts of America - Los Angeles Area Council's "100 Years of Service" to the Community

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mark Montgomery, Troops "N" Transition, thanked Council, Parks and Recreation Director and local non-profit agencies as well as local Legislative Representatives for their attendance and support at the Veterans Resource Fair last week noting the event was a success
2. Leticia Martinez, Chamber of Commerce, announced this week is National Small Business week and encouraged the resident to visit the local businesses.
3. Sandra Orozco, Maywood resident, spoke in opposition to the new City Attorney and Central Basin Municipal Water District's new attorney.
4. Lulu Fonseca, resident, commented on the current issues regarding the Combi service and requested City Hall be open on Fridays.

PUBLIC COMMENT (continued)

5. Rodolfo Cruz, resident, commented on the Huntington Park Public Finance Authority, questioned the difference between a State and Federal audit, commented on homes for residents and the Combi services.
6. Kimberly Rodriguez, Salvation Army, announced the services they provide.

STAFF RESPONSE

Interim City Manager Ornelas responded to the comment regarding the Combi services stating currently there are four buses in operation. He responded to the comment regarding the Huntington Park Public Finance Authority referring to the City Attorney who explained that the Public Finance Authority is a statutory agency which assist in the financing of public funds.

Interim City Manager Ornelas responded to the comment regarding City Hall closed on Fridays stating that the current schedule is 10 hour days Monday through Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and that Parks and Recreation as well as Police work a regular schedule Monday through Friday 8 hour days and varied hours on Saturdays and Sundays.

Mayor Macias announced she is available 24/7.

At 6:31 p.m. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman recessed to closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

1. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) - Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: [One (1) potential matters]
2. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4) - Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: [One (1) potential matter]

At 7:32 p.m. Mayor Macias reconvened to open session. All Council Members present.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

5.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Macias pulled Consent Calendar Item 5 for discussion.

Council Member Amezcua requested changes to the Minutes of April 20, 2015.

CONSENT CALENDAR (continued)

Motion: Council Member Amezquita motioned to approve consent calendar items with the exception of item 5 and changes to Minutes, seconded by Mayor Macias. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz and Mayor Macias.
NOES: Council Member(s): None

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. Approved Minutes of the following City Council Meetings:
 - 1-1 Regular City Council Meeting held Monday, April 20 2015
2. Approved the appointment of three (3) Substitute Alternates as follows: City Clerk, Human Resources Director and Interim Finance Director and adopted Resolution No. 2015-17, Amending Resolution 2015-13, Appointing Substitute Alternate Representatives to the Governing Board of the Independent Cities Risk Management Authority (ICRMA).

FINANCE

3. Approved Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated May 4, 2015

PARKS AND RECREATION

4. Approved agreement with PYRO Engineering Inc. DBA Bay Fireworks to provide pyrotechnic services for the City of Huntington Park's 2015 4th of July Celebration and authorized the Interim City Manager to execute the agreement.

POLICE

5. **Authorization to Expend Awarded Funds for the LEADs Program**

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Authorize the Chief of Police to appropriate and expend \$60,000 in awarded funds for the LEAD's program; and
2. Direct the Finance Department to create an account code to facilitate these expenditures.

Mayor Macias asked Chief of Police Cisneros to elaborate on the awarded funds.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM 5 (continued)

Police Chief Cisneros explained that the awarded funds are from the LA County Police Association for the AB109, 2011 Public Safety Realignment to help the enforcement of those individuals and to aid us in our LEAD Program that helps at risk youths while providing parents with the knowledge and information on how to deal with at risk youths and added that the Los Angeles County is aware, follows and supports the LEAD program and will be providing additional funds in the future.

Council Member Sanabria requested that an itemized list be provided in the future in order to have a better understanding of where the funds are being allocated.

Council Member Amezcuita asked if there is a follow-up to those youths that graduate from the program. Chief Cisneros stated yes.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to authorize the Chief of Police to appropriate and expend \$60,000 in awarded funds for the LEAD's program and direct the Finance Department to create an account code to facilitate these expenditures, seconded by Council Member Amezcuita. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezcuita, Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz and Mayor Macias.
NOES: Council Member(s): None

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

6. Fiscal Year (FY) 2015/16 – 2019/20 Consolidated Plan and FY 2015/16 Annual Action Plan

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Conduct a public hearing;
2. Take public testimony; and
3. Adopt the Fiscal Year 2015/16-2019/20 Consolidated Plan, the 2015/16 Annual Action Plan, and the Citizen Participation Plan at the close of tonight's public hearing, inclusive of any comments received during the 30-day public review period and during this evening's hearing;

PUBLIC HEARING ITEM 6 (continued)

4. Authorize the City Manager to execute all required documents for transmittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD); and
5. Authorize the City Manager to execute, "HUD Approval/Agreement HUD form 7082", between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and City for the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment funds for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Interim City Manager presented the item and introduced Manuel Acosta, Economic Development Manager who gave a PowerPoint presentation giving an overview of the 5-Year Consolidated Plan, HUD Grant Programs, community participation, needs survey and assessment, CDBG Programs and CDBG public service funding requests.

Mayor Macias opened the item up for public comment.

Public Comment – None

Mayor Macias closed public comment.

Council Member Sanabria motioned to reduce the funds from Southeast Churches Service Center, Emergency Food Program by \$5,000 and reallocate to the Salvation Army and reduce the Huntington Park Parks & Recreation Department, Soccer Field Lighting funds by \$5,000 and reallocate to Huntington Park Library Work Center. Vice Mayor Ortiz seconded.

Council Member Pineda and Amezcuita questioned if the soccer field lighting project would be effected of the funds are reduced. Mr. Acosta explained that the funds requested for the soccer field lighting is a construction project not a public service these funds are for infrastructure improvements. If there's going to be reallocations you would need to take it from the Public Service Programs not Community Development Projects.

Council Member Sanabria asked if there are any grants or funds available to replace funds that we reallocate. Interim City Manager stated not at this time but that it is at the discretion of where Council would like to appropriate and that Council can direct staff to look at other options for funding the other programs.

Vice Mayor Ortiz asked if \$5,000 can be taken from the Public Works Department, Community Beautification Program (graffiti) and reallocated to the Huntington Park Library. Interim City Manager stated that there is Prop "A" funds that could probably be used to replace the \$5,000 in the Beautification Program. Mr. Ornelas clarified Vice Mayor Ortiz's request of reallocating \$5,000 from the Beautification Program to the Huntington Park Library Work Center and to replace it with Prop "A" funds. Ms. Sanabria concurred.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEM 6 (continued)

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to modify her last motion to reduce the funds from Southeast Churches Service Center, Emergency Food Program by \$5,000 and reallocate to the Salvation Army and reduce Community Beautification Program (graffiti) by \$5,000 and reallocate to the Huntington Park Library Work Center and adopt the Fiscal Year 2015/16-2019/20 Consolidated Plan, the 2015/16 Annual Action Plan, and the Citizen Participation, authorize the City Manager to execute all required documents for transmittal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) and authorize the City Manager to execute, "HUD Approval/Agreement HUD form 7082", between the Department of Housing and Urban Development and City for the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment funds for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, seconded by Mayor Macias. Motion passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz and Mayor Macias.

NOES: Council Member(s): None

7. Annual Housing Element Progress Report for 2014

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Conduct a public hearing;
2. Take public testimony; and
3. Approve 2014 Annual Housing Element Progress Report and direct staff to submit the report to the State Department of Housing and Community Development and the Office of Planning and Research.

Economic Development Manager Acosta provided a brief explanation of the annual report.

Mayor Macias opened the item up for public comment.

Public Comment – none

Mayor Macias closed public comment.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to approve the 2014 Annual Housing Element Progress Report and direct staff to submit the report to the State Department of

Housing and Community Development and the Office of Planning and Research, seconded by Council Member Pineda. Motion passed by the following vote:

PUBLIC HEARING ITEM 7 (continued)

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz and Mayor Macias.

NOES: Council Member(s): None

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC WORKS

8. Approve Agreement with Severn Trent Services for Operation and Maintenance of Potable Water Facilities and Sewer System

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approve agreement with Severn Trent Services for a 5-year term;
2. Authorize Interim City Manager to execute the agreement; and
3. Authorize the Expenditure of \$110,000.00 for the Repair of Well #15.

Interim City Manager presented the staff report, recommendations and noting that Well #15 is leaking and needs repairs. Mr. Ornelas stated that the company knows the City's water facilities and sewer system, is well liked in the City, employs employees, respected by staff, no complaints from resident and feels there's no need to change companies at this time.

Council Member Pineda questioned the savings by repairing Well #15 and by staying with Severn Trent. Mr. Ornelas explained that this is an existing company that knows the City's water system and along with Well #15 that needs repair due to the leak but that Well #17 is contaminated and also needs to be repaired. If a new company was to come in there would be transition and staging cost contributed to overhead cost.

Mayor Macias asked if any general fund money is going to repair Well #15. Interim City Manager Ornelas stated no. Ms. Macias noted she is very happy that Well #15 is being repaired.

Council Member Amezquita questioned the amount being paid in the contract of \$1.2 Million. Interim City Manager Ornelas stated that Severn Trent has reduced the contract amount by \$150,000 due to administration cost. Mr. Amezquita voiced concern with the competitive bid process and would have like to have seen this as part of the staff report showing various proposals for cost savings purposes.

At this time Mayor Macias called for the question.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM 8 (continued)

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motion to approve agreement with Severn Trent Services for a 5-year term, authorize Interim City Manager to execute the agreement and authorize the expenditure of \$110,000.00 for the repair of Well #15. Seconded by Mayor Macias. Motion passed by the following vote (***Council Member Amezquita announced his vote for each recommendation below***):

1. Approve agreement with Severn Trent Services for a 5-year term:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz
and Mayor Macias.
NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

2. Authorize Interim City Manager to execute the agreement:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz
and Mayor Macias.
NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

3. Authorize the Expenditure of \$110,000.00 for the Repair of Well #15.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz
and Mayor Macias.
NOES: Council Member(s): None

CITY MANAGER

9. **Extension of Oldtimers Foundation Transportation Services Agreement and Consideration of Assignment of Oldtimers Agreement to New Transportation Service Provider.**

RECOMMENDATION OF ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

1. Approve extension to agreement;
2. Approve assignment of Oldtimers agreement to new transportation provider;
and
3. Authorize Interim City Manager to execute both agreements.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM 9 (continued)

City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman presented the staff report and recommendations and noted that a representative from Metro Transportation Services was available for any questions. Mr. Alvarez-Glasman at this time distributed copies to Council of the Assignment Agreement with Metro Transportation Services. Interim City Manager Ornelas noted that a current extension that was previously approved by Council was prepared in letter form and was received from Oldtimers.

Mayor Macias confirmed that the extension is through May 31st. Staff stated yes or beyond. Mayor Macias asked for transparency purposes if the proposed contract with the new service provider be brought back to Council. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman explained that the Council previously approved to prepare the Assignment Agreement and noted that the Interim City Manager has the authority to execute once approved noting that this agreement is for 6 months and can be brought back to Council for review.

Council Member Amezquita noted that the previous City Attorney had provided guidelines of conducting a meeting noting every Council Member has 5 minutes to speak before the question is called. Mr. Amezquita reiterated his concern with the bid process.

Vice Mayor Ortiz commented on the short time that was given to the City by Oldtimers with regards to them terminating transportation services and therefore there wasn't enough time for a bid process.

Council Member Amezquita reiterated his concern with a competitive bid process.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to approve extension to agreement, approve assignment of Oldtimers agreement to new transportation provider and authorize Interim City Manager to execute both agreements, Seconded by Vice Mayor Ortiz. Motion passed by the following vote (***Council Member Amezquita announced his vote for each recommendation below***):

1. Approve extension to agreement:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Amezquita, Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz
and Mayor Macias.

NOES: Council Member(s): None

2. Approve assignment of Oldtimers agreement to new transportation provider:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz
and Mayor Macias.
NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM 9 (continued)

3. Authorize Interim City Manager to execute both agreements:

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Council Member(s): Pineda, Sanabria, Vice Mayor Ortiz
and Mayor Macias.
NOES: Council Member(s): Amezquita

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS (Information only)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita – commented on the contracts and a previous request for a contracts committee, disclosed he had met with Severn Trent staff and wants to see more of a competitive bid process.

Council Member Jhonny Pineda – asked staff to bring back to Council the current State water requirements and commented on improving bulky items being picked up.

Council Member Marilyn Sanabria – thanked all those who attended the meeting, acknowledged her colleagues who attended the Parks and Recreation events and noted a personal experience that required her to notify the Police Department.

Vice Mayor Graciela Ortiz – thanked all those who attended the meeting, commented on the Combi service issue, thanked Interim City Manager for his efforts in locating transportation service, encouraged residents to contact Council with any questions, thanked those who spoke during public comment and announced a fundraiser event at Linda Esperanza Marquez High School on May 9th.

Mayor Karina Macias – asked staff to revisit the noise ordinance, commented on the Combi service issue, transparency, discussions by Council not being taken lightly, repair of Well 15, minimizing contracts and supports Council decisions.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:36.p.m. Mayor Macias adjourned the meeting to a Regular Meeting on Monday, May 18, 2015, at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk