

Final Minutes Approved February 16, 2016
Regular Meeting of the
City of Huntington Park City Council
Tuesday, February 2, 2016

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park, California was called to order at 6:11 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, 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 Amezquita, Jhonny Pineda, and Marilyn Sanabria. CITY OFFICIALS/STAFF: Edgar Cisneros City Manager; Arnold Alvarez-Glasman; Cosme Lozano, Chief of Police; Josette Espinosa, Director of Parks and Recreation; Jan Mazyck, Interim Finance Director; Manuel Acosta, Economic Development Manager; Michael Ackerman, City Engineer and Donna Schwartz, City Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bethany Reyes, Huntington Park Elementary School.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Mayor Macias.

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Performance by the Huntington Park Elementary School Music Class.

David Juarez, Field Representative from Assemblymember Miguel Santiago's office presented an update.

NOT IN ATTENDANCE - Representative introduction and update from Office of LA County Assessor Jeffrey Prang.

Council presented "Certificates of Recognition" to Aspire Pacific Academy, Grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 12 and to the Parent Advisory Council for Volunteering their time Assisting the Huntington Park Salvation Army Feeding over 300 Families for Thanksgiving.

Council presented a "Certificate of Recognition" to United Pacific Waste (UPW) for their Generous Donation of Toys for the 2015 Holiday Toy Giveaway.

Council presented a "Certificate of Recognition" to Pastor Concepción Roque of Ministerios Mahanaim for his Many Years of Generous Donations to the Huntington Park Community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Raul Rodriguez Jr., spoke in regards to agenda item 9, he asked Council to conform to ethics, commented on constitutional rights, referenced agenda item 5, feels it's not a good idea to spend monies to attend a conference, instead use the monies toward homeless and veterans or where the monies are more needed.
2. Rodolfo Cruz, commented on collecting an illegal tax and provided a handout, mentioned the FBI story and Council Member Amezquita, the City Manager, City taxes, references a previous City Manager and monies spent, feels the city needs more Police Officers, commented on bankruptcy and Pacific Boulevard.
3. Mario Rivas, spoke in regards to agenda item 7 noting employees approved the agreement.
4. Juliano Joaquin, spoke in regards to health and education, youth and the community, and invited the public to various upcoming community events.

PUBLIC COMMENT (continued)

5. Linda Caraballo, commented on closed session items, HP Tow, warrant pertaining to City Attorney, noted previous meeting ending late, noting that it is poor treatment of employees, changes to agenda, ethics and laws being broken, and Form 460s.
6. Valentin Amezquita, pointed out technical aspects regarding the recording of the previous council meeting, commented on his vote regarding the termination of the HP Tow contract and notification of the meeting, and voiced concern with fees in connection with towing services and risks involved with terminating the contract.
7. Chris Castillo, We the People Rising, commented on debt and scandals in the city and spoke in opposition to Council.
8. Arthur Schaper, read the inscription on the wall of the Council Chambers, spoke in opposition to Council, asked to rescind the two appointments and resignation of council positions, spoke in opposition to the City Attorney and actions by Council.
9. Janet West, commented on the minutes of January 19, 2016, speaker comments and requested a correction, feels first amendment rights are being violated with the wording of the minutes, commented on the wording involving the word illegal and asked for rescinding the commission appointments and laws not being followed.
10. DeAnn D'Lean, commented on a poster and monies being stolen that can be used to buy instruments for students, and spoke in opposition to actions by Council.
11. Wes Parker, spoke in opposition to agenda item 9 regarding ethics.
12. Sandra Orozco, spoke in opposition to Council, mentioned an FBI investigation, commented on the commission appointments, spoke in opposition to the City Attorney and remarked "jail."
13. Carolyn Denise Barlage, feels nothing has changed in the city for the youth with regards to shopping, asked that businesses be brought to the city now and to pay more than the minimum wage with 60% of the work force being full-time, wants money coming back to the city, bring in a theater, sports bars and franchise restaurants, make residents a priority, asked council to change it up and put monies back where it's needed.
14. Robin Hvidston, spoke in regards to agenda item 9 regarding ethics, commented on actions by Council, laws being broken, appointment of commissioners, spoke in regards to agenda item 5 regarding the 2016 ICSC Convention and is opposed to the monies requested, suggested spending monies on instruments for students and requested to speak during public hearing agenda item 3.

At this time Council Member Sanabria left the Council Chambers.

15. Dr. Newman, read a quote from the holy bible, commented on the position of Chief of Police, actions by Council, campaign practices, acknowledged Council Member Amezquita, mentioned illegal towing, a holiday card sent by council members and limited community input.
16. Betty Robinson, spoke regarding the commission appointments, a forensic audit, spoke against two commission appointments, acknowledged various Huntington Park citizens, and asked Council to set a good example for the children who performed earlier.
17. Vaughn Becht, We the People Rising, acknowledged the kids who performed, and commented on the code of ethics handbook.

STAFF RESPONSE

City Manager Cisneros provided a staff response regarding the 2016 ICSC Convention, stating that this is a premier event for retail connections, worldwide retailers ready to explore various areas and projects. He noted that Economic Development is important to Council and that there will be two staff members attending. In response to the comments made regarding the video of the council meetings which is posted online, Mr. Cisneros stated that the video technician uploads to Granicus and CivicPlus and there is no editing whatsoever of anyone's comments or involvement by Council or staff other than the City Clerk and video technician.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:50 p.m. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman recessed to closed session.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)
Oso v. City of Huntington Park
2. LIABILITY CLAIM- [one potential matter] Government Code Section 54956.95
Claimant: Miriam Cruz, et al.
Agency claimed against: City of Huntington Park
3. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Government Code Section 54956.8
Property Location: 6325 and 6613-6725 Rita Ave, Huntington Park, CA
APN#s: 6320-030-906 and 6322-017-901 through 910
Agency Negotiator: Edgar Cisneros, City Manager and Manuel Acosta,
Negotiating Parties: Pacific Blvd. Holdings 26 LLC
Under Negotiation: Terms of payment and price
4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2)) - One matter
5. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4)) - One matter

At 9:30 p.m. Mayor Macias reconvened to open session. All Council Members present.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman announced for closed session items 1 & 2 that direction was given on possible resolution, decision by Council was unanimous, for closed session items 4 & 5, no final action taken, nothing to report, for closed session item 3, City Council by unanimous decision authorized City Negotiator, City Manager to enter into an exclusive negotiating agreement with Pacific Development Holdings, LLC.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Council Member Pineda motioned to approve consent calendar items, seconded by Council Member Sanabria. Motion passed by one motion.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. Approved Minute(s) of the following City Council Meeting(s):
 - 1-1 Regular City Council Meeting held Tuesday, January 19, 2015

FINANCE

2. Approved Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated February 2, 2016

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

3. Continued from January 19, 2016, City Council Meeting - Adoption of Amendment No. One (Substantial) to the City of Huntington Park's Fiscal Year (FY) 2015/2016 – 2019/2020 Consolidated Plan and the 2015/2016 Annual Action Plan

Mayor Macias opened the item up for public comment.

Public Comment- None

Mayor Macias closed public comment.

At this time Mayor Macias removed herself from the Council Chambers due to conflict of interest acknowledging she sits on the HUB Cities Board.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to approve Amendment Number One (Substantial) to the 2015/16-2019/20 Consolidated Plan and 2015/16 Annual Action Plan, inclusive of any comments made during the previous 30-day public review period and during this evening's public hearing, authorize City Manager to transmit the amended components of the 2015/16-2019/20 Consolidated Plan and 2015/16 Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) and authorize City Manager to Amend the Subrecipient Agreements with Department of Parks and Recreation not to exceed \$92,354 and County of Los Angeles Library not to exceed \$15,000, seconded by Council Member Pineda. Motion passed 4-0 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

REGULAR AGENDA

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

4. Continued from January 19, 2016, City Council Meeting - Discussion and/or Action to Approve Subrecipient Agreements with HUB Cities Consortium to Administer the Huntington Park Youth Employment, Civic Engagement and Economic Development Business Assistance Pilot Program

At this time Mayor Macias had not returned to the Council Chambers due to conflict of interest and her position on the HUB Cities Board.

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to approve the subrecipient agreements with HUB Cities Consortium using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to administer the Huntington Park Youth Employment, Civic Engagement and Economic Development Business Assistance Pilot Programs and authorize City Manager to sign agreements, seconded by Council Member Pineda. Motion passed 4-0 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

At this time Mayor Macias returned to the Council Chambers.

5. Update on the 2016 RECON International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC)

- Update ONLY -

CITY COUNCIL

6. Approve Resolution Requesting LA County Transportation Authority to Fund Eco Rapid Transit and its Members to Engage in Predevelopment Transit Infrastructure Planning

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2016-03, Requesting LA County Transportation Authority to Fund Eco Rapid Transit and its Members to Engage in Predevelopment Transit Infrastructure Planning, seconded by Vice Mayor Ortiz. Motion passed by one motion.

CITY MANAGER

7. Approve Resolution and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Huntington Park General Employees' Association (GEA) Pending Ratification by the GEA

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to ratify the revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which has been approved by a majority of the GEA membership for the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018, adopt Resolution No. 2015-47, Approving and Adopting a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Huntington Park General Employees' Association and Rescinding Resolution Nos. 2015-03 and 2015-20, and approve additional budget appropriation of \$67,490 in order to offset the balance needed for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-2016 payroll expenditures, seconded _____ by Vice Mayor Ortiz. 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

8. Approve Resolution Adopting New Class Specifications for the Position of Recreation Manager

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2016-04, Adopting New Class Specifications for the Position of Recreation Manager, seconded by Vice Mayor Ortiz. Motion passed 4-1 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

9. Discussion and/or Approval of Code of Ethics for City of Huntington Park Council Members, Commissioners and Staff

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to approve the Code of Ethics for City of Huntington Park Council Members, Commissioners and Staff and authorize the City Manager to publish and apply said policy, seconded by Vice Mayor Ortiz. Motion passed 4-1 by the following vote:

ROLL CALL:

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

PARKS AND RECREATION

10. Acceptance of Project Completion for the Installation of Sports Field Lighting System at Salt Lake Park

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to accept Notice of Completion for the installation of sport field lighting system at Salt Lake Park, as performed by California Professional Engineering, Inc. with a final contract amount of \$65,501, authorize City Engineer to sign Notice of Completion and authorize City Clerk to file said notice with the County of Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder and once recorded, release retention payment within 35 days thereafter, seconded by Vice Mayor Ortiz. 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

POLICE

11. Approve the Appropriation of 2015-2016 Supplemental Frontline Law Enforcement Funding and Direct the Finance Department to Establish Separate Equipment and Staff Accounts for Police Department Expenditures

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to approve the Police Department's appropriation of \$254,088.48 of State of California Supplemental Frontline Law Enforcement Funding, which has already been received by the City and direct the Finance Department to establish separate equipment and staffing account numbers for the expenditure of these funds by the Police Department, seconded by Vice Mayor Ortiz. 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

PUBLIC WORKS

12. Continued from January 19, 2016, City Council Meeting - Approve Agreement with Central Basin Municipal Water District for Preparation of the Urban Water Management Plan

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to approve agreement with Arcadis and Central Basin Municipal Water District for the preparation of the Urban Water Management Plan, authorize City Manager to execute agreement and appropriate the funds from the Water Enterprise fund, seconded by Council Member Pineda. 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

13. Approve Project Plans, Specifications, and Bid Package and Authorize the Advertisement for Bids for the Pacific Boulevard Improvements from Florence Avenue to Slauson Avenue

Motion: Council Member Sanabria motioned to approve project plans, specifications, and bid package for the Pacific Boulevard Improvements from Florence Avenue to Slauson Avenue, authorize the Public Works and Community Development

Departments to advertise for bids, approve Environmental Assessment as follows: The proposed project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to 14 California Code of Regulations § 15301 as a Class 1 categorical exemption (Existing Facilities). The project results in minor alterations to existing public facilities involving no significant expansion of the existing use. The project is not anticipated to have any significant impacts with regard to traffic, noise, air quality, or water quality. There are adequate utilities and public services to serve the project and authorize Staff, under the currently approved Augmentation Contract, to proceed with necessary work (Bid Advertisement, Bid Analysis, Project Management, Construction management, Inspection, Administration) in compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract, and not to exceed \$160,000 for the Pacific Boulevard Improvements from Florence Avenue to Slauson Avenue, seconded by Vice Mayor Ortiz. 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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS (Information only)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, announced he attended the ICA Conference last weekend, suggested the city maintain foreclosure properties as a source of revenue, made comments with regard to pension obligations and to find ways to reduce funding gaps, investigating opportunities to lower obligations. Mr. Amezquita closed by wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.

Council Member Jhonny Pineda, thanked his colleagues and staff for their support for the Youth Employment Program, thanked everyone and asked that all continue to work together to create different programs for the residents, he mentioned he had been approached by residents regarding trucks that haul scrap which are park in residential areas and suggested talking to the recycling agencies and directed staff to look into this issue. Mr. Pineda closed with wishing everyone a great night.

Council Member Marilyn Sanabria, thanked everyone who attended the meeting and staff, and is looking forward to the Pacific Boulevard Project.

Vice Mayor Graciela Ortiz, thanked staff for sitting through a long meeting, thanked City Manager for his due diligence with reaching an agreement with the GEA, glad to see Pacific Boulevard Project underway, and wished everyone a great evening.

Mayor Karina Macias, thanked staff for making the Pacific Boulevard Project a reality, acknowledged staff for all they do, thanked City Manager for his work with the GEA, addressed allegations regarding the FBI stating she has nothing to hide, feels it's important that the city move forward with items on the agenda noting that those who attend don't know the City, Council or staff and asked that they realize the community is full of hard workers, individuals that deserve a better life, whether bringing in businesses or improving services that at the end of the day that's what's important.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:40 p.m. Mayor Macias adjourned the meeting in memory of Antelmo Lopez, Father-in Law of Claude Bilodeau, Public Works Superintendent and Father of Dave Lopez, CBS 2 / KCAL 9 news to a Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk