

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Huntington Park City Council
Tuesday, December 15, 2015

Sergeant at Arms read the Rules of Decorum.

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park, California was called to order at 6:16 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 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: Edgar Cisneros City Manager; Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, City Attorney; Noel Tapia, Assistant City Attorney; Cosme Lozano, Chief of Police; Josette Espinosa, Director of Parks and Recreation; Jan Mazyck, Interim Finance Director; Michael Ackerman, City Engineer and Donna Schwartz, City Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Daniel Bucio, 8 year old 3rd grader, from Miles Elementary School.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Mayor Macias.

PRESENTATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council presented a "Certificate of Appreciation" to Daniel Bucio for leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Diana Molina of Mujeres de la Tierra gave a presentation on their Needs Assessment Program.

Huntington Park Elementary School Music Class was unable to attend.

Christina Dixon, Staff Analyst, City of Huntington Park's Public Works Department, gave a PowerPoint overview of the National Flood Insurance Program.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion: Council Member Pineda motioned for two Public Comment periods, one in the beginning of the agenda on agenda items only and one at the end of the agenda for non-agenda items, 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): Amezcuita

1. Mario Rivas, GEA representative, spoke in regards to closed session item 3 requesting that the item either be tabled or the first MOU presented November 16, 2015, be considered.
2. Gary Gothman, AFSCME District Council 36 representative, spoke in support of closed session item 3 and the consideration of the first MOU presented November 16, 2015.
3. DeAnn D'Lean, commented on closed session item 3 and is opposed to the raises, feels the City is in debt and noted grants are paid by taxpayers.

PUBLIC COMMENT (continued)

4. Dr. Newman, spoke in regards to closed session item 3, feels there is separation between the elite and the employees, feels all employee should be considered as a group and if City can afford the increase then employees should receive the 4%, commented on studies regarding job descriptions with surrounding cities and being comparable.
5. Raul Rodriguez Jr., Coordinator for First Latinos, addressed raises to employees, feels City doesn't have the monies to give raises, suggested decreasing council income, thanked Council for allowing him to exercise his first amendment rights and express his opinions.
6. Wes Parker, We the People Rising, commented on increases, sale of drugs, and Federal Laws being broken.

STAFF RESPONSE - None

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Macias requested that closed session item 3 be discussed at this time and then return to open session.

At 6:58 p.m. City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman announced item 1 will not be discussed this evening, item 3 would be discussed at this time and recessed to closed session.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(4)
Consideration of initiation of litigation – one potential case
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4) - one matter
3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS Regarding Represented Employees - Government Code Section 54957.6(a)
City's Designated Representative(s) for Negotiations: Edgar Cisneros, City Manager
Employee Organization: General Employees Association (GEA)

At 7:21 p.m. Mayor Macias reconvened to open session. All Council Members present.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman announced Council discussed closed session item 3, no action was taken nothing further to report. Item 2 will be held over to end of agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Council Member Sanabria moved to approve Consent Calendar items, seconded by Vice Mayor Ortiz. 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, December 1, 2015.

FINANCE

2. Approved Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants dated December 15, 2015.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

REGULAR AGENDA

CITY MANAGER

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

Motion: Vice Mayor Ortiz moved to approve, pending ratification by the General Employees' Association (GEA): Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the period January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018, with amendments to Animal and Code Enforcement classification to include an additional \$400 uniform allowance and for the MOU to be ratified by the GEA by February 1, 2016, adopt Resolution No. 2015-47, approving and adopting a MOU with the Huntington Park GEA and rescinding Resolution Nos. 2015-03 and 2015-20, approve additional budget appropriation of \$67,490 in order to offset the balance needed for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 payroll expenditures, seconded by Council Member Sanabria. 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

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Rick Loya, spoke in regards to purchasing flood insurance and El Nino, concerned with the heavy rains and city structures being able to handle the weather, noted FEMA had advised him to obtain flood insurance if living in a low flood area and asked that staff look into the city obtaining insurance.
2. Leticia Polizzi, Huntington Park Library, announced that the Friends of the Library and the Women's Club in collaborating with the LA County Fire Department and Assembly Member Miguel Santiago's Office will be hosting a toy give away at the Huntington Park Library on Saturday, December 19, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.
3. Rosa Rodriguez, stated she was a volunteer at the parks and that she wanted to volunteer at a dance that was taking place but was denied entrance to the event.
4. Nick Ioannidis, wished Council a Merry Christmas, announced he would be leaving the City soon due to his health, spoke about his citizenship in America, asked for amnesty to move from the City, changes he made to his property and feels he was terrorized, asked for justice and resignation of mayor.
5. William Morrison, acknowledged Nick, spoke in opposition of the City, noted he was Treasurer for the California Republican Assembly, remarked the City is doing wrong and he would audit City's records.
6. Robin Hvidston, We the People Rising, Remembrance Project, acknowledged Nick the Greek, commented on lawlessness, asked City to do the right thing and rescind the two appointments, appoint citizens and noted comments made by Council at the previous meeting.

At 7:49 p.m. Mayor Macias called for a RECESS.

At 7:59 p.m. Mayor Macias RECONVENED with all Council Members present.

7. Betty Retama, commented on the Rules of Decorum, laws being broken, feels Council isn't providing their undivided attention to the speakers and duties of City Attorney.
8. DeAnn D'Lean, We the People Rising, held up a pocket Constitution and referenced oaths and oaths taken by Council Members, held up signs regarding

Constitution.

9. Sandra Orozco, wished everyone a Merry Christmas, spoke in support of Nick the Greek, acknowledged Officer Garcia, remarked forensic audit, commented on City Attorney, RFP process and spoke in opposition to Council Member Pineda.
10. Arthur Schaper, stated Hawthorne gives 5 minutes to speak, spoke in opposition to Council, commented on flood insurance, City Manager and illegal immigration, acknowledged Nick the Greek, noted a letter written by Council Member Amezcuita. Mr. Schaper closed with noting a letter to the District Attorney regarding violation of his rights.
11. Valentine Amezcuita, commented on comments made by Council Member Pineda regarding his absence, decreasing Council compensation, announced his reasons for his absences, acknowledged China's way of investing, and commented on the letter he wrote and contracts that were awarded.
12. Dr. Newman, spoke in support of Nick the Greek, commented on the two appointments and asked that they be removed, mentioned a request for a forensic audit, indebtedness that was questioned at the last meeting, stipend penalty for Council Member absences, read quotes and asked Council to do the right thing and conduct a forensic audit.
13. Wes Parker, acknowledged Nick the Greek, spoke in opposition of the City, commented on government, rule of law, civilization, and modern medicine.
14. Janet West, commented on the Maddy Act, order, points of order, votes by Council, remarked recall and referenced Maddy Act Sect. 54970.
15. Chris Castillo, Commented on the two appointments, acknowledged Nick the Greek and Council Member Amezcuita and announced if any one runs for candidacy he would provide his services for free.

STAFF RESPONSE

Mayor requested City Manager to follow up with Ms. Rodriguez.

Vice Mayor Ortiz requested staff to continue follow-up on the flood insurance.

City Manager Cisneros stated that currently an audit is being conducted. RFP process has been followed and is still being followed and with regard to employee positions RFP is not the process.

Mayor Macias allowed public comment to be reopened as requested by Mr. Raul Rodriguez to speak.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Raul Rodriguez, acknowledged Nick the Greek, spoke in opposition to council, commented on the two appointments and asked for them to resign and to appoint Francisco Rivera to a commission, again acknowledged Nick the Greek, remarked recall and jail to Council.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS (Information only)

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Council Member Valentin Palos Amezquita, thanked all those who attended, reiterated his reasons for being absent, commented on the constant change to the public comment period and the freedom to speak and the right to express yourself, thanked those who stayed, would like to have the translator translate Spanish into English and vice versa, he explained the claim that was submitted by Nick previously, feels the RFP process is not being properly followed and feels if it is properly followed monies can be saved, going after grants, month-to-month contracts, commented on City Attorney contract and how he had proposed a Civil Attorney which he feels would save money and more loyalty to the City and residents, noted his swearing-in and his commitment to the city, commented on the Christmas decorations on Pacific Boulevard not well lit, thanked all, wished everyone a happy holiday season, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Council Member Jhonny Pineda, thanked all those who stayed, wished everyone a safe drive home, wished everyone happy holidays with friends and family.

Council Member Marilyn Sanabria, thanked the Police Department and Chief of Police for the security of all LAUSD students, thanked her colleagues for working hard and being active in the community, thanked all City employees for all their hard work and dedication, wished everyone happy holidays, prosperous new year's, and positive horizons.

Vice Mayor Graciela Ortiz, thanked Chief of Police and Police Department for collaborating with LAUSD to keep all the schools safe, appreciates all the hard work by staff and Police Officers, wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Mayor Karina Macias, thanked Chief of Police and Police Department for collaborating with LAUSD in helping the school and keep the kids safe, thanked all those who attended, noted all the hate and discrimination and public comments, thanked all the volunteers, staff and colleagues for hands on in the community, thanked all staff and employees for all the ongoing work and wished everyone best wished and happy holiday and may the new year bring new things your way, hopeful for a good coming year.

CLOSED SESSION (continued)

At 8:52 p.m. Assistant City Attorney Tapia recessed to closed session.

2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4) - one matter

At 9:14 p.m. Vice Mayor Ortiz reconvened to open session. All Council Members present with the exception of the Mayor.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant City Attorney Tapia announced Council discussed closed session item 2, no direction given, no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:15 p.m. Vice Mayor Ortiz adjourned the City of Huntington Park City Council to a Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, at 6:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk