

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,  
CALIFORNIA HELD JANUARY 12, 2021.**

1.

Mayor Vargas called the City Council, meeting to order at 6:03 in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 4455 W. 126<sup>th</sup> Street, Hawthorne, California.

ROLL CALL-Present: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
Absent: None.

2.

Councilmember Reyes English gave the evening's invocation. Councilmember Patterson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.

Councilmember Monteiro introduced Dr. Sonia Smith from the Hawthorne School District and Ms. Elena Meloni from the New Star Family Justice Center whom in partnership developed the Anti-Bullying Art contest. They presented all the First and Second Place winners from different schools in the City.

4.

Councilmember Valentine introduced Mr. David Daigle Founder and CEO of Fiber Network who gave an explanation on how this fiber optic program works and how it improves communications in 15 cities of the South Bay.

5.

Under Oral Communications, **Matt Zarro** spoke about the unhoused community in the City.

6.

**CITY CLERK'S CONSENT CALENDAR**

7.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on January 12, 2021's agenda.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

8.

Finance Director submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 100-380 ; 472021-472040

Warrant Totals: \$738,960.66 ; \$ 84,077.27

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that the following warrants, properly audited and signed, be paid.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

9.

BIDS

10.

City Clerk Jimenez announced that sealed bids were publicly received and opened for Holly Park & Ramona Park Improvement Project #20-06.

Public Works Department submitted declaration of publication, which was ordered filed. Bidder's bonds were required.

THERE WERE SIX BIDS RECEIVED ON DECEMBER 22, 2020. (ALL WERE ACCOMPANIED BY BIDDER'S BOND)

THE PRICES WERE AS FOLLOWS:

G2K CONSTRUCTION INC	\$2,424,036.00
C.S LEGACY CONSTRUCTION	\$2,168,007.00
MICON CONSTRUCTION	\$1,595,233.00
MARTINEZ LANDSCAPE INC	\$1,674,169.00
ARAMEXX GROUP INC	\$2,479,000.00
CEM CONSTRUCTION CP.	\$1,593,600.00

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, to refer these bids for study and recommendation.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

11.

**RESOLUTIONS**

12.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8250**

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT INTERNAL AFFAIRS FILES (FROM JANUARY 1, 2015 TO DECEMBER 31, 2015) PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. 7170.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, that Resolution 8250 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

13.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8259**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING AND RESTATING THE BYLAWS FOR THE CITY'S PUBLIC FUNDS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 8259 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

14.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** (None at this time)

15.

**ORDINANCES**

16.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2209 (1st Reading)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, ADDING CHAPTER 3.26 TO TITLE 3 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE IN ORDER TO CODIFY THE REAL PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE.

Introduced by title only by Mayor Vargas.

17.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2212 (1st Reading)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA RECOMMENDING TO THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT OF MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 2.32.010 AND 2.32.020 SETTING FORTH THE POSITIONS INCLUDED IN AND EXCLUDED FROM THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE.

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, to table this item.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

18.

**GENERAL MATTERS**

19.

Update on Application Process for Treasurer Vacancy.

City Manager Erick Lee provided an oral report on the process for filling the vacant Treasurer position.

20.

Ms. Kimberly Mack, Housing and CDBG Program Manager gave an Update of the Emergency Rental Assistance Grant Program and Request the city council to expand the Program from three months to six months and also to re-open the Rental Assistance Program for 30 days or until the City has exhausted the funds or the goal to have helped 300 families. Also stated that the City received \$941, 480 for the cares Act Funding Program for CDBG and it must spend within 6 years from when it was awarded. Staff is recommending to assist local businesses that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic and the expansion of programs and services to address homelessness.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to open the rental assistance grant for a period of 30 days and to extend the program from 3 month to 6 months and approve Programs for Businesses and /or Expand Programs and Services to Address Homelessness.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

21.

The City Manager, Erick B. Lee, presented the following agenda and requested approval of the indicated recommendations:

22.

Approve to change Youth Commission meeting from the First Tuesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. to the First Thursday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

23.

Approve to postpone Proposed January 2021 Community Clean-up Event.

24.

Approve to postpone any changes to the current policy regarding Markings for On-Street Parking Spaces "Parking T's" until after a comprehensive parking study can be completed.

25.

Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute Measure R Funding Agreement MR.312.81 Between the City of Hawthorne and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to Design Highway Improvements to 120th Street from Crenshaw Boulevard to Felton Avenue and Appropriation of \$600,000 from the General Fund Balance for this Project.

26.

Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute Agreement between the City of Hawthorne and Hanson Distributing Company to provide Aftermarket Parts and Supply Services and Approval of the Blanket Purchase Order in the Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$100,000.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded, by Councilmember Valentine, to approve items 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

27.

The City Attorney, Russell Miyahira, presented the following agenda and requested approval of the indicated recommendations:

28.

Deny Claim of Christopher Palmer for Discrimination, Hostile Work Environment, Retaliation, etc.

29.

This item was pulled before the meeting.

30.

Deny Claim of Charmaine Tippens and Christopher Taylor for alleged personal injuries arising out of a vehicle collision with an emergency vehicle operating with its lights and sirens activated.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to approve items 28 and 30 of the City Attorney's consent calendar.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

31.

### **SUCCESSOR AGENCY**

32.

Approval of minutes for the Successor Agency to the Former Hawthorne Redevelopment Agency minutes for the special meeting of December 15, 2020.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to approve item 32 of the Successor Agency agenda.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

33.

### **CITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

34.

Reorganization of City Council, Including Selection of Mayor Pro Tem, Chair of the Public Funds Oversight Committee, and City Councilmember Representatives to Various Organizations. (Vargas) RECOMMENDED MOTION: Staff recommends that the City Council move to approve selection of Mayor Pro Tern, Chair of the Public Funds Oversight Committee, City Councilmember representatives to Various Organizations, and confirm Councilmember Valentine's appointment to the League of California Cities' Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee.

#### **Selectin of Mayor Pro Tem:**

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, to nominate herself as Mayor Pro Tem.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

#### **Selection of Chairman of the Public Funds Oversight Committee.**

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Patterson, to appoint Councilmember Patterson as the Chairman of the Public Funds Oversight Committee.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

#### **Selection of the Alternate of the Public Funds Oversight Committee.**

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, to appoint Councilmember Monteiro as the Alternate of the Public Funds Oversight Committee.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

#### **Selection of Councilmember Valentine to the League of California Cities' Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee.**

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Councilmember Vargas, to appoint Councilmember Valentine to the League of California Cities' Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

Mayor Vargas with concurrence of the City Council chose the appointments of these organizations.

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER REPRESENTATIVES  
TO VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS**

**Centinela Youth Services** Sha'ron Berry - 310/ 970-7781

Delegate: Olivia Valentine  
Alternate: Monteiro

Meeting Date: Second Thursday of every other month  
Location: 11539 Hawthorne Blvd., 5th Floor  
Time: to be determined.

**City Selection Committee** Bolaji - 213/974-1431  
(Ad Hoc of League of California Cities)

Delegate: Alex Vargas  
Alternate: Angie Reyes English

Meeting Date: As needed (email will be sent)  
Location: To be determined  
Time: to be determined

**County Sanitation District No. 5** Kim 562/908-4288 x 1101

Delegate: Alex Vargas (Delegate must be the Mayor)  
Alternate: Alex Monteiro

Meeting Date: Third Wednesday of the month  
Location: 3031 Torrance Blvd., 3rd Floor Assembly Room, Torrance  
Time: 1:30 p.m.

**Independent Cities Association (ICA)** Trisha - 310/ 995-9800

Delegate: Alex Vargas  
Alternate: Angie Reyes English

Meeting Date: Second Thursday of each month  
Location: Will be notified by email  
Time: To be determined January 12, 2021

**Independent Cities Risk Management Authority (ICRMA)** 800- 541-4591  
14156 Magnolia Blvd., #103 FAX714-426-8503  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Delegate: Olivia Valentine  
Alternate: Staff – Christine Tomikawa

Meeting Date: Second Wednesday of even numbered months (subject to change)  
Location: 3401 E. Florence Avenue, Huntington Park  
Time: 10:00 a.m.

**League of California Cities - Los Angeles County Division** 818/ 305-1315

Delegate: Angie Reyes English  
Alternate: David Patterson

Meeting Date: First Thursday of the month  
Location: Will be notified by email  
Time: To be determined.

**League of California Cities – Revenue and Taxation Policy Committee**

Delegate: Olivia Valentine  
Alternate: Not Applicable

Meeting Date: To be Determined by Cal Cities

Location: will be notified by email.  
Time: To be determined by Cal Cities

**Los Angeles Community Choice Energy – Clean Power Alliance (LACCE – CPA) - Board of Directors**  
213/ 269-5870

Delegate: Alex Monteiro  
Alternate: Angie Reyes English and Frank Feng.

Meeting Date: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month.  
Location: 555 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90013 (place to be determined)  
Time: 2:00 p.m.

**MTA – METRO – SOUTH BAY CITIES SERVICE COUNCIL 213-822-1282**

Delegate: Angie Reyes English  
Alternate: David Patterson

Meeting Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month.  
Location: Inglewood City Hall - Conference Room A  
One Manchester Blvd  
Inglewood, Ca 90301  
Time: 9:30 a.m.

**South Bay Cities Council of Governments – Board of Directors 310-371-7222**

Delegate: Olivia Valentine  
Alternate: Alex Monteiro

Meeting Date: Second Monday of the month  
Location: To be determined – Notified by email.  
Time: Noon.

**South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority Board of Directors (RCC) 310/ 978-1808 x 100**

Delegate: Alex Monteiro  
Alternate: Angie Reyes English

Meeting Date: Third Tuesday of the month – City Manager only  
Location: 4440 W. Broadway, Hawthorne  
Time: 2:00 p.m.

For delegates/alternates: Mid-Year Budget: December – February.  
Adoption of Budget: April – May.

**Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) - 213/ 236-1800**  
**Executive Committee**

Delegate: Angie Reyes English  
Alternate: Olivia Valentine

Meeting Date: First Thursday of the month  
Location: SCAG Offices, 818 W. 7<sup>th</sup> St., 12<sup>th</sup> floor, Los Angeles  
Time: 9:00 a.m.

**Southern California Cities Consortium – JPA - Shelly 310/ 253-6000**

Delegate: Olivia Valentine  
Alternate: Angie Reyes English

Meetings upon demand; date, time & location will be emailed.

**West Basin Water Association - Board of Directors 310/ 217-2411**

Delegate: Olivia Valentine  
Alternate: David Patterson

Meeting Date: Second Monday of the month.  
Location: Will be notified by email.

Time: Noon.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro to approve all the appointments to these organizations.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

35.

Discussion about options available to the City for the legalization of cannabis (Monteiro/Patterson).

Councilmember Monteiro along with Councilmember Patterson requested that the Planning Department inform the Council of all the options available to the City to legalize cannabis, including zoning, distribution, cultivation and manufacturing of this product. Councilmember Monteiro suggested the use of a consultant if necessary to help them with the research.

After some discussion, Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, to look for option to legalize cannabis in the City.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson.  
NOES: Councilmember Valentine. ABSTAIN: Mayor Vargas.

36.

Ordinance to the Council to make the Hawthorne Memorial Center (Sun & Venus room) a permanent voting center for at least 5 days during the Los Angeles County scheduled elections in the future (Monteiro)

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, to make the Hawthorne Memorial Center (Sun & Venus room) a permanent voting center for at least 5 days during the Los Angeles County scheduled elections in the future.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

37.

Exploration of partnership with Giving Purpose that is launching this flagship campaign, “YOU ARE ENOUGH” in order to help people that are suffering from depression due to COVID-19 (Monteiro)

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, to give the “Giving Purpose” the ability to put this program on an electronic billboard or on a regular billboard placed next to the Castle for 3 or 4 weeks at a time if they chose to do so.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Monteiro, Patterson, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

38.

COVID-19 Cases in Hawthorne (Valentine)

39.

Proposal for a Resolution Requesting the County of Los Angeles to Prioritize Hawthorne for Vaccine and Food Distribution (Valentine)



Items 38 and 39 were discussed by the Council and came to conclusion that the City Council as a whole will support Councilmember Valentine's request that if the City is approved and eligible by the County, the City of Hawthorne will become a vaccine and food distribution center. **MOTION CARRIED**

40.

Request for Letter to President-Biden and Congressional Representatives for Financial Assistance for Hawthorne Residents and Businesses (Patterson)

Councilmember Patterson with concurrence from the rest of the Council requested a letter be sent to President-Biden and Congressional Representatives for Financial Assistance for Hawthorne Residents and Businesses. **MOTION CARRIED.**

41.

#### ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

City Clerk **Jimenez** thanked everyone watching from home. Stated that in December they coordinated a Toy and Blanket drive given by "Grupo con Decision" and the Neighborhood Action Network where they gave toys for over one hundred families. Thanked everyone who donated to the Hawthorne Community Fridge Program. The clean-up has been postponed due to Covid 19. Reminded everyone that Monday January 18 is MLK Day.

Councilmember **Reyes English** announced that in partnership with Northgate Markets a giveaway of toys drive-thru event was done and 1400 toys were distributed. Requested the City Manager to put Northgate Market in the community partnership list. She was able to provide 200 turkeys during the Thanksgiving Holiday. Requested the City Manager to provide her the contract for services agreement with Republic Service and would like a representative at the next meeting. Thanked the applicants who applied for the City Treasurer position. Wished that everyone had a Safe and Happy New Year.

Councilmember **Patterson** saddened that his Clean up Event for January 2021 was postponed due to COVID-19. Thanked the applicants who applied for the City Treasurer position. Spoke on Cannabis and dispensaries issue in the city. Wished everyone a Happy MLK Day and a Happy New Year.

Councilmember **Monteiro** thanked everyone who helped him during the Christmas season as he was able to help 200 families in need. Would like to give a Certificate of Appreciation to Northgate Markets for being good partners with the City. Talked about how difficult is to get internet at the Moneta Gardens area even with Fiber Network system in place. Requested that the City develop a platform on social media where the City can provide information about many topics that can help the residents. Also, spoke on homeless issues and what the City's programs that the City have to help the residents. Wished everyone a Happy New Year, MLK and a happy birthday to himself.

Councilmember **Valentine** announced that the Hawthorne Business Expo is on January 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If businesses would like to participate, they will have to log in at HawthorneBusinessExpo.com and register. Spoke on the Christmas Home Decorating Contest, requested the City Manager prepare Certificates of Appreciation to be given to the winners of the contest. Thanked Von Norris and staff for organizing and facilitating this event. Wished everyone a Happy Martin Luther King Day.

Mayor **Vargas** wished everyone a Happy New Year. Spoke about how serious and devastating the COVID-19 virus is.

42.

Mayor Vargas called for oral comments. No one indicated a desire to be heard.

Mayor Vargas recessed the City Council meeting to conduct a **Closed Session:** Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Initiation of Litigation against a third party, pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(4) (One case)

Mayor Vargas called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present.

He announced that the Closed Session was to discuss a Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Initiation of Litigation against a third party, pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(4) (One case). The City Attorney stated the he had been directed.

43.

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular meeting at 9:31p.m.

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Dr. Paul Jimenez  
City Clerk