

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,  
CALIFORNIA HELD MARCH 10, 2020.**

1.

Mayor Vargas called the City Council meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 4455 W. 126<sup>th</sup> Street, Hawthorne, California.

ROLL CALL-Present: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.

Absent: None.

2.

Lucy Ravitch gave the evening's invocation. City Clerk Paul Jimenez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.

Councilmember Valentine presented a video on the Hawthorne Business Expo. The theme of the Expo was 'Building Connections and Strategies for Success' where an estimated 300 people attended. Councilmember Valentine gave acknowledgment to the volunteers, participants, presenters, breakout leaders, committee members and presented Certificates of Appreciation to those in attendance that were involved in the Expo.

4.

Mayor Pro-Tem Monteiro introduced a video from the Census Bureau on how to fill out the 2020 Census on-line questionnaire. March 12<sup>th</sup> is the official start of the website date and also the date when people will start receiving invitations to participate in the Census. If you have not participated by April 8<sup>th</sup> on-line or on the phone, you will start receiving the actual questionnaires. If by April 27<sup>th</sup> the Census has not received the questionnaires, they will start knocking on doors.

5.

Councilmember Valentine introduced Mary Teshiba for a presentation on Human Trafficking. She is part of a human trafficking awareness ministry, through St. Lawrence Martyr Catholic Church, Redondo Beach, called F.A.I.T.H. (Freedom and Intervention for the Trafficking of Humans). The purpose of the ministry is to promote education and awareness of human trafficking to the community. Ms. Teshiba spoke regarding Senate Bill 1193, which requires certain businesses to post a notice in plain sight of their establishments that gives hotline numbers to the public and to human trafficking victims.

At this time, Mayor Vargas took this item out of order.

20.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

City Clerk Jimenez announced that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing to adopt Ordinance No. 2198, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Hawthorne, California, Permitting and Regulating Short-Term Rentals in the City of Hawthorne by Amending Various Provisions of Title 17 (Zoning) and Adding a New Chapter 17.74 (Short-Term Rental Permits) to Title 17 (Zoning) of the Hawthorne Municipal Code.

Planning Department's Declaration publication filed. Ten written communications were received.

Mayor Vargas called for public comments.

Under oral comments Lucy Ravitch, Philip Novice and Valentino Fernandez spoke in favor of Ordinance 2198. Lisa Aguilar commended Councilmember Valentine for spearheading an amazing business expo for the last five years. Invited the community to attend North Hawthorne Community Association Easter egg hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup> at Eucalyptus Park.

Mayor Vargas ordered to close the public portion of the hearing. MOTION CARRIED.

03/10/2020

ORDINANCE 2198 (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, PERMITTING AND REGULATING SHORT-TERM RENTALS IN THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE BY AMENDING VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF TITLE 17 (ZONING) AND ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 17.74 (SHORT-TERM RENTAL PERMITS) TO TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Councilmember Talleda, that Ordinance 2198 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

At this time, Mayor Vargas took this item out of order.

19.

City Clerk Jimenez that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing to adopt Resolution No. 8173, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hawthorne, California, Approving and Adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

City Clerk's Declaration publication filed. No written communications were received.

Mayor Vargas called for public comments.

Under oral comments, **Debbie Chontos**, representing the Hawthorne Municipal Employees' Association, questioned why the budget was being done so early.

Mayor Vargas ordered to close the public portion of the hearing. MOTION CARRIED.

6.

Finance Director Felice Lopez presented the 2020-2021 Budget. Ms. Lopez went over each department and summarized what the effects have been from 19-20 to 20-21.

7.

City Manager Arnie Shadbahr spoke on the proposed budget, shared the City's bank statements and went over the costs of Hazard Mitigation.

8.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Under oral communications, **Rachel Ballop** spoke on the Conditional Use Permit for her Church, the Mountain of Fire Miracle Ministries, that is pending with the City and how if approved will help the community. **Peter Yu** spoke on affordable housing for City employees. **Ruben Sanchez** from North Hawthorne Community Association spoke on the proposed Ordinance permitting Airbnb. Suggested that the City focus on the abandoned Hawthorne mall and the RFK building. **Chief Michael Ishii** introduced newly hired Officer **Dr. Joe Nakagawa** to speak who gave valuable information on the Corona Virus.

9.

CITY CLERK'S CONSENT CALENDAR

10.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the special meeting of February 27, 2020 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

03/10/2020

11.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on March 10, 2020's agenda.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

12.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 164773-194672 ; 468781-468963 ; 52253-52255 ; 10622

Warrant Totals: \$743,112.13 ; \$1,108,173.34 ; \$1,180.19 ; \$5,406.98

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

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

13.

### RESOLUTIONS

14.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 8169

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, ANNOUNCING FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION SERVICES MARCH 12, 2020 THROUGH APRIL 14, 2020 AT THE HAWTHORNE SENIOR CENTER AS PART OF THE VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE ("VITA") PROGRAM.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 8169 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

15.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 8170

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS/CITY ENGINEER TO EXECUTE RIGHT OF WAY CERTIFICATION AND TO SIGN FEDERAL-AID FUNDING DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATIONS PURSUANT TO MASTER AGREEMENT #07-5253R BETWEEN THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 8170 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

16.

RESOLUTION NO. 8172

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, PROVIDING FOR THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF THOSE EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE HAWTHORNE POLICE MANAGEMENT SUPERVISORY GROUP ("HPMSG"), ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE ("HMC") AND AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE HPMSG MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU").

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 8172 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

17.

RESOLUTION NO. 8174

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING MARCH 2020 AS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 8174 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

19.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8173**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 8173 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

21.

**CITY MANAGER'S CONSENT CALENDAR**

The City Manager, Arnold Shadbeh, presented the following agenda and requested approval of the indicated recommendations:

22.

Award contract for Local Street Improvement Project (Project #20-05) to lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Shawnan of Downey, CA.

23.

Award contract for Street Inlet Improvement-Phase (Project #20-07) to lowest responsive and responsible bidder United Storm Water Inc. of Industry, CA.

24.

Approve the Agreement between the City of Hawthorne and Associated Soil Engineering Inc. for the material and compaction testing for the local street improvement project and authorize the Director of Public Works to execute it on behalf of the City.

25.

Approve the Agreement between the City of Hawthorne and Kurt Fischer Structural Engineering Inc. of Encino, CA for structural engineering services on an as needed basis and authorize the Director of Public Works to enter into and execute

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to approve items 22 through 25 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

26.

#### CITY ATTORNEY'S CONSENT CALENDAR

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

27.

Deny Claim of Jose Zamora for alleged personal injuries arising from motor vehicle accident involving a City-owned vehicle.

28.

Deny Claim of Lauren McCall for personal injuries arising from an automobile collision with a City-owned vehicle.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to approve the City Attorney's consent calendar.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
NOES: None.

29.

#### ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

City Treasurer **Patterson** thanked the community for coming out, making their voices heard and participating in the process. He spoke on COVID-19 and its impact on the economy as well as the LAIF accounts and investment options.

City Clerk **Jimenez** stated that in regards to the Corona virus the City will continue to post updates on its website, cable TV as well as our social media platforms. Reminded the community to stay home if they are sick and wash your hands for 20 seconds.

Councilmember **Awad** thanked everyone for coming out. Thanked staff for the hard work they presented. Thanked Chief Ishii for bringing out one his officers to explain the Corona virus. He also expressed his interest in limits on campaign contributions and bringing up as an agenda item.

Councilmember **Talleda** expressed appreciation for the Human Trafficking presentation. He also spoke on possible savings to community and the possibility of refinancing their homes as interest rates have been lowered. Hopes the Veterans project goes forward. Thanked the community for coming out.

Councilmember **Monteiro** thanked Councilmember Valentine for the Business Expo. He also thanked Finance Director Felice Lopez, the Finance Department, City Manager Arnold Shadbehr and Business License Director Frank Feng for their hard work regarding the budget. Gave thanks to Chief Ishii for the

presentation on the COVID-19. Thanked City Manager Arnold Shadbehrr and the Police Supervisory Unit for agreeing on the contract and negotiating in good faith. Reminded the public of the free income tax preparation available at the Memorial Center.

Councilmember **Valentine** thanked all the people that attended the recognition of the Hawthorne Business Expo tonight. Commended staff who put together the very forward-looking, progressive budget. Thanked City Manager Arnold Shadbehrr for giving an update on the Strategic Plan that we need to be looking at in order to provide for emergency preparedness in the future. Thanked Chief Ishii and Dr. Joe Nakagawa for giving an update on the Corona virus and educating the public on COVID-19.

Mayor **Vargas** thanked Council for looking over the budget and staff for contributing their part to make sure we are streamlined but effective. Spoke on the concerns of the COVID-19 infection. He also reminded the public to remain diligent on handwashing and cleanliness. Thanked the public for participating on the discussion of the AirBnB issue.

30.

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

31.

THIS ITEM WAS PULLED

32.

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 Labor Negotiators (Subdivision (a) of Section 54957.6 of the California Government Code. Name of Labor Negotiator: Arnold Shadbehrr (re: Hawthorne Executive Group – "HEG").

Mayor **Vargas** called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present: City Attorney Russell Miyahira stated that the Labor Negotiator had been instructed.

33.

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 -Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9; (one potential case).

Mayor **Vargas** called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present: City Attorney Russell Miyahira stated that the Closed Session was about potential litigation and the City Council authorized the City Attorney to file a cross complaint against the Hawthorne School District in the Mary Ann Miller case.

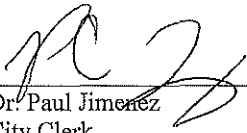
34.

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**: Public Employee Appointment Pursuant to Government Code §54957. Title: City Manager

Mayor **Vargas** called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present: City Attorney Russell Miyahira stated that there was no reportable action.

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular meeting at 10:19 p.m.



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Dr. Paul Jimenez  
City Clerk