

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,  
CALIFORNIA HELD APRIL 14, 2020**

1.

Mayor Vargas called the City Council, meeting to order at 6:03 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.

City Manager Arnold Shadbehr gave the evening's invocation. Councilmember Valentine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4.

Under oral communications, no emails or phone calls were received.

Mayor Vargas ordered to close oral communications.

5.

**CITY CLERK'S CONSENT CALENDAR**

6.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the regular meeting of June 25, 2019 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

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

7.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the special meeting of January 16, 2020 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

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

8.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on April 14, 2020's agenda.

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

9.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

March 24, 2020

Warrants Nos.: 165071-165370 ; 468964-469127 ; 52256-52581 ; 10623-10625

Warrant Totals: \$687,732.31; \$812,799.54 ; \$861,826.75 ; \$9,289.50

April 14, 2020

Warrant Nos.: 165371-165656; 469150-469302; 52582-52584; 10626-10629

\$653,400.73; \$1,872,763.27; \$4,001.80; \$34,475.71

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

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

NOES: None.

10.

RESOLUTIONS

11.

RESOLUTION NO. 8171

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA TO APPROVE ALL APPLICATIONS FOR THE MEASURE A FUNDS FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FUNDING FOR ALL PROJECTS AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, that Resolution 8171 be approved and adopted.

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

NOES: None.

12.

RESOLUTION NO. 8180

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A LIST OF PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 FUNDED BY SB 1: THE ROAD REPAIR AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017.

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, that Resolution 8180 be approved and adopted.

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

NOES: None.

13.

RESOLUTION NO. 8181

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING APRIL AS "SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH" AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020 AS "DENIM DAY" IN HAWTHORNE.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, that Resolution 8181 be approved and adopted.

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

NOES: None.

14.

RESOLUTION NO. 8184

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, that Resolution 8184 be approved and adopted.

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

15.

RESOLUTION NO. 8186

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED AGENTS TO EXECUTE FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) AND THE CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (CAL OES) FOR RECOVERING COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH DECLARED EMERGENCIES.

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, that Resolution 8186 be approved and adopted.

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

16.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

17.

City Clerk Jimenez announced this was the time and place for the Public Hearing repealing Chapter 2.27 (Design Review Board) and amending Chapter 17.99 (Design Review) to provide Planning Commission authority to conduct Architectural and Design Review of specified projects.

Planning Department's declaration publication filed. No written communications were received.

Mayor Vargas called for public comments.

Under public comments, no emails or phone calls, were received.

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

ORDINANCE 2199 (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, REPEALING CHAPTER 2.27 (DESIGN REVIEW BOARD) AND AMENDING CHAPTER 17.99 (DESIGN REVIEW) TO PROVIDE PLANNING COMMISSION AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT ARCHITECTURAL AND DESIGN REVIEW OF SPECIFIED PROJECTS.

Ordinance 2199 was introduced by title only by Mayor Vargas.

18.

City Clerk Jimenez announced this was the time and place for the Public Hearing for the Housing Authority Five-Year Plan for 2020-2024 fiscal year and Annual Plan for 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Mayor Vargas called for public comments.

Under public comments, no emails or phone calls, were received.

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

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to approve the Five-Year Plan and Annual Plan for the Section 8 Program.

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

19.

CITY MANAGER’S CONSENT CALENDAR

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

20.

Approve Police Helicopter repairs and maintenance to Enforcement Aviation Services in the amount of \$41,628.72 and authorize the City Manager to execute any all amendments to project to assure the objective is completed.

21.

Authorize, Approve, & Ratify the adoption of \$167,311.79 in unclaimed currency, which can be transferred from the “Unclaimed Property” account to the city’s general fund after February 11, 2020, 48 days after the first publication of notice on December 26, 2019.

22.

Approve Progress Payment No. 8 and Final Acceptance of the first contract term and award of a maintenance contract extension to Martinez Landscape Company, Inc., of Sylmar, CA for General Maintenance (Project # 15-02) and exercise the option pursuant to Section 6-1.1 of the contract agreement to ratify and authorize the first extension from January 2019 through January 2020, the second contract extension from January 2020 through January 2021, and the third extension from January 2021 through 2022 to Martinez Landscape Company, Inc. of Sylmar, Ca.

23.

Approve Final Acceptance for the first contract term and award of contract extensions for three years to Parkwood Landscape Maintenance of Van Nuys, CA for Park Maintenance Services (Project # 15-04) and exercise the option in accordance with General Maintenance Contract, Section 6-1.1 to ratify and authorize the first extension from the June 2018 through June 2019, the second extension from June 2019 through June 2020 and the third extension from June 2020 through June 2021 to Parkwood Landscape Maintenance of Van Nuys, CA.

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, to approve items 20 through 23 of the City Manager’s consent calendar.

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

24.

CITY ATTORNEY’S CONSENT CALENDAR

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

26.

Approve to designate Arnold Shadbehr as Labor Negotiator for Unrepresented Employee: Candidate for Assistant City Manager position.

27.

Deny Claimant, Ana Urias, claims emotional distress injuries because she saw her son, Javier Urias, trip and fall on an alleged defect in a sidewalk on Prairie Ave.

28.

Deny Claimant, Giedre Lira, claims personal injuries arising out of a motor vehicle collision involving a third party who was responsible for the accident. Claimant alleges that a dangerous condition of public property caused or contributed to the accident.

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.

### CITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

30.

Campaign limits; no contributions from any person or entity that has a project pending before the City; no contributions from City vendors or contractor or anyone seeking a City contract; limit terms to 2 years for all elected officials. (Awad)

Councilmember Awad spoke on holding a 2-year term for all elected officials that way it will safeguard the election process and residents from unlimited campaign contributions.

Councilmember Talleda asked how would anybody be able to control the money is given to a candidate if it is going to a third party but he is in favor of term limits.

Mayor Vargas stated that the State of California will be aggressively enforcing new campaign contribution limits in January of 2021 for all cities.

31.

Assisting renters who are being economically devastated by the pandemic. (Vargas)

Mayor Vargas expressed concerned that some of the residents were going to face eviction during the economic crises that we're facing right now with the Corona virus COVID 19 situation. Spoke to the City Attorney who informed him of Governor Gavin Newsome had issue an Executive order that imposed a statewide residential eviction of moratorium. Stated about the requirements for tenants to be protected. The first one is to be regular on their payments prior to March the 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The second requirement is that the tenant notifies the landlord in writing before the rent is due or within a reasonable time afterwards not to exceed seven days that they were let go to support the assertion that they were unable to pay the rent. A letter, payroll stubs, bank statements, medical bills, signed letters from their actual employers stating they were let go to support the assertion that they were unable to pay the rent. This documentation needs to be presented to the landlord.

32.

Update on COVID-19 Impact on City of Hawthorne Operations (City Manager)

City Manager Shadbehr gave an update on the City's operations. Stated that as a result of COVID 19 the City had to work in conjunction with first responders, and new technology to protect all the citizens of Hawthorne and city employees. There are a few things that had to be implemented to protect us as the wearing of masks, desinfecting stations, using gloves, disinfecting gels placed in strategic places in City Hall, Public Works, and Memorial Center. The City has modified work schedules in a way of helping the community, all this in compliance with social distancing protocols in order to serve the public.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

City Treasurer **Patterson** thanked the City Council, staff, and the City Manager for all the efforts to help the community in this difficult time, also thanked the community for tune in.

Councilmember **Talleda** spoke on the testing for Covid 19 but expressed concern over the community being tired of the stay at home order, therefore businesses are losing everything. Also spoke on tenant and landlord issue during this pandemic. Thanked the Mayor for his leadership.

Councilmember **Valentine** spoke about this pandemic affecting the world and affecting our sense of security, it has change the way people relate to each other due to the social distancing and is making it hard to the community not being able to attend community events as they used to. She's thankful to hold the council meeting even though they are not seating together as council. The public should know that they are working for the community even when the city had lost revenue during the pandemic.

Councilmember **Awad** thanked MRT and different organizations that provided information about the Covid 19 testing. Questioned the steps to take to start moving with the process. Spoke on the small businesses that have lost revenue and how the City can make it easier for them to pay what they owe to the City. Spoke on the different utilities companies that have relief programs for people who have been impacted with this pandemic and ask if the can re-negotiate contract involving seniors. Spoke about this pandemic that has affected small business owners, people who own their houses, lost their jobs and that need help. Everything will come back to normal one step at the time.

Councilmember **Monteiro** thanked all the first responders in Hawthorne. Send a proposal to Washington requesting that the old hospital be re-opened in this time of need. Requested to Lobby congress to give some monies to small cities like Hawthorne. Mention the passing of one of his friend's wife from the Moose Lodge. Stated that this virus is serious and asked the community to stay strong.

Mayor **Vargas** stated that he is very proud that the community has followed the stay at home order. Spoke on the flattening of the epidemic curve and how different states are moving to start opening up their cities. It will be a new normal, it will be gradually and still using masks but there is light at end of the tunnel that higher elected officials are seeing. Had a meeting with Maxine Waters and different Mayors from the South Bay to talk about the stressed in the cities economy. Thanks the frontline personnel for the work that they do every day. Spoke about adopting a Senior program.

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-** Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6. City Designated Representative: Arnold Shadbahr, City Manager Unrepresented Employee: Candidate for Assistant City Manager.

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 LABOR NEGOTIATORS-** Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6. City Designated Representative: Arnold Shadbahr, City Manager Unrepresented Employee: Candidate for Assistant City Manager. The City Attorney stated that the Labor Negotiator has been directed.

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular meeting at 8:17 p.m.