

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD AUGUST 11, 2020.**

1.

Mayor Vargas called the City Council, meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 4455 W. 126th Street, Hawthorne, California.

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

Absent: None.

2.

Councilmember Mike Talleda gave the evening's invocation. City Attorney Russel Miyahira led the Pledge of Allegiance

3.

Under Oral Communications, the City Clerk read an email from **Karina Arroyas** who spoke on behalf of her family and community members regarding racing cars on 134th and Yukon Avenue without any respect for stops signs or traffic laws. She requested the City Council to implement some safety measures be in place before someone loses their lives. **City Clerk Jimenez** received 115 emails in support on SB 1410 (rent relief). **Mr. Azaro** spoke on behalf of some friends that are homeless and stated that Hawthorne is failing everyone who needs housing assistance. Complained about the Police Department harassing homeless and requested that the City Council allow all the hotels and motels in Hawthorne to participate in room free projects and to instruct the City Manager to house all the homeless in the City.

4.

CITY CLERK'S CONSENT CALENDAR

5.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the special meeting of August 5, 2020 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

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

NOES: None.

6.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on August 11, 2020's agenda.

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

NOES: None.

7.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 167902-168182 ; 470402-470561 ; 53897-53900 ; 10656-10658.

Warrant Totals: \$682,700.30 ; \$514,704.45 ; \$18,148.89 ; \$15,903.17

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.

8.

08/11/20

BIDS

9.

City Clerk Jimenez announced that sealed bids were publicly received and opened for Tree Trimming Contract Project # 20-11.

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

THERE WERE FOUR BIDS RECEIVED. (ALL WERE ACCOMPANIED BY BIDDER'S BOND EXCEPT FOR MARIPOSA TREE MANAGEMENT.

THE PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| MARIPOSA TREE MANAGEMENT | \$368,150 |
| UNITED PACIFIC SERVICES | \$277,575 |
| WEST COAST ARBORISTS | \$234,050 |
| GREAT SCOTT | \$282,075 |

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro to refer these bids for study and recommendation.

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

10.

RESOLUTIONS

11.

RESOLUTION NO. 8206

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING AUGUST 26, 2020, AS WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY IN THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine that Resolution 8206 be approved and adopted.

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

12.

RESOLUTION NO. 8216

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, RATIFYING THE AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING EFFECTS OF COVID-19 AND THE CITY'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS CONSEQUENCES OF RESTAURANT CLOSURES AND LIMITATIONS ON RE-OPENING AND EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUTDOOR DINING IN REQUIRED PARKING AREAS ISSUED BY THE CITY MANAGER OF AUGUST 3, 2020.

Councilmember Valentine moved seconded by Mayor Vargas that Resolution 8216 be approved and adopted with the requested amendments by Councilmember Valentine..

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

13.

RESOLUTION NO. 8224

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR AN INTERIM DEPUTY CITY CLERK POSITION IN CONFORMANCE WITH CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND STATE LAW REQUIREMENTS.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine that Resolution 8224 be approved and adopted.

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

14.

RESOLUTION NO. 8225

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, ANNOUNCING FREE HIV TESTING PROVIDED BY AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION'S MOBILE TESTING UNIT TEAM AT THE HAWTHORNE MEMORIAL CENTER ON AUGUST 13, 2020 10AM -12PM.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine that Resolution 8225 be approved and adopted with an amended date and time that are mutually agreed by both parties..

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

15.

RESOLUTION NO. 8226

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SOUTH BAY REGIONAL PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine that Resolution 8226 be approved and adopted.

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

16.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (none at this time)

17.

ORDINANCES

18.

ORDINANCE NO. 2205 (2nd Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA REPEALING SECTION 17.20.130 (ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT) OF

CHAPTER 17.20 (DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR ALL RESIDENTIAL ZONES) OF TITLE 17 (ZONING) AND ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 17.21 (ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT) TO TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Councilmember Monteiro moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine that Ordinance No. 2205 be approved and adopted.

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

19.

GENERAL MATTERS

20.

Approve Appropriation of \$1,073,003 to Fund Expenditures Authorized Under the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund and Approval of Proposed Expenditures for this Program.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine that item 20 of the General Matters category be approved.

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

21.

Approval of Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget Transfers to Enhance City Services.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Staff recommends that the City Council approve General Fund budget transfers in the amount of \$844,000.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro that item 21 of the General Matters category be approved.

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

22.

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

23.

Approve Agreement between the City of Hawthorne and HKA Elevator Consulting, Inc. for Consulting Services Related to the Proposed Community Center and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

24.

Approve Progress Payment #2 to Shawnan Corporation of Downey, CA for Project #20-05, Local Street Improvement Project.

25.

Approve Second Amendment to the Consultant Agreement for Implementation of a Green Business Certification Program ("Second Amendment") between the City of Hawthorne, a California municipal corporation ("City") and the South Bay Cities Council of Governments ("SBCCOG") and Authorize Mayor to execute agreement.

26.

Approve a Purchase Order to Enforcement Aviation Services in the amount of \$92,124.14 for Police Helicopter Repairs and Maintenance and Authorize the City Manager to execute any and all amendments to project to assure that objective is completed.

27.

Approve to Appoint City Manager Erick B. Lee as City's labor negotiator for Hawthorne Executive Group ("HEG"), Hawthorne Municipal Employees Association ("HMEA"), Hawthorne Police Management & Supervisory Group ("HPMSG") and Hawthorne Police Officers Association ("HPOA").

28.

Approve the Appropriation of \$80,795.43 in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 funds and Approval of a Purchase Order to Axon Enterprise, Inc. in the Amount of \$80,795.43 for Necessary Licenses and Subscription Fees Related to the Police Department's Body Worn Camera Program.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to approve items 23 to 28 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

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

29.

CITY ATTORNEY'S CONSENT CALENDAR (no items)

30.

CITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

31.

Direct City Attorney to draft Resolution supporting SB 1410, Emergency Rental Assistance Program, deferring all or portion of rent payments to those impacted by COVID-19 as long as legislation contains parallel provision protecting Landlords from foreclosure due to inability to collect rent. (Talleda and Vargas)

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to direct City Attorney to draft Resolution supporting SB 1410, Emergency Rental Assistance Program, deferring all or portion of rent payments to those impacted by COVID-19 as long as legislation contains parallel provision protecting Landlords from foreclosure due to inability to collect rent.

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

32.

City Council Support of SB 1410. (Awad)

Councilmember Awad hold a town hall meeting with Senator Bradford and stated that some additions and changes are coming in reference to this bill and said he is happy that this bill hasn't been stall in Sacramento.

33.

Campaign Reform: Limit contributions made to those seeking elected office in the City of Hawthorne to a maximum of \$250 in aggregate from an individual or business within a calendar year. That all campaign filings by Candidate Controlled Committees be permanently posted to the city's website for 10 years and that this begins with the year 2010. (Awad)

Councilmember Awad requested that all campaign forms be posted and kept on the website for at least ten years.

After some discussion, Councilmember Monteiro moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine to post all campaign contributions form on line. MOTION CARRIED.

34.

Expand conflict of interest to include: No business or organization may receive any financial or non-monetary benefit from the City if it is majority controlled by any City elected official or employs a City elected official or a City elected official receives any salary/benefit or a City elected official is an executive of that business/organization. (Awad)

Councilmember Awad requested that all these rules be enacted to show full transparency of the City Council. Councilmember Monteiro requested that this request also include family members and immediate relatives. Councilmember Valentine requested a legal confidential on this to address her participation on the Business Expo that she holds every year. Councilmember Awad also requested that in the Legal confidential the CDBG disbursements of funds and the non-profit associated with that be included.

34.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

City Treasurer **Patterson** thanked the community for tuning in and let their voices heard. Expressed his support of SB 1410.

City Clerk **Jimenez** thanked everyone from watching at home and let their voices be heard. Announced that COVID 19 is real in Hawthorne with 1576 cases and 30 deaths. Requested everyone who have not responded the census to please do so as the deadline was change from October 31 to September 30. Announced that LA County is accepting applications for COVID 19 rent relief from August 17 thru August 31. Announced that the City Clerk's Office will be spear heading the Hawthorne Census and get out to Vote Campaign Program.

Councilmember **Talleda** Happy to start the clean-up program and congratulated the City Manager for letting this program started. Spoke on the new laws and resolutions that are being approved due to COVID 19 and emphasized that the city needs to take care of the tenants.

Councilmember **Valentine** stated that at the South Bay Council of Governments the member do a lot of brainstorming and it was discussed how COVID 19 might have affected the future of cities. Spoke on how cities are providing some type of relief to restaurants by allowing them to serve on parking lot or sidewalks. Questions were posed as to whether or not the cities will allowed this new ways of serving the public passed COVID 19 and if it can be possible done for all commercial areas. Another topic of discussion was how people are using homes as office space and if cities would provide broadband connection to all the residents to enable communications between community and city hall. The SBCOG will hold their second Police Practice Dialogue on August 20 via Zoom. Directed the City Manager to have Police look at that intersection and see what the issues are.

Councilmember **Awad** thanked the residents for coming out. Spoke on SB 1410 and said that Senator Bradford would be back at the end of the month attending another town hall meeting to answer more questions whether you are a tenant or a landlord. Directed the City Manager to look into some coyote infestation issue that is happening in Hawthorne. Questioned who is the point of contact for trash pick-up and pick-up of bulky items.

Councilmember **Monteiro** spoke on the trash issue and stated he received complaints that they are not responding to community phone calls. Congratulated Chief Ishii and the Police Department for a great article on the Daily Breeze. Congratulated the City Manager on the plans to enhance on-line city services Announced that LA County is accepting applications for COVID 19 rent

relief from August 17 thru August 31. Commented on previous conversation regarding transparency and stated that transparency has been display since he was first elected.

Mayor **Vargas** has thanked everyone for attending the meeting and participating in the debates. Reminded everyone that COVID 19 is a serious thing and reminded everyone to wear a mask. Acknowledged the vision of the City Manager as to what Hawthorne needs. Supports SB 1410 and stated that the support is equally for landlords and tenants.

36.

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: Erick B. Lee (re: Hawthorne Police Officer Association – “HPOA”).

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 (Subdivision (a) of Section 54957.6 of the California Government Code. Name of Labor Negotiator: Erick B. Lee (re: Hawthorne Police Officer Association – “HPOA”). The City Attorney stated that the Labor Negotiator has been instructed.

37.

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 Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4) Number of Potential Cases: 1

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 Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4) Number of Potential Cases: 1. The City Attorney stated he has been instructed.

38.

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Dr. Paul Jimenez
City Clerk