

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD AUGUST 25, 2020.**

1.

Mayor Vargas called the City Council, meeting to order at 6:05 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.

Parks and Recreation Director Von Norris gave the evening's invocation. City Manager Erick B. Lee led the Pledge of Allegiance

3.

Executive Director of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board Jan Vogel gave his 4th Quarter Summary Report of 2019.

4.

Erick Newland spoke on Legislation HR 7809 (The Hope Act) that is currently in the House of Representatives. It is regarding the businesses, city budget and most importantly the livelihood of this community. The Hope Act is a temporary low interest loan to those with commercial real estate debt to stop foreclosures and prevent a crisis. Requested the City endorsements of this legislation to preserve Hawthorne revenues protect Hawthorne businesses, protect the job of Hawthorne residents as the country slowly re-opens.

5.

Von Norris, Director of Parks and Community Services gave an overview of two capital projects that Public Works Department and the Parks and Recreation have planned at Holly Park and at Ramona Park.

6.

Under Oral Communications, **Mr. Zarro** spoke on behalf of some friends that are homeless and stated that Hawthorne is failing everyone who needs housing assistance. Asked that the City Council allow all the hotels and motels in Hawthorne to participate in room free projects, complained about the Police Department harassing homeless and asked the Mayor and Council to start fighting for the poor people in Hawthorne. **Mr. Delgado** complained about trash issues in the city. Several emails were received and read by the City Clerk at this time - **Reuben Sanchez** expressed concerns on the enforcement of COVID 19 protocols, more monitoring of the Parks in the City, the issuance of parking permits and questioned if there was any monetary savings as a result of the closure of city hall due to the pandemic. **Mohamed Akari**, complained about Mayor Vargas and Councilmember Talleda's posting of political signs. **Byron Barahona, Dylan Little, Hansel Cisneros, Lawrence Valencia, Jazlen Dorantes, Gi Salvatierra, Alexandra Quintana, Ruth Mejia, Gloria Lilian, Ms. Lynea,** demanded the defunding of the Hawthorne Police. **Marie Cintron**, reported illegal renting of two mobile homes at 11308 Firmona Ave. and requested something be done about this issue. **Leslie Alarcon**, complained about a tire shop doing also mechanic business on Imperial and Firmona and requested the city to do something about illegal work. **Jasmine Palafox**, complained about the noise coming from the AAMCO Ornamental Iron Welding Factory across the street from her, no time exclusions and no considerations for the well-being of the community, also expressed concerned about the fumes that can be carcinogens that pollute the city and is affecting their health. **John Marcovici**, expressed concern regarding the lack of enforcement of speeding laws in certain Hawthorne streets.

7.

CITY CLERK’S CONSENT CALENDAR

8.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the regular meeting of June 23, 2020 and the special meeting of August 11, 2020. be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

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

9.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on August 25, 2020’s agenda.

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

10.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 168183-168466 ; 470562-470700 ; 53901-54226 ; 10659-10661.

Warrant Totals: \$690,368.04 ; \$2,672,618.59 ; \$908,012.78 ; \$5,189.20

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.

11.

RESOLUTIONS

12.

RESOLUTION NO. 8228

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION FOR CALRECYCLE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE GRANT PROGRAM (HD35) FOR WHICH THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE IS ELIGIBLE. .

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro that Resolution 8228 be approved and adopted.

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

13.

RESOLUTION NO. 8230

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE CITY MANAGER FOR DETERMINING INDUSTRIAL DISABILITY PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 21156 AND 21173.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro that Resolution 8230 be approved and adopted.

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

14.

RESOLUTION NO. 8233

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A SIDE LETTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE AND THE HAWTHORNE POLICE MANAGEMENT SUPERVISORY GROUP (“HPMSG”) AMENDING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE PARTIES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro that Resolution 8233 be approved and adopted.

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

15.

RESOLUTION NO. 8232

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, SUPPORTING SB 1410, EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IF AMENDED TO INCLUDE A PROVISION TO PROTECT LANDLORD FROM FORECLOSURE.

Per the Councils direction City Attorney Miyahira will write a letter requesting some amendments to this resolution and bring it back at the next City Council meeting.

16.

BIDS. (None at this time)

17.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

18.

City Clerk Jimenez announced this was the time and place for the Public Hearing for consideration of an Amendment to the FY 2020-2021 Action Plan to allocate Community Development Block Grant funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds and an Amendment to the Citizen Participation Plan. Also, staff recommends:

Mayor Vargas called for Oral comments – No one expressed a desire to be heard.

Mayor Vargas closed Oral comments. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilmember Monteiro moved seconded by Councilmember Talleda to Approve the Amendment to the FY 2020-2021 Action Plan, inclusive of the allocation of funds to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act and HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) projects, and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to submit the plan and any necessary amendments to the plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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

19.

ORDINANCES

20.

ORDINANCE NO. 2207 (2nd Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA AMENDING SECTION 1.08.030 (CITY NAME AND SEAL) OF TITLE I (GENERAL PROVISIONS) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING USE OF THE CITY SEAL.

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

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

21.

GENERAL MATTERS

22.

Approve Emergency Rental Assistance Grant Program and its associated guidelines.

Councilmember Monteiro moved seconded by Mayor Vargas that item 22 of the General Matters category be approved.

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

23.

CITY MANAGER'S CONSENT CALENDAR

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

24.

Approve Agreement between the City of Hawthorne and Best Contracting Services, Inc. to provide roof repair services and authorize the Director of Public Works to enter into and execute it on the City's behalf.

25.

Approve Extension of Professional Services Agreements with LDM Associates, Inc. for the administration of the CDBG & HOME programs as well as the Construction Management Services and implementation of the Home Rehabilitation Program from 7/1/2020-6/30/2021. Staff also recommends:

1. Approve an amended Professional Services Agreement with LDM Associates, Inc. (LDM) for the period of one year from 7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021 to provide professional services necessary to administer and implement the CDBG & HOME Investment Partnership Programs.
2. Approve amended Professional Services Agreement with LDM for the period of one year from 7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021 to provide professional Construction Management Services necessary to administer and implement the CDBG & HOME Investment Partnership Housing Rehabilitation Programs.
3. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute, amend, and keep record of documents

necessary to administer the extended Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Professional Services Agreements with LDM.

26.

Approve Appointment of Planning Commission Chair Robert Smith to the KHHR Community Networks Committee.

27.

Approve to Award contract for Tree Trimming-3 Year Contract (Project #20-11) to lowest responsive and responsible bidder West Coast Arborists, Inc. of Anaheim, CA.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro that items 24, 25, 26, and 27 of the City Manager's Consent Calendar be approved.

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

28.

CITY ATTORNEY'S CONSENT CALENDAR

(No items at this time)

29.

CITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

(None at this time)

30.

Under ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

City Treasurer **Patterson** commended the City Council for supporting the Renters Assistance Program. Spoke on disaster relief programs available to the small business community. Thanked the community for tuning in and let their voices heard

City Clerk **Jimenez** thanked everyone for watching from home and commended her neighbors for sending emails. Reminded everyone that LA County is accepting applications for COVID 19 rent relief until August 31. Announced that the City Clerk's Office is holding two weekly office hours Mondays from 4 to 5 p.m. and Wednesday from 1 to 2 p.m. Announced that the City Clerk's Office will be spear heading the Hawthorne Census and get out to Vote Campaign Program. Requested everyone who have not responded the census to do so. Thanked the volunteers who make Hawthorne better and want everyone to stay safe.

Councilmember **Talleda** thanked the Council for passing resolution regarding the help for tenants. Spoke on life after COVID 19, in regards to commercial properties, people working from home not needing a space to rent anymore. Requested to get information about how many tenants are not paying rent at this time.

Councilmember **Valentine** acknowledge that it was recently celebrated the 100 anniversary of woman being allowed to vote in this country. Announced that on August 29th the South Bay Council of Governments had their second police practice dialogue via Zoom. They provided practical ideas of building communication and trust between the Police Department and their communities, Urged everyone to watch this video on the SBCCG Board of Directors meeting 8-2020 and the website is www.southbaycities.org. Spoke on the food program that the City of Torrance is holding and reminded everyone that you have to RSVP in order to receive the benefits and if you are a Hawthorne resident you need to call 310-602-4905 or 310-349-1650.

Councilmember **Awad** thanked the residents for coming out and voicing their concerns. Requested the City Manager to follow up on the suggestions spoken at the beginning of the meeting. Thanked everyone for participating and showing community involvement.

Councilmember **Monteiro** thanked Jan Vogel for giving the City the update on his program. Also thanked Councilwoman Valentine for her presentation on the HOPE Act. Requested that the City Manager send a letter to Mr. Zarro informing him of the situation of his two friends. Thanked the City Manager and Ms. Kimberly Mack for their support on the Rental Assistance program, asked to post it on the website and keep the council posted on when the applications process opens up. Reminded everyone to fill the forms for the census. Asked everyone to keep wearing masks and to social distance as the COVID numbers are going down.

Mayor **Vargas** thanked everyone for participating and providing feedback, asked the public to stay cool and keep hydrated during this excessive heat. Stated that everyone keep wearing their masks as 4 counties had been drop-off the list of COVID 19.

31.

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 the City Manager and the City Attorney had been advised.

32.

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Dr. Paul Jimenez
City Clerk