

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD SEPTEMBER 22, 2020.**

1.

Mayor Vargas called the City Council, meeting to order at 6:02 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.

Mayor Vargas gave the evening's invocation. Councilmember Valentine led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.

Councilmember Awad introduced Maggi Clark who presented a video regarding homelessness.

4.

Under Oral Communications, **Matt Zarro**, member of Street Watch Los Angeles spoke homelessness in the City and asked to end street sweeps. **Eleanor**, asked the City Council to stop sweeps happening in Hawthorne to homeless, stated they are unconstitutional and illegal. **Jayden Hernandez**, requested the City to stop sweeps of homeless as they are inhumane. **Carlos Crespo** spoke on how dirty the streets are due to the homeless. **Reuben Sanchez**, North Hawthorne Community Association wonder where the presentations were about homeless doing main necessities in front of the residences in Hawthorne and questioned why strangers who have their own agendas are trying to dictate rules and laws in the City. Expressed his support to the Hawthorne Police Department. **Regina Rossborough**, complained about being single out in regards to a ticket she received, requested the council to dismiss it. **Mr. L. Hernandez**, complained about the homeless leaving so much dirt around them and the health problems that this brings to the community. **Brennan White**, demanded the un-funding of the Police Department. **Jamie Buell**, **Lynea**, **Naomy**, **Sam Chlanda**, **Allie Kiekhofer**, **Stephen Allen**, **Juliet Janklow**, **Antoinette Goodrich**, **Chelsea Boyle**, **Abbi**, **Duncan Saylor**, **Najoa Bouzidi**, **Lely Fernandez**, **Noah Klein**, **Isabella Roland**, **Clara Huang**, **Tammy Nguyen**, **Dottie Alexanian**, **Emily Lauth**, **Princess Amugo**, **Eloise Hess**, **Kayla Vokolek**, **Kara Robertson**, **Clay Saldaña**, **Elizabeth Hall**, **Byron Barahona**, **Nick Ciarelli**, **Samantha Hollow**, **Patrick Murray**, **Lawrence Valencia**, **Michelle Leibel**, **Kyle Thornton**, **Hillary Barker**, **Charlie Morales**, **Sarah Klenha**, **Gloria Garcia**, **Emily Saldich**, **Christine Sparks**, **Josh Serebryannik**, **Alicia Gomez**, **Meriwether Clarke**, **Lydia Kim**, **Nicolette Norgaard**, **Danielle E Hecht**, **Brandy Radoias**, **Abbey Springer**, **Kendi**, **Andrew Petr**, **Joyce Truong**, **Madison Price**, **Seychelle Gabriel**, **Uma**, **Matthew Wade**, **Lane McFaddin**, **Andrea Sánchez-Vidal**, **Akhil Gopal**, **Andrianna d' Sant Angelo**, **Simon Johnson**, **Caleb Grant**, **Guadalupe Morales Rodriguez**, **Stephen Allen**, **Dawn Lowe**, **Isis Lecaro Catalan**, **Michelle Pizano**, **Maria Sandoval**, **Micah Cahezze**, **Jazmine Gonzalez**, **Cynthia Garcia**, **Yesenia Mateo**, **Maggie Clarke**, **Annica Stitch**, **Dylan Little**, **Ada Njaka**, **Dottie Alexanian**, **Sarah Klenha**, **Connor Raftery**, wrote regarding being against homeless sweeps. **Avelina Astorga**, supports sweeps to the homeless. **Erick Portillo** spoke on Coast Fitness a Gym in Hawthorne believes they are above state mandated or even federally mandated guidelines for gyms. Coast Fitness continues to operate while violating every guideline set forth by any governing body. **Sarah Pannoni**, wrote regarding a mutual aid refrigerator set up and managed by the community that was forcefully removed without reasonable notice or explanation. The community fridge has been a vital resource for our numerous unhoused (and housed) neighbors to have access to basic food and cold water during the pandemic and record heat wave. **Phylania Julius**, wrote about the community fridge that was nearly taken down on August the 28th, 2020. **Jazlyn** from Hawthorne Abolition Alliance. Wrote regarding the defunding of PD, the community fridge was nearly taken down after code enforcement claimed that he had received several community complaints about the fridge. **Byron Barahona**, wrote about defunding the police and talked about Transparency, De-weaponization, Accountability, Reinvest and Reimagine. **South Bay Community Care**, sent an election survey to all of the candidates last week only Mayoral Candidate Monteiro and council hopeful Duran have confirmed that they received it, are extremely disappointed in everyone else who have essentially ignored their request. **Nicole Cruz**, wrote to demand a divestment from the Hawthorne Police Department and the reallocation of those funds to neglected community services. **Erick Portillo** spoke on the regulations taking place regarding COVID 19 and how Coast Fitness Center is not following the mandated rules by the CDC.

5.

CITY CLERK'S CONSENT CALENDAR

6.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the regular meeting of September 8, 2020 be approved and adopted.

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

7.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on September 22, 2020's agenda.

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

8.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 168751-169041 ; 470850-470966 ; 54229-54547 ; 10665-10667.

Warrant Totals: \$696,534.94 ; \$2,153,244.12 ; \$874,229.14 ; \$20,405.88

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.

9.

BIDS (None at this time)

10.

RESOLUTIONS

11.

RESOLUTION NO. 8234

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING, APPROVING & RATIFYING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE FY 2020-2021 STATE OF CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (STEP), GRANT NUMBER PT21179.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 8234 be approved and adopted.

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

12.

RESOLUTION NO. 8235

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING, APPROVING & RATIFYING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE FY 2020-2021 STATE OF CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY RIDE TO LIVE MOTORCYCLE

EDUCATION GRANT NUMBER MC21005.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 8235 be approved and adopted.

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

13.

RESOLUTION NO. 8236

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING NO OVERNIGHT PARKING RESTRICTIONS BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9:00 P.M TO 5 A.M ON THE NORTH SIDE OF 116TH STREET FROM HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD TO 245 FEET WEST OF HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine that Resolution 8236 be approved and adopted.

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

14.

RESOLUTION NO. 8237

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, RATIFYING THE ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING EFFECTS OF COVID-19 AND THE CITY'S EFFORTS TO FACILITATE RE- OPENING OF PERSONAL CARE SERVICES ISSUED BY THE CITY MANAGER ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2020.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Valentine that Resolution 8237 be approved and adopted.

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

15.

RESOLUTION NO. 8238

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF THE REAL ECONOMIC SUPPORT THAT ACKNOWLEDGES UNIQUE RESTAURANT ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO SURVIVE (RESTAURANTS) ACT OF 2020 (H.R. 7197) ESTABLISHING A \$120,000,000,000 RESTAURANT REVITALIZATION FUND TO PROVIDE STRUCTURED RELIEF TO FOOD SERVICE OR DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Councilmember Valentine moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro that Resolution 8238 be approved and adopted.

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

16.

RESOLUTION NO. 8239

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 22, THE APP-BASED DRIVERS AS CONTRACTORS AND LABOR POLICIES INITIATIVE, TO CONSIDER APP-BASED DRIVERS TO BE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AND NOT EMPLOYEES, ON THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 ELECTION BALLOT.

Councilmember Valentine moved seconded by Councilmember Talleda that Resolution 8239 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Talleda, Valentine.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: Councilmember Monteiro, Mayor Vargas.

17.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

18.

City Clerk Jimenez announced this was the time and place for the Public Hearing amending Chapter 17.74 (Short Term Rental Permits) of Title 17 (Zoning) of the Hawthorne Municipal Code to allow residences, newly defined to include dwellings owned by person(s) whose primary residence is in the City of Hawthorne to be subject to Home Sharing regulations and not vacation rental regulations, adding a cap of ten (10) permit to be issued per year, with a limitation of one permit per property owner.

Planning Department's Declaration Filed. No written communications were received.

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

Mayor Vargas closed Oral comments. MOTION CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2206

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 17.74 (SHORT-TERM RENTAL PERMITS) OF TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW SECONDARY RESIDENCES, NEWLY DEFINED, TO INCLUDE DWELLINGS OWNED BY PERSON(S) WHOSE PRIMARY RESIDENCE IS IN THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, TO BE SUBJECT TO HOME-SHARING REGULATIONS AND NOT VACATION RENTAL REGULATIONS, ADDING A CAP OF TEN (10) SUCH PERMITS TO BE ISSUED, ON A FIRST-COME FIRST SERVED BASIS, PER YEAR, WITH A LIMITATION OF ONE PERMIT PER PROPERTY OWNER.

Introduce only by title by Mayor Vargas.

19.

ORDINANCES

20.

ORDINANCE NO. 2208 (2nd Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.44.076 REGARDING CONTINUOUS RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION – ENTRY LEVEL.

Mayor Vargas moved seconded by Councilmember Monteiro that Ordinance 2208 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, 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 the carry over of \$1,690,232.30 in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 purchase orders into Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

23.

Approve Progress Payment #3 in the amount of \$350,791.96 to Shawnan Corporation of Downey, CA for Project #20-05, Local Street Improvement Project.

24.

Approve Progress Payment No. 2 in the amount of \$156,107.05 Due to Martinez Landscape Company, Inc., of Sylmar, CA for General Maintenance (Project # 15-02).

25.

Approve to contract to lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Shawnan of Downey, CA for Prairie Avenue Improvement Project Phase II (Project #20-12)

26.

Approve, and authorize the City Manager to execute, an agreement authorizing the Los Angeles County Registrar- Recorder/ County Clerk to use the Senior Center Parking Lot from October 24 – November 7, 2020, for General Election Voting (Vote Center Facility).

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to approve items 22, thru 26 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

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

27.

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

28.

Deny - Claimant, Miguel Angel Velazquez, alleges personal injuries arising from motor vehicle accident involving a City-owned vehicle.

29.

Deny - Claimants, Jackeline Aguirre, Altagracia Aguirre and Alex Jaime, allege personal injuries arising from motor vehicle accident involving a City-owned vehicle

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to approve items 28 and 29 of the City Attorney's consent calendar.

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

30.

CITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

31.

Community garden initiative/community art show presentation. (Awad)

Danielle Marquez and Dulce Stein in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation/Fine Arts Commission and the Parks and Recreation Foundation spoke about this virtual art program presented to the community in this time of pandemic. The City Council expressed their support for this program.

In regards to the Community Garden Initiative, they requested to be able to use abatement properties near the 405 freeway, and create a community garden to house the homeless and give them some type of security and protection.

Mayor Vargas requested the City Attorney to do a research about this type of programs that involved Caltrans, Metro and Unincorporated areas of Hawthorne and come to the City Council. .

32.

Creation of ad hoc committee on homelessness. (Awad)

Councilmember Awad would like to form an Ad Hoc committee in collaboration with members of the community, the business community, the City Council, and the same group that provided the community garden initiative program.

Councilmember Awad requested to move forward and create the ad hoc committee for the betterment of the city.

Under discussion, Councilmember Monteiro suggested to bring some residents, the business community from all areas so they don't have to re-invent the wheel as we already have a Hawthorne Task Force for Homeless already in place.

Councilmember Monteiro directed the City Manager and the City Attorney to work on it and bring it back with details as this is a team issue where all have to be able to work on this issue

33.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

City Treasurer **Patterson** thanked the community for participating in the process and making their voices heard.

City Clerk **Jimenez** thanked the public for watching the meeting from home. Announced that the response to the census is at 65.5%. Recognized Ruth Bader for everything she did for women in our country. Wished everyone to stay safe.

Councilmember **Awad** thanked the residents for coming out, watching the meeting and voicing their concerns. Questioned the City Attorney on the ending result on the directive to staff to bring a policy to look at with the details whether or not we can vote on this with this kind a policy to be implemented in the city.

Councilmember **Talleda** spoke on homelessness and mental issues happening in the city. Asked to look at the City of Redondo Beach program and see if the City of Hawthorne can implement something similar. He likes the idea of creating community gardens in the city to beauty the land around freeways and will wait for the City Manager and City Attorney's recommendations.

Councilmember **Valentine** announced a couple of projects in the area like the County of Los Angeles is about to launch a program about aging and disabilities, it is a program for older adults that will take in a

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near future. The South Bay Council of Governments has launched a program called Home Share South Bay in partnership with Silvernest, this program serves the homeowners who wants to share their dwelling with those who are looking for a room-mate, explained that Silvernest will do a background check on the renters for a 5% monthly fee. Spoke on the Rental Assistance Program. Urged everyone to go out and vote and also to fill the Census forms. Thanked everyone who came out to try to solve the problem of homelessness in the city and expressed her full support to the Police Department in their efforts to end homelessness in the city. Wished everyone to have a good week and requested everyone to stay safe.

Councilmember **Monteiro** commend all the residents who came and spoke with compassion regarding homelessness. Thanked Dulce and Danielle from bringing the gardening and arts programs looking forward for this to launch. Requested the City Attorney to bring a Legal Confidential regarding street vendors. Would like to adjourn the meeting in honor of Ruth Bader Kingsburg.

Mayor **Vargas** commended Dulce Stein and Danielle Marquez for their arts at home program and inquired about doing an arts programs from different ethnic group that live in the city. Thanked the community for expressing their views. He stated that the homelessness is a common issue and he along with the rest of the council would like to solve the problem. Glad that the City Council has also created a Veterans Housing program. Wished everyone a good night.

34.

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular meeting at 9:57 p.m. in the memory of Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Dr. Paul Jimenez
City Clerk