

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,  
CALIFORNIA HELD DECEMBER 10, 2019.**

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. 126<sup>th</sup> Street, Hawthorne, California.

ROLL CALL-Present: Councilmembers Awad, Monteiro, Talleda, Valentine, Mayor Vargas.  
Absent: None.

2.

Patricia Donaldson from Hope is Helping gave the evening's invocation. Raymond Vergara led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.

Councilmember Awad introduced Dr. Sonya Smith from Hawthorne School District and Elena Maloni from Family Justice Center who conducted an Anti-Bullying Art Contest. Students Melissa Garcia and Saara Hashim from Hawthorne School District presented their own award-winning poems in addition to reading the poems of Krystal Hale and Karla Torres.

4.

Councilmember Valentine introduced Mr. Neil Gafney as the Veteran of the Quarter and read a Proclamation in his honor highlighting his many achievements. Mayor Vargas also read Proclamations from State Senator Steven Bradford of the 35<sup>th</sup> California State Senate District and Congresswoman Maxine Waters honoring Mr. Gafney.

5.

The I-105 Express Lanes Project presentation was not held.

6.

Under oral communications, **Patricia Donaldson** announced that their Christmas mixer for the Chamber of Commerce will be held on December 17<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber office. Their Christmas party for underprivileged families will be held on December 20<sup>th</sup> at the Hawthorne Memorial Center. Introduced new Chamber of Commerce member Le Pain Du Jour. **Paul Lowe** requested that the 'no left turn, right turn only' sign in front of Target be enforced or taken down as 80% of drivers are ignoring it. **Raymond Vergara** expressed concern over trees at 137<sup>th</sup> Street and Hawthorne Blvd. that are impeding driver's vision and requested that some trees along Hawthorne Blvd be trimmed as they are covering up the names of businesses. **Beverly Reese**, Owner of Ms. B's M & M Soul Food, invited everyone to visit her new restaurant at 4549 W. Imperial Hwy. **Peter Yu** requested that Council to review and provide feedback on his proposals to collaborate with the City of Hawthorne to provide affordable housing to Hawthorne city employees and then to all residents of Hawthorne. **Gordon Mego** expressed his opposition for the parcel tax on the upcoming March 3<sup>rd</sup> primary ballot. **Martin Trouillon** complained that he is receiving parking tickets even though he has a parking permit for his street and expressed a need for guest permits. **Lisa Aguilar** thanked Councilmember Talleda for the great experience she had at Wounded Heroes of America. Is excited to be a participant with Councilmember Valentine who is spearheading the upcoming Business Expo. Thanked Council for their management of the City. **Anna Garalde** from Mychal's Learning Place invited the City to participate in the California Great Santa Stroll on December 14th. **Carol Matson** raised concern that both the trash bin and recycling bin were being collected by the same sanitation vehicle. **Jerry Orlemon**, Southern Business Director of Vietnam Veterans of America California State Council, communicated his praise for Le Pain Du Jour and communicated his appreciation for Col. Neil Gafney for his work with Veterans and the community. **Latheille Williams** thanked Councilmember Monteiro for making a difference. Thanked the three present Councilmembers who were ready to vote on the housing issue. Spoke on the importance of voting. Thanked Mr. Gafney on behalf of her daughter for giving a college interview.

7.

**CITY CLERK'S CONSENT CALENDAR**

8.

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the regular meeting of November 12, 2019 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

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

9.

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on December 10, 2019'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.: 162604-162969 ; 467776-467924 ; 51254-51255 ; 10608-10609

Warrant Totals: \$955,719.73 ; \$1,423,507.81 ; \$1,009.45 ; \$56,020.20

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, 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. 8154**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA  
ESTABLISHING A FOUR-WAY STOP AT THE INTERSECTION OF DOTY AVENUE AND 115<sup>th</sup>  
STREET.

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, that Resolution 8154 be approved and adopted.

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

13.

**RESOLUTION NO. 8155**

RESOLUTION NO. 8155, AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS FILES FROM JANUARY 1, 2014 TO DECEMBER 30, 2014 PURSUANT  
TO RESOLUTION NO. 7170.

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, that Resolution 8155 be approved and adopted.

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

14.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 8156**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF A LOAN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE SUCCESSOR AGENCY AND THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 34173 FOR THE PAYMENT OF ENFORCEABLE OBLIGATIONS OF THE FORMER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND TAKING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS.

Councilmember Monteiro moved, seconded by Mayor Vargas, that Resolution 8156 be approved and adopted.

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

15.

#### **ORDINANCES**

16.

#### **URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2194**

ORDINANCE NO. 2194, AN URGENCY ORDINANCE ADDING CHAPTER 9.71 (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON NO-FAULT EVICTIONS) TO DIVISION VI (CONSUMER PROTECTION) OF TITLE 9 (PUBLIC PEACE, MORALS AND WELFARE) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING A TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON NO-FAULT EVICTIONS THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019, FOR RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY BUILT PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2005.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, that Urgency Ordinance 2194 be approved and adopted.

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

17.

#### **CITY MANAGER'S CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Acting City Manager, Felice Lopez, presented the following agenda and requested approval of the indicated recommendation:

18.

Approve Progress Payment No. 8 due to Eleonor Belco Electric, Inc. of Chino, CA for Project #13-04, Prairie Ave. Improvement Project Phase I.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to approve item 18 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

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

19.

#### CITY ATTORNEY'S CONSENT CALENDAR

20.

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

Approve proposed settlement of Patrick Ogbo Ejinaka v. City of Hawthorne, et al. (Case No. BC712195) and authorize City Manager to execute settlement agreement.

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

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

21.

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

22.

Appoint Brian Dsouza to the Youth Commission.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Monteiro, to appoint Brian Dsouza to the Youth Commission.

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

23.

#### ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

City Treasurer **Patterson** stated that he is happy to see more businesses and restaurants in the City. Thanked the community for coming out and making their voices heard and participating in the process. Appreciated the Anti-Bullying Contest winners and participants for their contributions. Thanked the community for supporting the non-profit organization, 'Shoes for our Youth' shoe drive. Is glad to see that we were able to pass the emergency housing ordinance.

City Clerk **Jimenez** thanked everyone who is here tonight and those watching at home. Announced that the City Clerk's Office is co-hosting a Voting Solutions for All People town hall with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority on January 11<sup>th</sup> in order to receive the community's feedback on the new voting procedures for the upcoming elections. Reminded the community to join Nextdoor, which now has 9,000 members. Reminded our Directors and Councilmembers that if they have an event or resource they want to share with the community, to send the flyer to our social media intern Sara Carreras.

Councilmember **Awad** congratulated Neil Gafney for being the Veteran of the Quarter and Century Housing for winning the RFP proposal. For the Great Santa Walk announced that he has 10 santa suits for anyone in the City or the Police Department that wants to partake in the walk. Reported on the turkey giveaway with Urth Café. Addressed the confusion of needing four votes to pass Urgency Ordinance No. 2194 at the previous City Council Meeting.

Councilmember **Talleda** addressed his absence from the previous City Council meeting stating that he had to attend an important meeting for his non-profit organization, which was scheduled six months before. Stated that he will miss Neil Gafney who created and led the Veterans' Commission. Is happy the Cordary project for Veterans is coming.

Councilmember **Monteiro** clarified how an urgency ordinance was passed. Thanked Neil Gafney for his eight years of service to the City. Thanked the Public Works staff for their efforts in bringing a four way

stop at 115<sup>th</sup> and Doty via Resolution 8154. Acknowledged the Police Department, Chief Ishii and Captain Catano for their outstanding leadership and detective work. Sent out condolences and sympathies for the police officer that was killed in New Jersey this afternoon and also to the three Navy men in Florida. Announced that tomorrow morning at Hope Chapel in Hawthorne there will be a meeting with the Hawthorne/Lawndale Ministerial with a guest from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on how to access money to help the homeless. Reminded residents not to leave bulk items on the sidewalks as each address in the City has a 20 item free pickup a year. Announced that on December 17<sup>th</sup> the first meeting will be held for the Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census will be held at the Memorial Center. On December 18<sup>th</sup> Moneta Gardens and South Bay Castle will have their annual Christmas Potluck at the Hawthorne School District boardroom. On December 20<sup>th</sup> the Hawthorne Presidents Council and Moneta Gardens will give out toys, food baskets, gift cards and shoes at the South Campus at 14013 Yukon Ave. Updated the community about Darlene Love's health condition. Invited the community to the Winter Wonderland event on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

Councilmember **Valentine** thanked city staff for working with businesses to help them open their doors and answer their questions. Is proud that in the last two months has attended the grand opening of several new businesses in Hawthorne such as Urth Café, Burlington, Navy Federal Credit Union and MidiCi Restaurant. Reminded the community of the Annual Business Expo on January 29, 2020 at the Memorial Center. Thanked Elena Maloni of New Star Family Justice Center for her contribution in the Anti-Bullying Art Contest and Neil Gafney for his leadership in the community. Spoke on the importance of the Cordary project. Requested that the City Attorney arrange for a discussion about the upcoming parcel tax.

Mayor **Vargas** commended the Hawthorne School District and the Councilmembers their contributions in the Anti-Bullying Art Contest. Thanked the leadership of the Council in voting for the unlawful eviction emergency Ordinance. Requested that the City Attorney look to see if we can do any retroaction on anyone who since the last meeting was victimized by landlords. Thanked Peter Yu for his third presentation. Congratulated Councilmember Awad on his turkey giveaway event. Acknowledged the leadership of the Council for the positive business direction of Hawthorne.

24.

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular meeting at 7:50 p.m.

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Dr. Paul Jimenez  
City Clerk