

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 9, 2017

1/9/2018 - Minutes

I. Call To Order/Roll Call With Invocation & Pledge

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Maria Davila called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

INVOCATION Reverend Sean Pica from Redeemer Lutheran Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Giselle Mares, Management Assistant

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

II. City Officials

PRESENT Mayor Maria Davila, Vice Mayor Maria Belen Bernal, Council Member Denise Diaz, and Council Member Al Rios; City Treasurer Gregory Martinez, City Manager Michael Flad, City Attorney Raul F. Salinas

ABSENT City Council Member Jorge Morales

III. Meeting Compensation Disclosure

IV. Public Hearings

1. Live Entertainment And Dancing Permits For The Hound Bar Located At 4626 Firestone Boulevard And Consideration Of Conditions

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing to consider approving the permits for The Hound Bar for live entertainment and dancing at 4626 Firestone Boulevard subject to the conditions set forth in the permits and any limitations and/or conditions the City Council may wish to impose.

Mayor Davila opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m.

Joe Perez, Director of Community Development gave a brief overview of the item and staff's recommendations.

Mario Dominguez, 10607 San Miguel Avenue stated that he supports the opening of The Hound Bar.

Joe Bernal, 8915 Annetta Avenue is concerned about the opening of bar and how bars attract drugs, litter, uncontrollable loud music and loitering after the bar closes.

John Robert Montalvo, 9815 Virginia Avenue stated that he visited the area yesterday and said that the site smelled like urine and found drug paraphernalia in the parking lot. He also understands the need for live entertainment in the city and suggested that maybe a requirement could be added to have the business install sound proof paneling.

Rachel Bernal 8915 Annetta Avenue is against allowing live entertainment at this location. She stated that she can't even let her granddaughter in her own backyard because of the trash and drug paraphernalia that is tossed over the fence. She doesn't understand how the City cannot be aware of problems with this property as there have been several reports made. Limitations won't solve the problem; the bar needs to be removed.

Annabel Garcia, 8916 Annetta states that she is a 25 year resident and the bar has always been a problem. They have reported on several occasions people trying to break into their cars. This is not the place for a bar, especially being so close to an elementary school.

Anthony Quevedo, 8919 Annetta Avenue states that he also has urine on property and witness people who are drunk and fight in front of his house. This is a consistent problem that the City never addresses.

Lyn Martinez is the new owner of 4626 Firestone Boulevard. She is an investor and this is a business that she has worked hard to obtain. Before she purchased the business she saw what type of business it was and believes that she can do something different for the City.

Nick Godoy, 8611 San Gabriel Avenue, finds it hard to believe that the Police Department doesn't respond when the residents call them. He has found that when there where issues at the American Legion and when the Police Department were called they responded and the American Legion was cited.

Mayor Davila closed the Public Hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Vice Mayor Bernal requested that Mr. Perez review with the City Council the staff's recommendations.

Staff's recommendations:

- DJ on Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- Live Bands on Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- Dancing on Monday – Sunday from 4:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., which are the operating hours of the business.

Vice Mayor Bernal asked Ms. Martinez to describe what type of music and security she is planning for her new business?

Ms. Martinez stated that she is planning on having security during operating hours. She is not planning on having any Banda or Mexican bands. This is strictly going to be for the younger crowd with newer music or possibly a band with up to 5 members. Her target audience is between 21 to 40 years of age. She feels that these hours for music will be hard to work with if attempting to have a successful business.

Mayor Davila asked if before buying the property she checked into the City's actions in regards to live entertainment.

No, because the previous owner had bands with more than 10 or 12 members and she did not want a band so large. It is not what she wanted.

Mayor Davila asked the Chief how many calls have been received on that area and what the outcomes of those calls were.

Mayor Davila also asked about the parking at bar. It only has 12 spaces and our residents do have problems with parking on the streets.

Ms. Martinez responded that she allows the gym to use our parking during the morning hours and the parents that taking their children to school also use her parking.

Council Member Rios asked if Ms. Martinez would you be willing to consider installing a sound proof wall.

Ms. Martinez said that she is currently thinking about changing the door to the back of the business and securing the walls.

Council Member Diaz believes that some of the parking concerns can be addressed with the business offering a type of valet parking or customers using Uber instead of driving. She has visited Ms. Martinez's other bar in Huntington Park and was surprised. It appeals to people of her generation, young professionals that want something that is close by, has modern rock going on, organic vegan offerings and eclectic cocktails. Council Member Diaz thanked Ms. Martinez for taking that risk and knows it is not easy to run a small business. She understands the community but supports Ms. Martinez and wants to see her move forward with her business, support the community and work with our residents. Our community deserves good things and Council Member Diaz wants to see The Hound Bar open.

Mayor Davila wants to visit Ms. Martinez's other bar in Huntington Park and would like to continue this item to the next Council Meeting of January 23.

Vice Mayor Bernal supports this item being brought back and requested staff to look at our similar establishments both on Firestone Boulevard and Tweedy Boulevard to look at how many calls have been placed to the Police Department for each one.

Mike Flad, City Manager recommended that we pull to together data for calls for service, schedule City Council visits to Ms. Martinez's other bar at similar times so all Council Members receive the same experience and bring this item back on the 23rd so that the people in the audience have a date to work with. The City will send out noticing again and advised residents to check the website for information. We will continue as an open Public Hearing until the January 23, 2018 City Council Meeting.

Randy Davis, Chief of Police said that he will gather all the requested information and give it to Mr. Perez so he can include it in his staff report.

This item was continued to the City Council Meeting of January 23, 2018.

2. Ratification Of Grant Agreement With The Office Of Traffic Safety For Police

Personnel Overtime, Training And Equipment

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and approved items A, B, C, D and E by motion of Mayor Davila and seconded by Vice Mayor Bernal:

- a. Authorizing utilization of the 2017 Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Grant Funds in the amount of \$130,000 from the State of California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for personnel overtime, training and equipment;
- b. Ratifying the Grant Agreement (Contract No. 3404) with the OTS, Grant Number PT18138;
- c. Authorizing the Mayor to execute the Grant Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney;
- d. Increasing the Fiscal Year 2017/18 revenue projection in the OTS Grant Fund, Account No. 231-4624 to \$130,000; and
- e. Appropriating \$130,000 to the Fiscal Year 2017/18 OTS Grant Fund budget as follows: \$118,595 in Account No. 231-556-21-5111, \$7,831 in Account No. 231-556-21-6204 and \$3,574 in Account No. 231-556-21-6340.

Randy Davis Chief of Police gave an overview of Item No. 2.

Mayor Davila opened the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m. and closed it at 7:21 p.m.

V. Comments From The Audience

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue attended a neighborhood watch meeting on December 16th and it was great to see Lieutenant Arana and Lieutenant Perez.

Ms. Johnson asked why the need to have so many little pockets of neighborhood watches that only have an average of about 30 homes instead of 8 or 10 blocks. She also stated the audio recording of the Parks & Recreation meeting of December 14th and had to strain to hear due to the fact that the volume was so low.

Ms. Johnson continued that there is a lot of concern about the alleged cannabis shop in 13223 Paramount Boulevard. Some people are wondering if the City is standing by its commitment to curtail these establishments.

Gabriela with the office of Congresswomen Nanette Diaz Barragán recapped the activities of the Congresswomen during her first year in office.

Mario Dominguez Jr., 10607 San Miguel Avenue asked for information in regards to how the South Gate Police Department responded to couple of incidents that happened in November and December and were televised by local news stations.

John Montalvo, 9815 Virginia Avenue attended a Parks and Recreation meeting a couple weeks ago and would like to issue a formal complaint about the way it was handled. He stated that he was interrupted several times during his public speaking time; also his concerns were immediately dismissed. He felt it was very condescending and a waste of time. He also attended a Los Angeles River meeting and asked about the Cities Brown Act requirements for this meeting.

Nick Godoy, 8611 San Gabriel Avenue spoke about the parking on San Gabriel Avenue.

VI. Reports And Comments From City Officials

Randy Davis, Chief of Police stated that we are aware of the marijuana dispensary on the east side of town and it is under investigation.

Greg Martinez, City Treasurer spoke on the Homeless Count and asked people to come out and volunteer.

Council Member Diaz attended the Contract Cities Legislative Tour and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Council Member Rios also wished everyone a Happy New Year and informed everyone on the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health forum being held this Thursday at the South Gate Park.

Vice Mayor Bernal is looking forward to a great 2018 and she attended a HUB Cities meeting over the break. Hub Cities has been awarded a \$150,000 grant from the Weingart Foundation. She also attended a meeting that included three of our Community in Action group to talk about homelessness.

Mayor Davila announced that on the Council of Government we have a new executive director, Nancy Pfeiffer, and she was selected two months ago. We will be meeting to put together a focus group to see what we can do for our area. She wished everyone a Happy New Year and is looking forward to continuing working with everyone.

VII. Consent Calendar Items

Agenda Items 4, 5, and 6 were approved by motion of Mayor Davila and seconded by Vice Mayor Bernal. Item 3 was removed for separate discussion.

3. Resolution Amending The Fiscal Year 2017/18 Municipal Budget And Local Streets And Roads Funding Program Project List, To Program \$932,684 In Senate Bill 1 Funds For The Firestone Boulevard Regional Corridor Capacity Enhancement Project, City Project No. 476-TRF

The City Council adopted Resolution No. 7794 entitled – Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate amending the Fiscal Year 2017/18 Municipal Budget and Local Streets and Roads Funding Program Project List, to program \$932,684 in Senate Bill I Funds for the Firestone Boulevard Regional Corridor Capacity Enhancement Project, City Project No. 476-TRF, by motion of Mayor Davila and seconded by Council Member Rios.

4. Proposal To Increase The Scope Of Work And Budget On The City Hall Interior Remodel, City Project No. 567-ARC, To Address Issues Of Deferred Maintenance, Operational Efficiency, Customer Service And Safety

The City Council approved items A, B and C during consideration of the Consent Calendar:

- a. Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 3319 with FMI Office Space Development, LLC., to fund additional improvements proposed for the City Hall Interior Remodel, City Project No. 567-ARC, in an amount not-to-exceed \$ 228,982; and

b. Transferred \$272,000 in General Funds from the Building and Infrastructure Maintenance Fund to the City Hall Interior Remodel, City Project No. 567-ARC (Account No. 311-790-49-9906), as necessary to fully fund the project; and

c. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 2 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

5. Agreement With Transtech Engineering, Inc., For Construction Management Services For The Safe Routes 2 Schools, Cycle 10, Near South Gate Middle School

The City Council approved items A and B during consideration of the Consent Calendar:

a. Agreement (Contract No. 3405) with Transtech Engineering, Inc., to provide construction management services for the Safe Routes to School, Cycle 10, in the vicinity of South Gate Middle School, City Project No. 481-TRF, State Project No. SR2SL-5257(031), in an amount not-to-exceed \$87,890; and

b. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

6. Tentative Agreement For A Successor Memorandum Of Understanding With The South Gate Division Management Association; And Adopt Resolution Approving The Pay Tables

The City Council approved items A and B during consideration of the Consent Calendar:

a. A Tentative Agreement (Contract No. 3406) for a Successor Memorandum of Understanding with the South Gate Division Management Association; and

b. Adopting Resolution No. 7795 entitled – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate approving Pay Tables for the South Gate Division Management Association.

VIII. Reports, Recommendations And Requests

7. Agreement With JWA Urban Consultants, Inc., To Provide Grant Coordination And Management Services For The CDBG/HOME Program

The City Council considered:

a. Approving an Agreement with JWA Urban Consultants, Inc. to provide grant coordination and management services for the CDBG/HOME Programs in the amount not to exceed \$65,000 annually for a three-year term; and

b. Authorizing the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

Priscila Davila (Priscila Davila & Associates, Inc.) submitted a letter to the City Council addressing the Agenda Report that stated without supporting facts that Ms. Davila's quality of work has not met expectations in recent years and is requesting that this statement be retracted from the public record.

The City Council agreed to remove this verbiage from the public record.

Raul Salinas, City Attorney recommended that on the official agenda bill that is held in the City Clerk's Office we could put a footnote on the agenda bill indicating by asterisk next to that statement to reflect that the last sentence has been requested to be removed by City Council action.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk stated that the record will reflect that the City Council has requested that the statement be removed.

Vice Mayor Bernal recommended that the letter be filed with the original agenda bill.

Ms. Avalos stated that the records for the City are kept for a certain amount of time and all correspondence will be part of the normal destruction process that we follow to limit liability to the City as well.

Mayor Davila made a motion to award an Agreement (Contract No. 3407) to Avant Garde to provide grant coordination and management services for the CDBG/HOME Programs in the amount not to exceed \$65,000 annually for a three-year term and add a footnote to the original Agenda Bill removing the statement regarding the quality of work by Priscila Davila by City Council Action and seconded by Council Member Rios.

8. South Gate Safe Routes To School Plan

The City Council considered receiving and filing the Safe Routes to School Plan thereby authorizing its use as the planning document to encourage students walking and biking to school.

This item was continued to the City Council Meeting of January 23, 2018.

9. South Gate Police Department Services And Staffing Levels Report

The City Council considered receiving and filing the South Gate Police Department services and staffing levels report.

This item was continued to a City Council Meeting in February.

10. Warrant Register For December 26, 2017 And January 9, 2018

The City Council approved items A and B by motion of Vice Mayor Bernal and seconded by Mayor Davila:

- a. Ratified the Warrants for December 26, 2017; and
- b. Approved the Warrants and Cancellations for January 9, 2018.

Total of Checks: \$3,913,548.12
Voids \$ (3,795.44)
Total of Payroll Deductions: \$ (683,612.73)
Grand Total: \$3,226,139.95

Cancellations: 74562, 74688 and Various Stale Dated Checks as Listed in the Staff Report.

Vice Mayor Bernal requested a list be prepared identifying which previous City

employees are receiving retirement medical, which department they worked in and if any current employees are set to receive that.

IX. Adjournment

Mayor Davila adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m. and seconded by Vice Mayor Bernal.

PASSED and **APPROVED** this 27th day of February, 2018.

For a signed copy of the minutes for this meeting please contact the City Clerk's Office:
8650 California Avenue, South Gate, California 90280
(323) 563-9510 * fax (323) 563-5411 * www.cityofsouthgate.org