

**MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020**

9/29/2020 - Minutes

Call To Order/Roll Call

CALL TO ORDER The special meeting of the Budget Subcommittee of the City of South Gate was called to order by Al Rios, Vice Mayor at 5:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESENT Vice Mayor Al Rios, Council Member Maria del Pilar Avalos, City Treasurer Greg Martinez, Jackie Acosta, Director of Administrative Services

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE Greg Martinez, City Treasurer

COVID 19 Meeting Procedures II

Meeting Compensation Disclosure

1. Departmental Budget Reviews

The Budget Subcommittee reviewed and discussed the Community Development Department budget.

Jackie Acosta, Director of Administrative Services stated that Joe Perez, Director of Community Development will present his PowerPoint Presentation and then afterwards the Subcommittee will review the budget summary.

Mr. Perez gave a presentation on this item.

Vice Mayor Rios thanked and commended Mr. Perez for the work that he has done for the City.

Vice Mayor Rios questioned the reduction on the planning division.

Mr. Perez explained that the item that staff has identified as cuts as not urgent items and can be safely postponed.

Council Member Avalos thanked and commended Mr. Perez for the years of service to the City and knowledge he's acquired.

City Treasurer Martinez and City Clerk Avalos both thanked Mr. Perez for his work with the City.

Ms. Acosta presented the budget for the Community Development Department.

Mr. Perez provided information on the Housing Budget and the Section 8 Housing Program.

Ms. Acosta continued the presentation for the Community Development Department Budget.

Mr. Perez outlined the proposed cuts to the Community Development General Fund Budget.

Council Member Avalos asked what events are covered by Civic Engagement and if we can cut more from this account.

Mr. Perez explained that staff has decreased most of the fund except for the funds budgeted for the Chamber of Commerce.

Council Member Avalos questioned why in other sections of the budget Mr. Perez cut from Memberships and Training but not in the General Fund Account.

Mr. Perez responded that this is one area that he is uncomfortable making those recommendations because this account is used for our building inspectors. These trainings are for the inspectors to be recertified and this can be done online.

Mr. Perez continued his presentation with his proposed cuts in the Planning Division and Code Enforcement.

Council Member Avalos asked if the overtime account in the Planning Division budget could be cut.

Mr. Perez explained that this account covers the overtime expenses of staff covering the Planning Commission meetings.

Ms. Acosta continued the presentation for the Community Development Department Budget.

Council Member Avalos asked if the City has ever been audited by HUD.

Mr. Perez stated that we have been audited by HUD and also by the Office of the Inspector General (IOG). When the Inspector General conducted the audit, they were here for several months. They audited the Code Enforcement Program and the Graffiti Removal Program which at the time were partially funded with CDBG Funds. The IOG determined that Code Enforcement is no longer a reimbursable program. Staff is still trying to fight the outcome but it is clear that IOG is not going to allow us to fund Code Enforcement with CDBG funds. This could possibly require the City to have to repay up to \$800,000 in funds.

Adjournment

Vice Mayor Rios unanimously adjourned at 7:01 p.m. seconded by Council Member Avalos.

PASSED and APPROVED this 20th day of October 2020.