

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

**Tuesday, January 12, 2021**

1/12/2021 - Minutes

**I. Call To Order/Roll Call**

CALL TO ORDER Maria Davila, Mayor called a Special City Council meeting to order at 5:54 p.m.

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

**II. City Officials**

PRESENT Mayor Maria Davila, Vice Mayor Al Rios, Council Member Maria del Pilar Avalos, Council Member Denise Diaz and Council Member Gil Hurtado; Interim City Manager Chris Jeffers, City Attorney Raul F. Salinas

ABSENT City Treasurer Gregory Martinez

**COVID 19 Meeting Procedures**

**III. Meeting Compensation Disclosure**

**IV. Closed Session: (ATTY)**

The Council Members recessed into Closed Session at 5:58 p.m. and reconvened at 6:37 p.m. with all Members of Council present. City Attorney Salinas reported the following:

**1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PENDING LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a), 54954.9(b)(3)(C)

- a. Senorina Rendon v. City of South Gate
- b. Safeway Insurance Company v. City of South Gate
- c. Dulce Vargas v. City of South Gate
- d. Alberto A. Navarro Martinez v. City of South Gate

For Item 1a the City Council received a report from the City Attorney concerning the status of this litigation. On a motion made by Mayor Davila and seconded by Council Member Avalos the City Council authorized the waiver of any conflict of interest caused by the retention of a new law firm to undertake the representation of the City of South Gate in this case. The new law firm retainer agreement is a matter of open session on the Consent Calendar. The insurance company will be accepting the City's tender of defense and paying for the legal fees associated with the City's involvement with this case. The vote was 5 to 0.

For Item 1b involved a suit in which the City was named as a result of a tree falling on the property in which the insurance company paid for the property damage. On a motion made by Council Member Avalos and seconded by Council Member Hurtado the City Council authorized that matter and the amount is being withheld until the agreement is executed. The vote was 5 to 0.

Items 1c and 1d are each tort claims that are filed with the City involving slip and fall injuries on City property. On a motion made on both matters by Mayor Davila and seconded by Council Member Diaz the City Council voted to deny both of the claims. The vote was 5 to 0.

## **2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – THREATENED LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(3)(D)&(E)

One (1) - Potential Case

For Item 2 the City Council received a report from the City Attorney's Office with respect to a case of threatened litigation involving an accident with a City owned vehicle. On a motion made by Council Member Hurtado and seconded by Vice Mayor Rios the City Council voted to resolve this case by way of settlement as opposed to incurring attorney's fees for this matter. The vote was 5 to 0.

## **3. CONSIDER THE EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 (b)(1)

- a. City Attorney
- b. Interim City Manager

For Item 3 both the Interim City Manager and City Attorney provided reports to the City Council and upon completion of those reports there was no reportable action on either item.

## **V. Special Meeting Adjournment**

Mayor Davila unanimously adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m. on a motion made by Council Member Diaz and seconded Council Member Hurtado.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** this 26th day of January 2021.

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](http://www.cityofsouthgate.org)