

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

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019**

4/9/2019 - Minutes

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

CALL TO ORDER María Belén Bernal, Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

INVOCATION Pastor Anthony Kidd, Community of Faith Bible Church

PLEDGE OF  
ALLEGIANCE Elisa Jimenez, Mayor Bernal's daughter

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

**II. City Officials**

PRESENT Mayor María Belén Bernal, Vice Mayor Jorge Morales, Council Member Maria Davila; Council Member Denise Diaz and Council Member Al Rios; City Manager Michael Flad, City Attorney Raul Salinas

LATE City Treasurer Greg Martinez arrived at 6:48 p.m.

**III. Meeting Compensation Disclosure**

**IV. Proclamations, Certificates, Introductions And Ceremonial Actions**

**1. Proclamation Declaring April 13, 2019, As The City's 14th Annual Earth Day Celebration**

The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring April 13, 2019, as the 14th Annual Earth Day Celebration in the City of South Gate.

**2. Certificate Of Appreciation To Artist Ja'Rie Gray For Designing Metro's "Through The Eyes Of Artists" Poster Featuring South Gate**

The City Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to artist Ja'Rie Gray for designing Metro's "Through the Eyes of Artists" poster featuring the shape of the City of South Gate.

**3. Introduction Of 2019 Azalea Queen Susan Janer And 2019 Grand Marshal Gil Hurtado**

The City Council introduced 2019 Azalea Queen Susan Janer and 2019 Grand Marshal Gil Hurtado, and will present them with the Key to the City.

**4. Certificates Of Appreciation To Miss Azaleita Court 2018 For Their Dedicated Service And Introduction Of Miss Azaleita Court 2019**

The City Council:

- a. Presented Certificates of Appreciation to the outgoing Miss Azaleita Court 2018 in recognition of their dedicated service to the community; and
- b. Introduced the incoming Miss Azaleita Court 2019 and present them with City lapel pins.

**5. Certificates Of Appreciation To Miss South Gate Court 2018 For Their Dedicated Service And Introduction Of Miss South Gate Court 2019**

The City Council:

- a. Presented Certificates of Appreciation to the outgoing Miss South Gate Court 2018 in recognition of their dedicated service to the community; and
- b. Introduced the incoming Miss South Gate Court 2019 and presented them with a City lapel pin.

**6. Certificates Of Appreciation To The South Gate High School Leadership Class Students For Their Dedicated Service To The Community**

The City Council presented Certificates of Appreciation to the students of the South Gate High School Leadership Class for their dedicated service to the South Gate community during their senior year.

**7. City Council Re-Organization: Nomination/Selection Of Mayor And Vice Mayor; And Oaths Of Office**

The City Council approved A and B:

- a. Re-organized by nominating and selecting a new Mayor and Vice Mayor for a one year term; the selection was ratified by a majority vote of the City Council; and
- b. The Oaths of Office were administered to the newly selected Mayor and Vice Mayor.

Mayor Bernal made a motion to nominate Council Member Rios as Mayor and Council Member Diaz as Vice Mayor. The motion died due to lack of support.

Vice Mayor Morales was selected as Mayor by motion of Council Member Rios and seconded by Mayor Bernal. Vice Mayor Morales abstained.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Bernal, yes; Vice Mayor Morales, abstained; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Rios, yes; Council Member Davila, yes.

Council Member Diaz was selected as Vice Mayor by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Morales, yes; Council Member Diaz, abstained; Council Member Bernal, yes; Council Member Rios, yes; Council Member Davila, yes.

**RECESS** The City Council recessed at 8:14 p.m., and reconvened at 8:27 p.m., with 5 Members of Council present.

**8. City Council Appointments To City Commissions And Committees**

The City Council made the following appointments to City Commissions and

Committees; the appointments were ratified by a majority vote of the City Council.

Vice Mayor Diaz appointed Robert Montalvo as her representative on the Parks and Recreation Commission seconded by Council Member Davila.

### **9. City Council Appointments To Outside Boards And Agencies**

The City Council made the following appointments to outside boards and agencies; the appointments were ratified by a majority vote of the City Council.

Council Member Bernal was appointed City Council Auditor by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

Mayor Morales was appointed as representative to the County Sanitation District and Vice Mayor Diaz was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Mayor Morales abstaining.

Council Member Davila was appointed as representative to the Gateway Cities Council of Governments Board of Directors and Council Member Rios was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Council Member Davila abstaining.

Vice Mayor Diaz was appointed as trustee to the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Vice Mayor Diaz abstaining.

Council Member Rios was appointed as representative to the HUB Cities Consortium and Vice Mayor Diaz was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Council Member Rios abstaining.

Council Member Bernal was appointed as representative to the Independent Cities Association (ICA) and Council Member Davila was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

Council Member Davila was appointed as representative to the Independent Cities Finance Authority and Council Member Rios was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Council Member Davila abstaining.

Council Member Davila was appointed as representative to the Independent Cities Risk Management Authority (ICRMA) and Nellie Cobos, Deputy Director of Administrative Services/Human Resources and Risk Management as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

Council Member Bernal was appointed as representative to the League of California Cities and Vice Mayor Diaz was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

Council Member Bernal was appointed as representative to the Southeast Water Coalition Joint Powers Authority and Council Member Davila was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The

vote was 4 to 1 with Council Member Bernal abstaining.

Council Member Davila was appointed as representative to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and Council Member Bernal was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Council Member Davila abstaining.

Council Member Davila was appointed as representative to the Eco-Rapid Transit (OLDA) and Council Member Rios as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Council Member Davila abstaining.

Mayor Morales was appointed as representative to the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee and Vice Mayor Diaz was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

Mayor Morales was appointed as representative to the California Contract Cities Association (CCCA) and Council Member Rios was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

Council Member Davila was appointed as representative to the School Safety Collaborative and Vice Mayor Diaz was appointed as alternate by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

Council Member Davila was appointed as representative to the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Council Member Davila abstaining.

Council Member Davila was appointed as representative to the Atlantic Ave/Blvd Corridor Cities Committee by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal. The vote was 4 to 1 with Council Member Davila abstaining.

Vice Mayor Diaz was appointed as representative to the Southeast Community Development Corporation (SCDC) by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

## **V. Comments From The Audience**

Greg Martinez, 2603 Ohio Avenue commented on the low voter turnout at the last election and is interested in strategies of what can we do, as elected officials, to increase voter turnout. He said that Public Works and the Police Department removed a homeless encampment and now the problem is that the homeless encampment has just moved down the street to Ardmore Avenue between Long Beach Boulevard and Santa Fe Avenue. We need to find a more permanent solution. He also informed the City Council that he will be out of the City next week attending the City Treasurer's conference.

Andy Kim, Gracias Music Foundation invited everyone to the Easter Cantata in Long Beach and provided information on her organization.

Mario Dominguez Jr., 10607 San Miguel Avenue spoke about the shooting that took place in January on Paramount Boulevard and asked the Council to consider placing onboard cameras on police vehicles and body cameras for the officers.

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue congratulated Mayor Morales and Vice Mayor Diaz on their new appointments. About a year ago she reported a mattress truck on Garfield Avenue and Main Street. It's parked in a two hour zone and is there for months. Finally it moved but now it's back and has been there for three weeks. She reported it about a week and a half ago. After reporting it, he moved the truck but now it is has been back for the past week. She is concerned that if the City doesn't handle the problem, he will again be flying balloons and selling mattresses from the back of the truck.

Nick Godoy, 8611 San Gabriel Avenue spoke on the possible renaming of the Coliseum and left literature with the City Clerk to provide to the City Council. He said that Public Works fixed the potholes that he reported at the last City Council meeting and that he spoke with August in the Police Department about a BMW that parks in the red across from 8625 San Gabriel. He is concerned that the driver will hit a child. He has concerns that people accept positions on dais and then they never show up or they are going somewhere else for political advancements. If you can't fulfill the obligation then you shouldn't run.

## **VI. Reports And Comments From City Officials**

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk congratulated Mayor Morales and Vice Mayor Diaz on their new appointments. The County is very much aware of low voter turnout especially for Special Elections and they are looking at possibly having a bill come forward this next year in regards to Special Elections being held on specific dates to minimize the voter turn-out costs. We spend between \$100 - \$200 per registered voter and they don't show up. She will be attending a meeting on April 23rd with the County that will address some of these issues. Ms. Avalos informed the City Council that she will be on vacation next week and wished everyone a wonderful Easter.

Council Member Bernal attended the County Sanitation meeting a couple weeks ago and is happy to report that the personnel committee was going to meet after that meeting. She is hoping that the labor negotiations will be getting some good news. The County Sanitation is also participating in our Earth Day event.

Council Member Rios congratulated Mayor Bernal for a fabulous year and raising important questions where he found himself aligning with her on many of the issues. He also congratulated Mayor Morales on his appointment. He attended the Eco Rapid tour this past weekend to ride the Metro to Pasadena, Culver City, and USC and is excited to see the possibilities coming to South Gate as we will also be getting stops in the future. He also attended the NALEO Public Policy on Workforce and he attended Supervisor Solis's luncheon honoring Cesar Chavez. We had the Master River Plan here and the project includes 51 miles of investment. Council Member Rios thanked everyone for attending the groundbreaking at East Los Angeles College.

Vice Mayor Diaz attended the California League of Cities Conference, where she is a part of the Environmental Quality Committee. The focus this year is on recycling. Along with Council Member Bernal she attended the WELL conference in Long Beach and will be out in San Jose with the same program. This past election brought together, Mayor Solache of Lynwood, Vice Mayor Ana Maria Quintana of Bell and herself. They all agree we need to unite as the South East. Our goal is to bring the needs and wants of our community to Sacramento and Washington DC as well.

Mayor Morales attended a meeting in the Los Angeles River as a board member of the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy where we met the California Secretary of Natural

Resources. April 17th will be his last board meeting as the President of the California League of Contract Cities and it will be hosted at the Los Angeles River at the confluence point.

## **VII. Consent Calendar Items**

Agenda Items 11 and 12 were approved by motion of Mayor Morales and seconded by Council Member Rios. Item 10 was pulled for discussion.

### **10. Resolution In Support Of An Accurate 2020 Census Of The Southeast Los Angeles Region**

The City Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 7853 entitled – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate in support of an accurate 2020 Census of the Southeast Los Angeles region by motion of Mayor Bernal and seconded by Council Member Davila.

### **11. Agreement With All American Asphalt For Construction Of The Circle Park Driveway**

The City Council unanimously approved A, B, C, and D during consent calendar.

a. Approved an Agreement (Contract No. 3518) with All American Asphalt to construct the Circle Park Driveway, City Project No. 634-PRK (Project), in the amount not-to-exceed \$268,576;

c. Appropriated \$115,860 in Los Angeles County Proposition A Maintenance & Servicing Funds to Account No. 311-790-39-9472 to fully fund the Project;

d. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney; and

e. Approved the Notice of Exemption for the construction of the Project and direct the City Clerk to file it with the Los Angeles County Recorder's Office.

### **12. Completion Of The Safe Routes To School Project, Cycle 10**

The City Council approved A, B, and C during consent calendar.

a. Accepting completion of construction, effective April 2, 2019, of the Safe Routes to School Project, Cycle 10, in the vicinity of South Gate Middle School, City Project No. 481-TRF;

b. Approving Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$15,809 that was necessary to address unforeseen field conditions, and to remove contract work that was not cost-effective to construct; and

c. Directing the City Clerk to file a Notice of Completion with Los Angeles County Recorder's Office.

## **VIII. Reports, Recommendations And Requests**

### **13. Warrant Register For April 9, 2019**

The City Council unanimously approved the Warrants and Cancellations for April 9, 2019 by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Bernal.

Total of Checks: \$3,158,656.87  
Voids: (\$ 41.99)  
Total Payroll Deductions: \$ 293,934.81  
Grand Total: \$2,864,680.07

Cancellation: 82014

## **IX. Adjournment**

Mayor Morales unanimously adjourned the meeting in memory of Larry Leonard, former South Gate City Council Member at 9:10 p.m., seconded by Council Member Davila.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** this 23rd day of April, 2019.

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)