

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

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

9/14/2021 - Minutes

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

CALL TO ORDER Al Rios, Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

INVOCATION Pastor Abner Lima, Community of Hope Church

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE Steve Costley, Acting Director of Parks & Recreation

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

II. City Officials

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

LATE City Treasurer Gregory Martinez arrived at the dais at 6:48 p.m.

III. Meeting Compensation Disclosure

IV. Proclamations, Certificates, Introductions And Ceremonial Actions

1. Proclamation Declaring September 20-24, 2021 As National GEAR UP Week.

The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring September 20 through 24, 2021, as National GEAR UP Week in the City of South Gate.

2. Receive And File Presentation On The Cultural Arts Center Project By The Rivers And Mountains Conservancy

The City Council received and filed an update on the plans for the new SELA Cultural Arts Center in South Gate. The presentation update was made by the lead agency, Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.

3. Certificates Of Appreciation For The Police Officer Recipients Of The 2018 & 2019 Highway Patrol 10851 Award

The City Council presented:

- a. Certificates of Appreciation to Police Officers James Hugar, Daniel Melendrez, Nicolas Vasquez, Albert Rodriguez, Anthony Reyes, Edward Huffman, Antonio Mendez, Rafael Vega, Adam Cook, Andre Sanchez, Sam Houx, Arturo Macias, and Mariela Herrera, in recognition of receiving the California Highway Patrol 10851 Award for combating automobile thefts; and
- b. Captain Joseph Zizi, (South LA CHP Commander) presented the 10851 award pins to the recipients.

V. Public Hearings

4. Resolution Approving The Consolidated Annual Performance And Evaluation Report For FY 2020-21

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and unanimously approved A and B by motion of Council Member Hurtado and seconded by Council Member Davila.

Roll Call: Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Mayor Rios, yes

a. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-35-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California receiving and approving Program Year 2020-2021 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER); and

b. Authorized the City Manager, or designee, to submit to HUD the City's FY 2020-2021 CAPER.

Erika Soriano, Administrative Services Coordinator and Ana LeNoue, consultant with Avant-Garde, Inc, City Consultant provided the staff report for this item.

Mr. Dominguez inquired about the rehabilitation of buildings on Tweedy Boulevard and wanted to know if those qualified.

Ms. LeNoue responded that there is a façade improvement program for Tweedy Mile and a commercial façade improvement program open to all businesses.

Vice Mayor Avalos asked about the rental assistance program.

Ms. LeNoue responded that the numbers under the CDBG program would be included for any persons or households that receive services throughout June 30th.

Council Member Hurtado is concerned about graffiti and would like to see more aggressive consequences, in turn free up funds to address urgent needs of the community.

5. Continuing Ordinance Approving Specific Plan Amendment 21-25 For CUP No 843

The City Council opened the Public Hearing, took public testimony, and continued the Public Hearing to September 28, 2021.

Chris Jeffers, Interim City Manager requested the item be taken up prior to item 16 to allow staff to process new information that had recently been received and not continue the item to September 28, 2021.

Raul F. Salinas, City Attorney explained the process of hearing this item as a walk on item due to impact on the project if it was delayed to a future meeting. In order to make an amendment to the Specific Plan staff prepared a Resolution. The City Attorney read into the record the resolution and Council needed to vote in order to walk on them item.

Mr. Salinas stated that the Resolution is titled "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, State of California recommending certification of a class 3 categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA section 21000 approving conditional use permit 843 to allow the construction of a new 1,807 square foot drive through restaurant with modified parking in the TMU-1 zone of the Tweedy Boulevard specific plan at 9854 Alameda Street (APN: 6205-016-013); adopting specific plan amendment 21-25 to update footnote 4 of table 4-2 and setback criteria under table 4-3 of the specific plan."

Staff's recommendation to walk on this item was approved by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

Arturo Synder, CEO Primestor spoke on behalf of applicant Raising Canes regarding the time deadlines on this issue.

A resident asked for clarification to determine if this item will be discussed tonight or continued to September 28, 2021 as she would like to make comments in opposition of the project.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk asked the residents on zoom if they wish to speak on the item being walked on or the actual project itself.

All three callers would like to speak on the item as their comments do not pertain to walking on the item.

Roll Call: Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Mayor Rios, yes

VI. Comments From The Audience

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue, clarified her statement on the July 13th meeting minutes that the city of 100,000 people does not need more than five code enforcement officers. The city needs more code enforcement officers.

Ms. Johnson reads the property tax liens in the press telegram. She is hoping the city can help the 40 names and addresses that were in the notices with the Covid relief funds.

Ms. Johnson stated the city should receive the latest Wave Newspaper in a timely manner.

Mario Dominguez asked if Council feels confident the city will be financially sound during this fiscal year. Mr. Dominguez asked what the City Treasurer's function is.

Eric Quintero, Waste Management stated they are conducting weekly visits to South Gate businesses and multi-family properties to help educate customers on recycling and food recycling services.

Adolfo Varas, Jackson Avenue, reminded everyone that September 15th - October 15th will be the first national Hispanic Heritage month. He also stated that the South Gate Art Walk is Saturday, October 2nd from 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. at the Civic Center. Lastly, he thanked Steve Costley for promoting the Art in the City of South Gate, especially within the youth and community.

VII. Reports And Comments From City Officials

Steve Costley, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation mentioned the South Gate Art Walk is scheduled for Saturday, October 2nd. Mr. Costley also mentioned the LA River End of Summer Festival on Saturday, September 18th from 9 a.m. - 2p.m. at Hollydale Park is sponsored by Anthony Rendon's office.

Darren Arakawa, Acting Chief of Police thanked everyone that came out to the 9/11 event.

Greg Martinez, City Treasurer responded to the resident asking for his whereabouts'. The City Treasurer is not a policy maker and does not vote on the budget He noted that he had a great time at the American Legion on Veteran's Day.

Council Member Hurtado stated the 9/11 event was well attended. He also reached out to Governor Newsom concerning SB9 which is on his desk for his signature and how many communities in the Southeast area are concerned about the impact it will have in the communities. The Governor responded and had Mr. Hurtado and Jason Elliot, staff member that works in the Housing converse. He added that he met some individuals during his attendance at the Independent Cities Finance Authority about a month ago. They help find funding mechanism to address certain infrastructure issues noting that the city's streetlights are eighty (80) years old. Lastly, he provided City Manager with information to meet with said folks.

Council Member Hurtado mentioned an issue that all youth programs are facing. The County of Public Health were requiring all participants either a vaccine or be tested within 48 hours of a gathering.

Council Member Diaz attended the Vector Control meeting. She also attended the California Equality LGBTQ summit in Sacramento. In addition, Eco Rapid Transit West Santa Ana Branch is preparing a response letter to the EIR and they are having a special meeting on the 21st at 7 p.m.

Council Member Davila stated that Council Member Diaz, Vice Mayor Avalos, Mayor Rios and herself attended the Independent Cities conference in August. She thanked the police department for the 9/11 event. She also mentioned that Officer Edward Huffman has retired after 27 years. As well as her attendance at the Safety School Collaborative on Monday and thanked Acting Chief Arakawa for attending the meeting. She also mentioned a schoolteacher from Bryson Elementary was named Teacher of the Year from LAUSD.

Vice Mayor Avalos is honored to represent the teachers in the Southeast center at the state level as a state delegate for the California Teachers Association. She commended the police department for the 9/11 event. She thanked the police officers and fire department for their hard work.

Mayor Rios commended the police department for the 9/11 event. He also mentioned that the food distribution application is not very accessible.

VIII. Consent Calendar Items

Agenda Items 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14 were unanimously approved by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

ROLL CALL: Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Mayor Rios yes

6. Resolution Declaring 4909 Mason Street (APN 6216-032-900) As Surplus Property

The City Council unanimously approved A and B during Consent Calendar.

- a. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-41-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, declaring 4909 Mason Street as surplus property: and
- b. Directed the City Manager to follow disposition procedures set forth in the Surplus Land Act ("Act").

7. Resolution Amending Resolution No. 6454 Creating Principal Civil Engineer Position; Approving Job Specification; Adjusting Salary For Deputy City Engineer And Update Corresponding Salary Pay Tables

The City Council unanimously approved A and B during Consent Calendar.

- a. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-42-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, amending Resolution No. 6454 (Salary Resolution and Position Classification Plan) to create the position of Principal Civil Engineer, to approve the corresponding job specification and to update the appropriate salary pay table; and
- b. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-42-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, amending Resolution No. 6454 (Salary Resolution and Position Classification Plan) to approve a salary increase to the Deputy City Engineer position of 3.8%, to create a proper separation from the proposed Principal Civil Engineer salary and update the appropriate salary pay table.

8. Side Letter Agreements With Police Management Association And Division Management Association

The City Council unanimously approved A, B, and C during Consent Calendar.

- a. Side Letter of Agreement (Contract No. 2021-118-CC) with the South Gate Police Management Association regarding accrued unused vacation, holiday compensatory time-off leaves;
- b. Side Letter of Agreement (Contract No. 2021-119-CC) with the South Gate Division Management Association regarding accrued unused vacation, holiday and administrative leaves; and
- c. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Side Letters of Agreements in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

9. Amending Capital Improvement Program Adding Atlantic Avenue Traffic Signing And Striping Modifications (City Project No. 687-ST) And Approving Allocation Of Funds

The City Council unanimously approved A and B during Consent Calendar.

- a. Amended the Capital Improvement Program to add the Atlantic Avenue Traffic Signing and Striping Modifications, City Project No. 687-ST, which is necessary to reconfigure the northbound traffic lanes and parking restrictions to change traffic circulation and increase on-street parking capacity; and
- b. Transferred \$30,000 in Proposition C Funds from Account No. 311-790-31-9565 (Capital Projects Fund-Long Beach Complete Streets) to Account No. 311-790-31-9219 (Capital Projects Fund- Atlantic Ave Parking Modifications) to allocate funding for, and fully fund the Atlantic Avenue Traffic Signing and Striping Modifications, City Project No. 687-ST.

10. Item Was Removed From The Agenda

11. Amendment No. 1 To Contract No. 2020-65-CC With Kimley-Horn And Associates, Inc., For Traffic Engineering Services

The City Council unanimously approved A and B during Consent Calendar.

- a. Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-65-CC with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., to provide traffic engineering and staff augmentation services on a month-to-month basis, up to December 14, 2022, for an amount not to exceed \$27,000; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-65-CC in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

12. Agreement With Axon Enterprise, Inc., For Body Worn Cameras For Sworn Police Officers

The City Council unanimously approved A and B during Consent Calendar.

- a. Agreement (Contract No. 2021-122-CC) with Axon Enterprise, Inc., for body cameras and accessories for sworn police officers; and
- b. Purchase order with Axon Enterprise, Inc., for the implementation of the Police Body Worn Camera Program.

13. Investment Report For The Quarter Ending June 30, 2021

The City Council unanimously received and filed the Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ended June 30, 2021 during Consent Calendar.

14. Minutes

The City Council unanimously approved A, B and C during Consent Calendar.

- a. The Joint Special City Council, Housing Authority, Successor Agency to the Community Development Commission of June 24, 2021;
- b. The Special and Regular Meeting minutes of August 10, 2021; and
- c. The Special and Regular Meeting minutes of August 24, 2021.

IX. Reports, Recommendations And Requests

15. Agreement With BlueViolet For Telephone System Upgrade Procurement And Implementation Service

The City Council unanimously approved A, B, and C by motion of Council Member Hurtado and seconded by council Member Davila.

- a. Purchase Services Agreement (Contract No. 2021-123-CC) and the issuance of any related Purchase Order to BlueViolet Networks, in the amount of \$155,024.94, for the purchase of a replacement telephone system, telephones, licensing, one year of maintenance and the necessary design, implementation and training services;

- b. Appropriated as part of the FY 2021-22 budget, the sum of \$155,024.94 from the unrestricted fund balance in the American Rescue Plan fund (50%), Water fund (25%), and the Refuse fund (25%) to fund the purchases; and
- c. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement (Attachment A) in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

Roll Call: Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Mayor Rios, yes

WALK-ON ITEM The City Council adopted Resolution 2021-39-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, recommending certification of a class 3 categorical exemption pursuant to CEQA section 21000 approving conditional use permit 843 to allow the construction of a new 1,807 square foot drive through restaurant with modified parking in the TMU-1 zone of the Tweedy Boulevard specific plan at 9854 Alameda Street (APN: 6205-016-013); adopting specific plan amendment 21-25 to update footnote 4 of table 4-2 and setback criteria under table 4-3 of the specific plan and was unanimously approved by motion of Council Member Hurtado and seconded by Council Member Davila.

Roll Call: Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Mayor Rios, yes

EXCUSED FROM MEETING At this time, Council Member Hurtado, was excused from the meeting and departed from the Council Chambers 10:10 p.m. and the Mayor called for a short recess.

RECESS The City Council recessed at 10:10 p.m., and reconvened at 10:18 p.m., with 4 Members of Council present.

16. Citywide Parking Study, City Project No. 590-RPT

The City Council considered:

- a. Receiving and filing a presentation of the Citywide Parking Study; and
- b. Approving the Citywide Parking Study and its Priority Tool Kit.

This item was continued to the City Council meeting of September 28th and at the request of the City Council will be placed at the beginning of the meeting.

17. Warrant Register For September 14, 2021

The City Council approved A and B (except for Warrants Nos. 93891 and 93793) by motion of Vice Mayor Avalos and seconded by Council Member Davila.

ROLL CALL: Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Vice Mayor Avalos, yes; Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Hurtado, absent

- a. Approved Check No. 93439 from August 10, 2021; and
- b. Approved the Warrant Register for September 14, 2021

Total of Checks: \$4,140,848.01

VOIDS: \$ (20,451.94)

Total of Payroll Deductions: \$ (745,620.20)

Grand Total: \$3,374,775.87

Cancellations: 92563, 93185, 93359, 93360, 93584, 93647, 93847

X. Adjournment

Mayor Rios adjourned the meeting at 10:26 p.m. and seconded by Vice Mayor Avalos.

PASSED and **APPROVED** this 12th day of October 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