

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD JANUARY 13, 2015.**

Mayor Brown called the City Council, Parking Authority, and Housing Authority meetings to order jointly and concurrently at 6:08 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 4455 W. 126th Street, Hawthorne, California.

ROLL CALL-Present: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.
Absent: None.

Mr. Marvin Jackmon from Southern California Edison gave the evening's invocation. Mr. Allen Richards led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Margaret McBride from the City of Hawthorne's independent auditors Vasquez & Company LLP gave a brief explanation of the City of Hawthorne's Audit Results and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for FY 2013-14.

Finance Director Rickey Manbahal discussed the Internal Control policies as it relates to the Annual Audit and CAFR.

Mr. Marvin Jackmon with Southern California Edison addressed causes of the recent power outages in the Ramona tract and the steps they have taken to communicate with the public during these outages.

1.

Under oral communications **Jason Gromsky** reported on the meeting of the Ramona Neighborhood Association held yesterday regarding recent power outages in the Ramona tract. **Gordon Mego** spoke on reestablishing a hospital on the site of the RFK Medical Center in Hawthorne. **Kyle Orleman** reported that the fencing that backs up to the railroad at the north end of Glasgow and Wiseburn has been breached yet again for over a month and has still not been repaired. Inquired on the status of the sound wall designated for the west side of the 405 from El Segundo Blvd. to the south by Caltrans. Asked if the city would look into doing something regarding sporadic service with AT&T and Uverse. **Frances Stiglich** asked for help on behalf of seniors at an apartment complex being threatened with eviction.

2.

Mayor Brown recessed the Parking Authority and Housing Authority meetings to conduct the meeting of the City Council.

3.

Councilmember Valentine, moved seconded by Mayor Brown, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the regular meeting of September 9, 2014 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.
NOES: None.

4.

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on January 13, 2015's agenda.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.
NOES: None.

5.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 122842-123564 ; 443829-444192 ; 123565-192276 ; 444193-444564 ;
28980-29409 ; 10034-10046 ; 1006-1010.

Warrant Totals: \$1,691,626.42 ; \$3,186,803.25 ; \$ 1,379,706.72 ; \$ 4,541,774.96 ;

\$740,370.62 ; \$12,763.76 ; \$88,952.00.

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that the following warrants, properly audited and signed, be paid.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.

NOES: None.

RESOLUTIONS

6.

RESOLUTION NO. 7681

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF 2014 STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PLANNING GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$422,922.00.

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that Resolution 7681 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.

NOES: None.

7.

RESOLUTION NO. 7682

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING RECYCLING MARKET DEVELOPMENT ZONE CONTRACT.

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that Resolution 7682 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.

NOES: None.

8.

This item was pulled by the City Attorney at the time of the meeting due to errors on the classifications.

RESOLUTION NO. 7683

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE AND THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION ("HMEA") EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2016 ("MOU") AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE SAID MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

9.

City Clerk Huber announced that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing and approval of Resolution No. 7677 – consenting to a Water Rate Increase Proposed by California Water Service Company.

Public Work Department's declaration publication filed. Six (6) written communications were received in opposition to the increase.

Mayor Brown called for public comments.

Under oral comments **Greg Danebursky** inquired if the water company would penalize him for using more water than what they've seen over the past four years due to future front and backyard improvements. **Stan Ferraro** with California Water Service Co. stated that there are no penalties or fines associated with increased use, it's just that you'll pay more for each unit that you use.

Mayor Brown ordered to close the public portion of the hearing. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 7677

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA CONSENTING TO A WATER RATE INCREASE PROPOSED BY CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY.

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, that Resolution 7677 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.

NOES: Councilmember Michelin.

10.

ORDINANCE 2083 (1st Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 2.02.020 (FORMATION OF BINDING, ENFORCEABLE CONTRACTS WHERE CITY OR AGENCY IS A PARTY TO THE CONTRACT) OF CHAPTER 2.02 (CITY POWERS) OF TITLE 2 (ADMINISTRATION, CIVIL SERVICE AND PERSONNEL) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING APPROVAL AND EXECUTION OF PROFESSIONAL AND SPECIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS BY THE CITY MANAGER.

Ordinance No. 2083 was introduced by title only by Councilmember Reyes English.

The City Manager, Michael Goodson, presented the following agenda and requested approval of the indicated recommendations:

11.

Approve Agreement for Consulting Services with LDM Associates to assist the City of Hawthorne in preparing Five Year Consolidated Plan 2015-2019 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice 2015-2019 and Action Plan Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

12.

Approve payment for the engine and turbine overhaul / service to Enforcement Aviation Airship AIR55 in the amount of \$233,198.89

13.

Approve Contractual agreement with "Vital Medical Services, LLC", for provision of specific medical services within the Police Department's Jail operations encumbering a prospective cost of \$75,000 for a trial year.

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, to approve item 13 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.

NOES: None.

14.

Approval of Hawthorne as a Host Town for the Special Olympics World Games Los Angeles 2015.

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to approve Hawthorne as a Host Town for the Special Olympics World Games Los Angeles 2015.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Valentine, Mayor Brown.

NOES: Councilmember Michelin. ABSTAIN: Councilmember Vargas.

15.

Approve to direct the City Manager To Negotiate & Execute A New Lease agreement with California State Senate Committee on Rules, for a Field Office (560 square feet) on the 2nd Floor of Hawthorne City Hall located at 4455 West 126th Street., subject to City Attorney approval as to form.

Councilmember Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to direct the City Manager To Negotiate & Execute A New Lease agreement for a Field office for Senator Isadore Hall with California State Senate Committee on Rules, for a Field Office (560 square feet) on the 2nd Floor of Hawthorne City Hall located at 4455 West 126th Street., subject to City Attorney approval as to form.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Valentine, Mayor Brown.

NOES: Councilmember Michelin. ABSTAIN: Councilmember Vargas.

16.

Approve/Receive and File the audit presentations and the annual financial reports for fiscal year ended June 30, 2014

17.

Approve Progress Payment # 6 and Final Acceptance for the first year and approve the start of the second contract year to Great Scott Tree Service Inc, of Stanton, Ca 90680 for Street Tree Trimming (Project # 13-03). The amount of \$52,870.00 is funded through the approved and allocated Tree Trimming funds.

18.

Approve to Purchase of a New Street Division Dump Truck and authorize the Chief of P. W. and General Services to proceed with it.

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Vargas, to approve items 11, 12, 16, 17 and 18 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.

NOES: None.

19.

The City Attorney, Russell Miyahira, presented the following agenda and requested denial of the indicated recommendation:

Claim of Magdalena Sandoval for injuries suffered in an auto accident on April 12, 2014 at Freeman Avenue and 120th Street.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that the claim filed on behalf of Claimant Magdalena Sandoval for injuries suffered in an auto accident on April 12, 2014 at Freeman Avenue and 120th Street be denied in its entirety.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.

NOES: None.

20.

Under Elected Official Reports and Recommendations.

City Treasurer **Patterson** requested software typically used by other municipalities to produce the quarterly investment report and that the quarterly investment report be put on the city website. Asked that Staff talk to the fiscal agent and ask them to invest our money in line with our investment policy and what's recommended by the state. Would like to see an audit committee formed. Announced that the Board of Equalization is holding volunteer income tax assistance events that provide free tax preparation for households that earn \$53,000 per year or less.

City Clerk **Huber** thanked the Public Works Department for all the assistance they provided at the holiday events held in the city. Reminded everyone that we are still in a drought and need to conserve water as much as possible. Announced that the Hawthorne Historical Society will have their next meeting on January 26th and they will also hold a pancake breakfast on February 28th. With Martin Luther King, Jr. Day coming up, reminded everyone of the wonderful work Mr. King did to bring about justice and equality to our nation. Spoke on the Nextdoor website and how it could help your neighborhood.

Councilmember **Vargas** expressed support for Special Olympics and the use of his name on letters for fundraising of Special Olympics. Spoke on the marching band Delfins de Vera Cruz and how their last practice before the Rose Parade was held at the Betty Ainsworth Center. Reported on attending the Economic Development Council mixer which was held on Saturday.

Councilmember **Michelin** explained that he voted against the increase in water rates because he believes the hardworking people in Hawthorne are unable to make further payments. Feels Southern California Edison needs to change the way they do business with Hawthorne regarding their response times, information provided and use of subcontractors. Expressed support for Special Olympics and fundraising, but is against putting the city on the hook for \$40,000. Requested that the Finance Director come up with a report on how we are going meet future expenses such as pension and medical insurance costs.

Councilmember **Reyes English** congratulated SpaceX on their successful arrival to the space station. Asked for a vigilant police effort at the now deserted Albertson's parking lot. With Martin Luther King Day coming up, encouraged citizens to provide a day of service. Looks forward to working with Senator Isadore Hall to make sure the needs of Hawthorne are addressed.

Councilmember **Valentine** requested that the City Attorney give Council a report on AB66 which would change the way utilities report information. Is happy to see that the Economic Development Council is moving forward with helping to develop business and art in Hawthorne. Announced that the Board of Equalization wants to partner with the City of Hawthorne to have tax preparation events here; asked that the City Manager follow up with this request and work with the Board to make this a reality.

Mayor **Brown** related that the Finance Department is asking Elected Officials and those that can, to switch to direct deposit in order to make things more efficient and fluent in the city. Is glad to see that communications with Southern California Edison are a lot better after Mr. Jackmon met with the residents of Ramona. Reported on meeting with Ron Miller of the labor union and mall owner Armand Gabay for a walk-through of the mall where they collaborated on ideas for funding.

21.

No one indicated a desire to be heard.

Mayor Brown recessed the City Council meeting to conduct a **Closed Session**: Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Subdivision (a) of Section 54957.6 of the California Government Code. Name of Labor Negotiator: Michael Goodson (re: Hawthorne Executive Group).

Mayor Brown called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present. He announced that the **closed session** was to discuss a Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Subdivision (a) of Section 54957.6 of the California Government Code. Name of Labor Negotiator: Michael Goodson (re: Hawthorne Executive Group), and the City Attorney stated that the Labor Negotiator has been instructed.

01/13/15

24.

Mayor Brown adjourned the regular meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Norbert Huber
City Clerk