

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD MAY 26, 2015.**

Mayor Brown called the City Council, Parking Authority, and Housing Authority meetings to order jointly and concurrently at 6:06 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 4455 W. 126th Street, Hawthorne, California.

ROLL CALL-Present: Councilmembers Reyes English, Valentine, Vargas, Mayor Brown.
Absent: Councilmember Michelin.

Pastor David Manila from New Beginnings Church gave the evening's invocation. Patricia Donaldson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

This Proclamation was postponed until the June 9 meeting.

Proclamation: Pedal for Polio - Jose Diego, Sebastian Gonzalez and Chris Rendon (Supervisor: Huy Hoang).

Councilmember Reyes English presented a Proclamation to Carol Steinhauer in honor of being a recipient of the 2015 Older Americans Award at the 50th Annual Older Americans Recognition Day Awards program hosted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults and the Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services.

Mayor Brown presented a Proclamation to City Clerk Norb Huber in honor of Municipal Clerks Week which is held from May 3, 2015 to May 9, 2015.

Finance Director Rickey Manbahal presented the Proposed Annual Budget for FY 2015-2016.

1.

Under oral communications, **Patricia Donaldson**, Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce, presented a plaque to new Chamber member Yolanda Dunn. Ms. Dunn organizes sexual assault prevention workshops in collaboration with the Hawthorne Police Department. **Darlene Love** thanked everyone for Thursday night's K9 fundraiser which raised over \$7,000. Stated that she does not want to hear hateful things about people as that does not run a city. **Alex Monteiro** clarified that he is not against item #20 or the church; what he wants is to have things done clearly and by the book. Thanked the community for coming out to support the K9 Unit and the Hawthorne Police Department. Believes it is premature to start drafting policies or resolutions about tax incentives before there is a solid plan for economic development. Wants to see the Downtown Specific Plan voted on and approved because it is a beginning of the city's strategic plan for economic development. **Amie Shepard** spoke about the Mayor's bench warrant, unpaid personal debt, personal relationship with Senator Isadore Hall, excessive spending of public funds for travel, fine dining and entertainment and office remodeling. She also commented on the Mayor's position on taxes, casinos and certain projects pending before the City Council. She stated the City should be focused on projects that bring professional jobs. **Speaker** commented on how the boulevard is looking tremendous and congratulated the K9 dinner event. Spoke on the homeless and hopes the \$800,000 will be implemented transparently for the people of the community and to make sure the monies go in the right places. Spoke on how no one can pull her aside or call her and tell her who she should or should not support. **Katrina Manning**, President Hollypark HOA, announced that the 6th Annual Juneteenth Pancake Breakfast will be held on June 13th at Olivet Church. Upcoming events include the 5th Annual Movies in the Park and National Night Out. **Jason Gromsky** announced that the Hawthorne Economic Development Council is bringing the Play "Might as Well Live" for one show in Hawthorne on June 14th at Gallery H. Spoke in favor of item 12 on tonight's agenda. Has noticed that in the past year there has been a large improvement in communications from the city.

2.

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

3.

Councilmember Reyes English, moved seconded by Mayor Brown, that the reading of the City Council minutes of regular meetings of March 24, 2015 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

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

4.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on May 26, 2015's agenda.

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

5.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 127093-192333 ; 126777-127092 ; 446349-446536 ; 31106-31517 ;
10067-10068.

Warrant Totals: \$ 681,306.14 ; \$667,020.28 ; \$ 504,242.30 ; \$ 717,24303 ;
\$3, 095.58.

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

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

RESOLUTIONS

6.

RESOLUTION NO. 7724

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA
PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF MAY 2015 AS LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that Resolution 7724 be approved and adopted.

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

7.

RESOLUTION NO. 7725

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA
PROCLAIMING MAY 3, 2015 THROUGH MAY 9, 2015 AS "MUNICIPAL CLERK'S WEEK" IN
HAWTHORNE.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that Resolution 7725 be approved and adopted.

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

8.

RESOLUTION NO. 7726

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA
REVISING CURB PARKING RESTRICTION ON HAWTHORNE WAY NORTH OF BROADWAY.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that Resolution 7726 be approved and adopted.

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

9.

City Clerk Huber announced that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing and approval of Resolution No. 7727 confirming Assessments for Weed and Waste Abatement and authorizing the collection thereof.

Public Work Department's declaration publication filed. No written communications were received.

Mayor Brown called for public comments.

Under oral comments, no one indicated a desire to be heard.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 7727

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA CONFIRMING ASSESSMENTS FOR WEED AND WASTE ABATEMENT AND AUTHORIZING THE COLLECTION THEREOF.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that Resolution 7727 be approved and adopted.

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

10.

City Clerk Huber announced that this was the time and place for the Continued Public Hearing - Primestor Development Inc.'s Appeal of City of Hawthorne's Denial of Building & Grading Permits (Farmers Boy Restaurant – proposed location – 2750 West 120th Street on Lot No. 2 of Tract No. 53336-02) The lot is currently occupied by a parking lot on the lot's northern portion and a retail use building on the southern portion.

City Clerk Department's declaration publication filed. No written communications were received.

Mayor Brown called for public comments.

Under oral comments, no one indicated a desire to be heard.

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

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, to open the Public Hearing and continue this Public Hearing to July 14, 2015.

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

ORDINANCES

11.

ORDINANCE NO. 2092 (1st Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTERS 17.04

(DEFINITIONS), 17.32 (M-1), 17.34 (M-2), AND 17.58 (PARKING), RELATED TO THE REGULATION OF LIVE-WORK UNITS.

Ordinance 2092 was introduced by title only by Councilmember Valentine.

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

12.

Approval of agreement for consultant services with AECOM to prepare Eco Village Specific Plan and related documents in fulfillment of obligations under the Sustainable Communities Planning Grant from the Strategic Growth Council, related to the Eco Village Specific Plan for \$383,000, and authorize Mayor/City Manager to execute the subject Agreement and any and all amendments thereto.

13.

Approve Police Facility Air Conditioning Unit Repair and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Sheldon Mechanical Corporation for repairs to an Air Conditioning Unit at the Police Facility, for a total cost of \$19,817.48.

14.

Approve Police Facility Roof Repair and authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with '4 Season Roofing, Inc.' for the conducting of roof repairs to the Police Facility at a cost of \$21,000.

15.

Approve Progress Payment #11 & Final Acceptance due to All American Asphalt of Corona, Ca for Hawthorne Boulevard Mobility Improvement Project (#10-02) MTA PC25-LAF3109 Measure R MR312.44 in the amount of \$1,343,529.99.

16.

Approve Progress Payment #2 due to Great Scott Tree Service of Stanton, California. The amount of \$ 15,090.00 will be funded through with the approved and allocated Tree Trimming Funds.

17.

Approve to Place Street Lighting Maintenance District Rate Increase on the November ballot.

18.

Approve Agreement between City of Hawthorne and SBCCOG to retained Iteris Inc. for Consulting Services for the new HSIP Federal Grant for the 120th Street Improvement Project and authorize the Chief of Public Works and General Services to enter into and execute it on the City's behalf.

19.

Approve Reappointments of Lilian Haney, Representing SpaceX, and Mr. Marty Jones, representing Triumph, and Appointing Mr. Tod Sword, Representing Southern California Edison, and Mr. Raj Dhillion, representing US Tow to the South Bay Workforce Investment Board.

20.

Approve the Certification of New Life Christian Fellowship Church, Inc. as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) and award of \$885,000 in HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds to New Life Christian Fellowship Church, Inc. for the provision of affordable rental housing.

Mayor Brown called for public comments.

Under oral communications **Marjorie Drake** and **Pastor John Richardson** spoke in support of item 20. **Alex Monteiro** expressed concern that a Request for Proposal was not put out for this item.

Mayor Brown ordered to close oral comments.

RESOLUTION NO. 7729

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA APPROVING THE CERTIFICATION OF NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, INC. AS A COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION (CHDO) AND AWARDING \$885,000 IN HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS (HOME) FUNDS TO NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, INC. AS A CHDO FOR THE PROVISION OF AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that Resolution 7729 be approved with interlineation to Section 4 which would be added to the last sentence as follows: That the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to approve and execute any documents necessary to effectuate the foregoing approval subject to reasonable documentation approved by the City Attorney and adopted.

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

21.

Approve Side Letter Agreement to the 2014-2016 Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Hawthorne and the Hawthorne Executive Group.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, to approve items 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 & 21 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

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

22.

CITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

a.- Modify expense budget for the Mayor and Councilmembers so that the total amount budgeted for conferences and meetings is divided into five (5) equal parts and budgeted and tracked separately. At the end of each fiscal year, the unused amount in each account is returned to the general fund. (Valentine)

Councilmember Valentine stated that this is proposed because this is a way for each Councilmember to police his or her own spending. Right now the expense budget for all Councilmember's travel and conferences is combined into one account. This modification would set up a separate tracking system much like the stipends that we already are using. The City Manager stated they would bring back the language for this item.

23.

Under Elected Official Reports and Recommendations.

City Treasurer **Patterson** spoke on attending the K9 dinner and the Memorial Day Service. With May being "Lupus Awareness Month", shared information about this autoimmune disease that affects 1.5 million Americans.

City Clerk **Huber** spoke on attending a special screening of "Sunshine Superman", a documentary on base jumping which was invented by Carl Boenish, who grew up in Hawthorne. Spoke on attending the ceremony at the L.A. Cemetery in Westwood. Announced that the Police and Fireman of the Year awards will be given at a luncheon co-sponsored by the Rotary Club and the Kiwanis Club on June 17th at the Memorial Center.

Councilmember Vargas spoke on attending the K9 Dinner and the Memorial Day Service.

Councilmember **Vargas** requested the following comments **for the record**:

Concerning Mayor Chris Brown's comments alleging many of his recent problems, and the public outcry, as somehow being "my doing", or are "campaign related".

Like many people faced with personal challenges, the Mayor is looking for someone to blame rather than claiming responsibility for his own behavior and poor choices. Let me state unequivocally that I have had NOTHING to do with the Mayor's problems and his troubles, either personal or city related. Nor have I done anything to take advantage of his misfortunes - political or otherwise. To do so would be wrong, against everything I stand for, and frankly, most importantly, would have required way too much of my time and effort given the more pressing issues on my plate, both personally and professionally.

Rather, I am deeply saddened for the Mayor and his family and would not wish his circumstances on anyone. It is true, I want to note this, that the Mayor and I do not see eye to eye on many issues for our city, but his allegations of me masterminding the press, the newspaper articles, the protests, or anything else related to his issues are completely untrue, and without merit.

I want the Mayor to hear this from my mouth and in front of everyone here tonight. For him to suggest I am responsible for, in anyway, orchestrating all of the negative private and public reaction to his self-imposed difficulties is completely inappropriate and has no place in our civil or political dialogue. Our citizens do deserve better.

In the meantime, it is my genuine hope that we can get back to the people's business, which it seems like we are, and that the Mayor is able to rectify his own personal and city related problems as quickly as possible.

Councilmember **Reyes English** spoke on participating in the Annual Contract Cities event. Recognized and thanked Chief Fager on his 41st Annual South Bay Medal of Valor where Hawthorne Officer Rubio, Officer Kemp and Officer Murray were recognized. Spoke on attending a conference on "Understanding Community Choice Energy: A Forum for California Local Governments on Aggregation". Would like a flyer implemented on Economic Development so the public can see what the ultimate goals of the department are. Announced that she will be attending Lawndale's State of the City which will be held on June 18th. The Islamic Center will be having their 11th Annual Health Fair and Blood Drive on May 30th. Other upcoming events include Emergency Preparedness in the City of Gardena, the A-MAN, Lennox School District's Annual Take Part Festival on May 30th, a Del Aire Park Community get-together and the Greater Los Angeles Car Dealer Luncheon. Spoke on attending Mother Toliver's funeral and presented the Proclamation that was read at her funeral to her son who was in tonight's audience. Spoke on attending the Conference of Malls in Las Vegas. Clarified that what Council does on the dais is discussion and entertain possibilities and unless there is full Council support and consensus, nothing is going to go through. Spoke on riding the METRO line in order to address the needs of passengers. Asked that anyone concerned with rumors and innuendos go directly to her and she will tell you the truth.

Councilmember **Valentine** spoke on attending the webinar presented by the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties which provided an overview of the emergency regulations adopted May 5th by the Department of Water Resources. Residents can directly benefit from the Rebate and Direct Install program for turf replacement and the Appliance Rebate program to change out their old appliances for new water saving appliances. Spoke on attending the Hawthorne Memorial Day program where there was a Purple Heart ceremony honoring Salvatore Rocco posthumously. If you are a Hawthorne Veteran or know of one, please contact here office and she will put you in touch with the Veterans Commission to answer questions and help you get the benefits you deserve. Spoke on attending the K9 Dinner.

Mayor **Brown** spoke on attending the Medal of Valor event and the K9 Dinner. Requested that the Veterans' Commission be given business cards and name tags. Commended Chris Palmer on the relationships he has built over the last six to eight months through Council contact and hopefully within the next two weeks he will present a project that will give the city a new theater, hotel and retail to complement the mall. Questioned whether there was a public records request by a Councilmember regarding city credit cards.

28.

Mayor Brown called for oral communications and 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 Negotiators: David Roberts. (re: HPOA).

Mayor Brown called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present except for Councilmember Michelin. 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 Negotiators: David Roberts. (re: HPOA) and the City Attorney stated that the Labor Negotiator has been instructed.

29.

Mayor Brown called for oral communications and 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 Negotiators: David Roberts. (re: HPMSG).

Mayor Brown called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present except for Councilmember Michelin. 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 Negotiators: David Roberts. (re: HPMSG) and the City Attorney stated that the Labor Negotiator has been instructed.

30.

Mayor Brown adjourned the regular meeting at 9:35p.m.

Norbert Huber
City Clerk