

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,  
CALIFORNIA HELD AUGUST 25, 2015.**

Mayor Brown called the City Council, Parking Authority, and Housing Authority meetings to order jointly and concurrently at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 4455 W. 126<sup>th</sup> Street, Hawthorne, California.

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

Reverend Larry Becker from Trinity Lutheran Church gave the evening's invocation. Mayor Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

James Ross, on behalf of Ygrene Energy Fund, gave a presentation on Ygrene. Ygrene is the nation's largest commercial and multi-family PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) provider. PACE is equity based financing for renewable energy, energy saving and water conservation projects. They have recently been vetted by the South Bay Council of Governments as of July 23<sup>rd</sup> and would like to be added as an additional option for the constituents in the City of Hawthorne.

Elena Maloni of the Family Justice Center and Pat Springer of the Rotary gave a presentation on domestic violence. October is observed as Domestic Violence Awareness month so to address this issue, they have come up with an awareness campaign, Purple Yourself, which will be a weeklong event involving the placement of purple lights along the Hawthorne Boulevard medium.

1.

Under oral communications **Georgina Brown** inquired if an area in one of the city's parks could be allocated as a dog run and also inquired if it is true that because she lives in a gated community, handicap curbs are not required. **Andrea Santana** invited the Mayor and Council to attend the North Hawthorne Community Association Picnic on August 30<sup>th</sup> from 12pm to 4pm at Eucalyptus Park. **Gordon Mego** stated that he is hopeful that the budget will sufficiently fund the Public Works and Parks and Rec departments for all necessary projects. Asked that our State Senator Isadore Hall and Governor Brown be contacted to vote no on SB350 regarding gasoline usage. **Amie Shepard** feels police response time is not as fast in the North Hawthorne community as it is in other parts of the city and would like more police patrol in her neighborhood. **Frances Stiglich** spoke on the trash situation at the vacant lot on Gale Ave. and asked that something be done about it. **Leithelle Williams** thanked everyone who assisted with her missionary trip to Jamaica. Spoke on the importance of voting and to vote for someone who has made a difference in the community. Feels National Night Out should be better publicized. Encouraged Council to see what they can do to help push unification forward.

2.

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

3.

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on August 25, 2015's agenda.

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

4.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 192150-1+2562 ; 447601-447771 ; 32344-32750.

Warrant Totals: \$ 751,410.96 ; \$2,046,844.46 ; \$ 699,242.02.

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

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

**RESOLUTIONS**

5.

**RESOLUTION NO. 7743**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING THE EXAMINATION OF PREPAID MOBILE TELEPHONY SERVICES SURCHARGE AND LOCAL CHARGE RECORDS.

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, that Resolution 7743 be approved and adopted.

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

6.

**RESOLUTION NO. 7744**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND THE CITY ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS REQUIRED BY THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION TO COLLECT THE CITY'S UTILITY USER TAX ON PREPAID WIRELESS SERVICE.

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, that Resolution 7744 be approved and adopted.

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

7.

The City Attorney Russell Miyahira recused himself from this item.

**RESOLUTION NO. 7745**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA UPHOLDING THE BUILDING OFFICIAL'S DENIAL OF BUILDING AND GRADING PERMITS FOR PRIMESTOR DEVELOPMENT INC.'S PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A RESTAURANT LOCATED AT 2750 WEST 120TH STREET, DENYING THE APPEAL OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL'S DECISION, AND MAKING FINDINGS IN SUPPORT THEREOF.

Councilmember Valentine moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, that Resolution 7745 be approved and adopted.

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

8.

**RESOLUTION NO. 7750**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA APPROVING BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR THE 2015-2016.

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, that Resolution 7750 be approved and adopted.

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

9.

City Clerk Huber announced that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing Resolution No. 7740 Self Certifying completing of local requirements for conformance with Los Angeles County Congestion Management Program (CMP).

Planning Department 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. 7740**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA FINDING THE CITY TO BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CMP) AND ADOPTING THE CMP LOCAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65089.

Councilmember Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, that Resolution 7740 be approved and adopted.

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

NOES: None.

### **ORDINANCES**

10.

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2094 (1<sup>ST</sup> Reading)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, ADDING AND ENACTING CHAPTER 15.70 (EXPEDITED STREAMLINED PERMITTING PROCESS FOR SMALL RESIDENTIAL ROOFTOP SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS) OF TITLE 15 (BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Ordinance No. 2094 was introduced by title only by Mayor Brown.

The Interim City Manager, Arnold Shadbahr, presented the following agenda and requested approval of the indicated recommendations:

11.

Approve Agreement between the City of Hawthorne and John L. Hunter and Associates for Consulting Services for Storm Water and Sewer related Inspection and Control Program Services and authorize the Chief of Public Works and General Services to enter into and execute it on the City's behalf.

12.

Approve the Purchase of Two New Police Patrol Vehicles and authorize the Chief of P. W. and General Services to proceed with it.

13.

Approval of agreement for materials testing service with Geo-Environmental, Inc. and Authorize the Director of Public Works to execute it on the City's behalf.

14.

Approve the Plans and Specifications for PROJECT #15-05 – Intersection Widening and Traffic Signal Construction Project – 1) Inglewood Avenue at El Segundo Boulevard 2) Crenshaw Boulevard at Rocket

Road, and 3) Crenshaw Boulevard at Jack Northrop Avenue and authorize the Chief of General Services and Public Works to advertise for bids with a return date of September 8, 2015.

Mayor Brown moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to approve items 11 thru 14 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

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

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

15.

Claim Of Abbey Topar, a former part-time city employee, arising from her termination from the City of Hawthorne.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Mayor Brown, to deny this claim.

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

16

### **CITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

a.- Discussion/Action Item: Can the City of Hawthorne participate in the proposed Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign? If so, what is the level of participation? (Valentine).

Council concurred to participate in the Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign.

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

17.

### **ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

City Treasurer **Patterson** suggested looking at our parking ticket costs to see if they're in line with other cities and raising citations, fines and impounds at police check points as ways to increase revenues. In general, would like to see what we can do as a city to support the business community. Make it easy for businesses to start, operate, maybe find an organization that we can partner with that can help be a resource to that business community and make it easier for business to operate, identify what their issues are, get licenses, whatever the case might be.

City Clerk **Huber** announced that the Chamber of Commerce Civic awards luncheon will be held on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Memoria Center. The 9/11 Ceremony will be held on September 11<sup>th</sup> at City Hall. The VFW Lodge in Hawthorne will be having an end of summer bbq for city officials and the public on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Reminded candidates to refrain from putting up political signs on Caltrans property, city property and utility poles. Thanked his Deputy for the hard work she put in during the election process. Reported on attending the Ramona Neighborhood Association picnic.

Councilmember **Vargas** reported on attending the Ramona Neighborhood Association and the Hollyglen Homeowners' Association picnics. Stated that he values the homeowner association groups very much and plans to continue to contribute to all of them whether there is a stipend available or not. Congratulated Hollypark for their National Night Out event and North Hawthorne for their upcoming picnic this Sunday.

Councilmember **Michelin** reported on attending the Ramona Association picnic. Stated that these are tough times as far as the budget crisis; tough decisions are needed to be made. If an organization needs the money, go in front of the City Council to ask for it instead of going to individuals. Defended the Hawthorne Police Department as far as favoritism with neighborhoods. Anytime there is a delay, it is because they are responding to a priority call.

Councilmember **Reyes English** commended the Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign. Reported on attending a Metro event and hearing about upcoming projects that include housing. Spoke on transit oriented developments and hopes to collaborate with this program to ultimately bring dollars to our city. Reported on taking monthly bus rides then reporting to the South Bay Metro Council Sector to address

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ridership concerns. Requested a report on revenue from the Memorial Center for conventional uses and for the budget audit. Asked that language be provided regarding homeless issues. Requested a report on how we are doing with businesses.

Councilmember **Valentine** asked for support of the Purple Yourself event in order to bring awareness to domestic violence. Stated that although many residents have asked for a dog park, due to our present budget situation it is not feasible at this time, but encourages any residents who would like to bring a dog park forward to speak with her. Asked that the City Manager, Planning Director and City Attorney follow up regarding the rules for a handicap curb in a private development. Spoke on how the State is experimenting with the viability of mileage based user fees and urged the public to monitor this, to contact their representatives and voice their opinion. Reported on attending the Ramona Neighborhood Association. Sent her best thoughts and prayers to Mr. Allen Richards, a stalwart in the community

Mayor **Brown** encouraged everyone to attend the 9/11 ceremony that is held at City Hall every year. Announced that the Step into Success job fair will be held on September 24<sup>th</sup> at the Memorial Center from 10am to 1pm in partnership with Los Angeles County. Announced that the installation of the Chamber will be held on Friday

18.

Mayor Brown called for oral comments and no one indicated a desire to be heard.

Mayor Brown recessed the City Council meeting to conduct a **Closed Session**: Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a)) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code. Name of Case. Jonathan Meister & Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness, Inc. v. City of Hawthorne, et al. Case No. CV-14-1096 MWF

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 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a)) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code. Name of Case. Jonathan Meister & Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness, Inc. v. City of Hawthorne, et al. Case No. CV-14-1096 MWF and the City Attorney has been directed.

19.

Mayor Brown called for oral comments and no one indicated a desire to be heard.

Mayor Brown recessed the City Council meeting to conduct a **Closed Session**: Conference with Legal Counsel – Initiation of Litigation against a third party, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9 (One potential case – Enviro Communications).

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 Conference with Legal Counsel – Initiation of Litigation against a third party, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9 (One potential case – Enviro Communications) and the City Attorney announced that there was threatened litigation between the City and Enviro Communications. In the closed session the City Council voted four to one to approve a settlement agreement and release with Enviro Communications. The vote was Mayor Chris Brown, Councilmember Nilo Michelin, Councilmember Alex Vargas and Mayor Pro Tem Olivia Valentine voting yes and Councilmember Angie Reyes English voting no. The City Council also authorized the City Manager to execute the settlement agreement. The settlement agreement and release will be available as a public record.

20.

Mayor Brown adjourned the regular meeting at 8:49 p.m.

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Norbert Huber  
City Clerk