

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD JANUARY 26, 2016.**

Mayor Vargas called the City Council, Parking Authority, and Housing Authority meetings to order jointly and concurrently at 6:05 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 4455 W. 126th Street, Hawthorne, California.

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

Pat Donaldson gave the evening's invocation. Thierry Lubenec led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Fager announced the grand opening of the three new futsal soccer courts at Memoria Park which will be held on January 29th. The courts are a collaboration with The Chevrolet Corporation, L.A. Galaxy and Coached Across Continents.

Chief Fager introduced January's employee of the Month, Karen Grajeda. Ms. Grajeda is a Crime Analyst and has been with the Hawthorne Police Department for 15 years.

Alfred Mata, with the California Center for Public Health Advocacy, presented their annual Champions of Health Award to the Asian Pacific Islander Obesity Prevention Alliance. The award is given to a non-profit organization that is dedicated to the elimination of health disparities and puts residents in the lead of advocating, developing and implementing solutions that improve physical and mental health conditions.

Councilmember Awad presented a Proclamation to Inglewood Mayor Jim Butts honoring the City of Inglewood for their City of Champions Stadium Initiative and the construction of the state of the art NFL stadium.

5.

Resident and Gordon Mego spoke in support of Resolution 7784.

RESOLUTION NO. 7784

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA
EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CITY OF CHAMPIONS
STADIUM IN THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, that Resolution 7784 be approved and adopted.

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

1.

Under oral communications **Pashyo Sarkin** introduced herself as the curator of the Hawthorne Gallery at 12609 Hawthorne Blvd. The next scheduled art exhibition will be held on February 13th. For more information on the gallery, contact Ms. Sarkin at 310-940-4270. **Howard Hoffenberg**, on behalf of local developer KIG Properties LLC, spoke on reasons to disapprove and not discuss the proposed ordinance for a building moratorium. **Gordon Mego** suggested a commercial retail project on the Hawthorne Mall site consisting of major stores, restaurants and theaters in order for the city to eliminate structural deficits, create surpluses and build reserves. Also spoke on how to go about getting a hospital in the community. Would like to see a new, larger library, a museum, an open park, a larger fire station and an art gallery as a civic center proposal. **Allen Richards** stated that the fairest way to fill the vacated Council seat is to give it to the candidate that came in third place, Katrina Manning. **Patricia Donaldson**, President Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce, announced that the State of City luncheon will be held on March 24th at 11:30am at the Memorial Center. Stated that the Chamber is in support of the stadium in Inglewood and that the Chamber will be starting a visitor's bureau as soon as that stadium is up. Thanked the Chief and Police Department for their help regarding a purse snatching incident. **Frances Stiglich** questioned why she was not notified that a car wash was being built close to her home near Inglewood and Imperial. **Jeno Aveni** spoke on the limited parking situation in residential areas on the south side and offered suggestions for improvement such as permit parking and opening Hawthorne Blvd. and the median to permit parking in the evenings. **Kyle Orleman**, on behalf of Vietnam Veterans of America, announced their Annual Scholarship Essay Program which will award \$1,000 cash scholarships to local high school seniors who meet the necessary requirements. Entries must be received by April 10, 2016. Thanked

Council and Fire Department officials for their help with 911 and medical alert bracelet issues. **Alex Monteiro** stated that it would be good for Whole Foods and Trader Joes to come to Hawthorne because they raise home values by 10%. Suggested getting the famous New York “Hamburger Shack” to come to Hawthorne which would attract the crowd from the NFL stadium down the street; Hamburger Shack is coming to West Hollywood and Glendale. Announced that the The Hilton Corporation is looking to build hotels that will cost between \$90 and \$99 a night and suggested the city lobby to bring one to Imperial Highway to connect with the stadium.

2.

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

3.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Awad, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on January 26, 2016’s agenda.

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

4.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 132366-132870 ; 449391-449578.

Warrant Totals: \$ 739,942.97 ; \$1, 988.175.32.

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

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

6.

RESOLUTION NO. 7785

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PARKING LICENSE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE AND SPACE X FOR THE NON-EXCLUSIVE USE OF
FORTY (40) PARKING SPACES AT THE MEMORIAL CENTER.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Councilmember Awad, that Resolution 7785 be approved and adopted.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS

7.

City Clerk Huber announced that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing and Approval of Ordinance No. 2102 Amending Title 17 OF THE Hawthorne Municipal Code, Chapters 17.25 (C-1), 17.26 (C-2), 17.28 (C-3), 17.32 (M-1), 17.34 (M-2), And Adding Section 17.20.310 (Exterior Colors) and Chapter 17.30 (Commercial Development Standards), Related to the Regulation of Exterior colors of Multi-Family and Commercial Structures.

Planning Department’s Declaration publication filed. No written communications were received.

Mayor Vargas called for public comments.

Under oral comments **Jason Gromsky** spoke in support of Ordinance 2102.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2102 (2nd Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING TITLE 17 OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTERS 17.25 (C-1), 17.26 (C-2), 17.28 (C-3), 17.32 (M-1), 17.34 (M-2), AND ADDING SECTION 17.20.310 (EXTERIOR COLORS) AND CHAPTER 17.30 (COMMEMORIAL DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS), RELATED TO THE REGULATION OF EXTERIOR COLORS OF MULTI-FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL STRUCTURES.

Councilmember Awad moved, seconded by Councilmember Michelin, to remand this item back to the Planning Commission with suggested changes.

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

NOES: None.

8.

City Clerk Huber announced that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing and Approval of Approval of Ordinance No. 2103 Amending Chapters 12.16 (encroachments in Public Places) of Title 12 (Streets and Sidewalks), 17.20 (Supplementary use and Bulk requirements for all Residential Zones) And 17.58 (Off-Street Parking) of Title 17 (Zoning) of the Hawthorne Municipal Code Related to Driveways, Residential Yards and Limitations on Parking Spaces.

Planning Department's Declaration publication filed. No written communications were received.

Mayor Vargas called for public comments.

Under oral comments **Speaker** stated that while he supports the Ordinance, he doesn't think it's going to be enough.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2103 (2nd Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTERS 12.16 (ENCROACHMENTS IN PUBLIC PLACES) OF TITLE 12 (STREETS AND SIDEWALKS), 17.20 (SUPPLEMENTARY USE AND BULK REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL RESIDENTIAL ZONES) AND 17.58 (OFF-STREET PARKING) OF TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO DRIVEWAYS, RESIDENTIAL YARDS AND LIMITATIONS ON PARKING SPACES.

Mayor Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, that Ordinance 2103 be approved and adopted.

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

NOES: None.

9.

City Clerk Huber announced that this was the time and place for the Public Hearing and Approval of Ordinance No. 2106 Amending a Zone Text Amendment to Title 17 of the Hawthorne Municipal Code Imposing a Total Ban on Marijuana Cultivation, Marijuana Processing, Marijuana Delivery, and Marijuana Dispensaries in the City.

Planning Department's Declaration publication filed. No written communications were received.

Mayor Vargas called for public comments.

Under oral comments **Speaker** spoke in favor of the Ordinance. **Ronnie** spoke on the disguised dispensaries that are already on Crenshaw between Rosecrans and Marine. **Speaker** cautioned not to overlook the medical benefit of herbs. For the record, Councilmember Reyes English stated that she received two communications. One from **Scott Dunlap** who asked that we consider the 1260 patients who rely on his company, Eaze, to deliver medical marijuana to them as these patients do not have or cannot utilize their own transportation. And another from **Americas for Safe Access**, a medical marijuana regulations and safety act, which gives cities a clear indication of what is legal under state law and empowers them to license and regulate commercial cannabis activity.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 2106 (2nd Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING A ZONE TEXT AMENDMENT TO TITLE 17 OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE IMPOSING A TOTAL BAN ON MARIJUANA CULTIVATION, MARIJUANA PROCESSING, MARIJUANA DELIVERY, AND MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES IN THE CITY.

Councilmember Reyes English moved, seconded by Councilmember Michelin, that Ordinance No. 2106 be approved and adopted.

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

NOES: None.

ORDINANCES

10.

ORDINANCE NO. 2104 (1st Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTERS 17.14 (R-1) AND 17.16 (R-2) OF TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO SMALL PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS ON LARGE PARCELS OF LAND.

Ordinance 2104 was introduced by title only by Mayor Vargas.

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

11.

Approve Progress Payment #6 and Final Acceptance due to Great Scott Tree Service, Inc., of Stanton, Ca 90680 for Street Tree Trimming (Project # 13-03)

Councilmember Awad moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, to approve item 11 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

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

NOES: None.

12.

CITY COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

a.- Consider enacting moratorium on high density apartments and mixed use projects until appropriate amendments to current city ordinance can be acted upon by both the Planning Commission and City Council. (Michelin)

Councilmember Michelin directed staff to prepare a Resolution or Ordinance to require that the City Manager and City Attorney review the density bonus agreements and provide a report to City Council before planning staff executes such an agreement so that the concessions will be reviewed.

13.

Under Elected Official Reports and Recommendations.

City Treasurer **Patterson** thanked the community for coming out to the Council meeting, participating in the process and making their voices heard.

City Clerk **Huber** welcomed Firefly Space Systems to Hawthorne. Encourages high school and college students to get degrees in engineering as there are many job opportunities in this field. Announced that the Historical Society will hold a Pancake Breakfast on February 27th at the museum. Stated that the Historical Society would like to work with the city regarding the celebration of its 100th Anniversary in six years.

Councilmember **Michelin** congratulated Employee of the Month, Karen Grajeda. Looks forward to working with Mayor Butts to find a regional solution to economic development and transportation. Hopes that the Councilmembers will get to speak as well at the State of the City.

Councilmember **Awad** thanked Mayor James Butts for coming to tonight's meeting and looks forward to working with him and his Council to see our cities flourish.

Councilmember **Reyes English** congratulated Parks Director Mark Hardison, Chief Fager, the Police Department and everyone that made the new soccer fields possible. Thanked Mayor Butts for attending tonight's meeting and considers it a plus that that he sits as the Chair on the Metro board for the South Bay region. She stated that she sits on the South Bay Sector Council and takes monthly bus rides to see how bus transportation can be improved for the residents. Assured residents that Council is aware of the parking issues in the city and is doing everything they can to address them. Thanked Covered California for having an enrollment center at the Memorial Center; the deadline is on the 31st. Requested that the Chamber of Commerce set aside 20 tickets for first-time attendees who cannot afford tickets to attend the State of the City.

Mayor **Vargas** stated that not everyone uses marijuana for illicit purposes so we have to be conscious of that. Looks forward to the grand opening of the futsal courts which are opening up at the Memorial Center. Congratulated the City of Inglewood and Mayor Jim Butts for receiving the privilege and the honor of being the host for the L.A. Rams. This is a good thing as it will develop a lot of economic interest in the community. Reported on attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington, D.C. where President Obama addressed the Mayors on many issues.

15.

No one indicated a desire to be heard.

Mayor Vargas 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. Stanley Jordan v. City of Hawthorne, et al. Case No. 14-CV-07554.

Mayor Vargas 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 Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a)) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code. Name of Case. Stanley Jordan v. City of Hawthorne, et al. Case No. 14-CV-07554. and the City Attorney stated that staff has been instructed.

16.

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Norbert Huber
City Clerk