

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER** M. Belén Bernal, Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:48 p.m.

**INVOCATION** Maria Davila, Councilwoman

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Virginia Johnson, CAC Commissioner

**ROLL CALL** Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

**PRESENT** Mayor M. Belén Bernal, Vice Mayor Denise Diaz, Council Member Al Rios, Council Member Maria Davila and Council Member Bill De Witt; City Treasurer Gregory Martinez, City Manager Mike Flad, City Attorney Raul F. Salinas

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue, is concerned with the upcoming City Election and the negatively targeting candidates.

Ingrid Castillo has concerns about dogs in the park and requested that the City enforces the rules that are in place.

Alfredo Gonzalez, 8461 San Vincente Avenue, believes he is being harassed by Code Enforcement. He submitted several documents as evidence to back his claims.

Patricia Camacho, representative from Congresswoman Barragan's Office, highlighted the upcoming community events in the Congresswoman's district.

Diana Morales, representative from Assembly Member Rendon's Office, highlighted the upcoming community events in the Assembly Member's district.

Lisa Morales, South Gate Resident, spoke about environmental concerns and air quality within the City of South Gate and is concerned about the Delta Airlines reimbursement process.

Adolfo Varas, shared his thoughts about attacks on candidates running for Council during this upcoming Election.

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### COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE CON'T

Julia Trejo, 8965 California Avenue, spoke about helping people with mental incapacities.

Mrs. Gonzalez, 8461 San Vicente Avenue, expressed her concerns and disappointment with the chaos caused by the South Gate Code Enforcement Department and the Police Department.

Jovana, 3372 Seminole Avenue, expressed her concerns about comments on Social Media.

Gil Hurtado, expressed his concerns about comments made on Social Media.

Nick Godoy, 8611 San Gabriel Avenue, spoke about candidates running for the upcoming election and the retirement benefits offered City employees.

Mr. Campos, 8467 San Vicente Avenue, complained about the noise coming from the neighbor's house.

Elisa Gonzalez, 8461 San Vicente Avenue, expressed her frustration with the current situation stated by her parents on San Vicente.

### REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Joe Perez, Director of Community Development reminded Council that there will be a Census training on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Community Development is accepting nominations for the Home Recognition Program which is due March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mike Flad, City Manager provided an update on Senate Bill 50.

Greg Martinez, City Treasurer stated that he has not been on social media and feels that social media is a sign of bullying within the community.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk updated the public on the election and vote centers. She stated that she has received emails asking if the City will be sponsoring a candidate forum. The City will not be hosting a candidate forum but has reached out to some nonprofits to see this can be accommodated. Realizing that there is much tension and that emotions are high during election time, we have received some complaints and have sent out emails to all candidates. She reminded the public that there is a proper process for questions and concerns. People should contact the City Clerk's Office and not take to social media for answers.

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### REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

CON'T

Council Member De Witt is concerned with the neighbors on San Vincente and spoke on the political season.

Council Member Davila requested information on the cost of staff time spent on the San Vincente complaints and be sure that employees are driving City vehicles.

Council Member Rios is concerned with the neighbors on San Vincente and hopes staff has some recommendations. Council Member Rios attended the Rotary/Chamber lunch. He believes that we need to provide more mental health services for our residents. Plaza de Cultura y Artes is a Los Angeles Organization that wants to make an investment to bring the arts to the SELA communities.

Vice Mayor Diaz provided an update on Propositions 47 and 57 on the November ballot. The Vice Mayor attend Independent Cities Association and they discussed what the City of Bellflower did with the homeless situation in their city. She requested that staff try to schedule a one on one meeting with Bellflower to discuss their program. She also attended the Community Development Board Meeting and Vector Control.

Mayor Bernal attended the South East Water Collation Joint Powers Authority and Southern California Association of Governments meetings. She thanked Congresswoman Barragan's Office for reaching out to South Gate residents to inform them of the upcoming changes with the voting centers. She also shared her concerns about the neighbors on San Vincente Avenue.

Raul Salinas, City Attorney spoke in regards to the neighbors on San Vincente Avenue. Mr. Salinas stated that he has been to the home of Mr. Campos and have received reports from City Staff over the last several years. Unfortunately, Mr. Salinas believes that both the Municipal Code and the judicial system do not serve our residents well. From a City standpoint the policy is to allow the parties to resolve their differences by going to court themselves or allowing both sides to give and take to reach a resolution. Mr. Salinas thinks that this matter will not get resolved without both sides giving in a little. The question becomes where you send these two residents to settle these differences. If both sides were voluntarily willing to participate in a mediation session, the City Attorney would volunteer his time on a pro bono basis to hear them and to come up with some kind of resolution.

Mayor Bernal addressed the concerns of the residents in regards to social media and the upcoming elections.

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**CONSENT CALENDAR**      Agenda Items 1, 3 and 4 were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Bernal and seconded by Council Member Davila. Item 2 was pulled for separate discussion.

**1**  
**CENSUS**

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

- a.      Adopted Resolution No. 2020-05-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of City of South Gate accepting grant funds from the County of Los Angeles, in the amount of \$102,316, for Census 2020 education and outreach activities;
- b.      Increased the Fiscal Year 2019/20 General Fund revenue projection in Account No. 100-4699 (General Fund - Other Intergovernmental Grants) by \$102,316, from \$7,596 to \$109,912; and
- c.      Amended the Fiscal Year 2019/20 General Fund expenditure budget by appropriating \$102,316 to Account No. 100-601-42-6318 (General Fund - Community Development - Census).

**2**  
**POLICE**

The City Council unanimously approved A and B by motion of Council Member De Witt and seconded by Mayor Bernal.

- a.      Approved an Agreement (Contract No. 2020-12-CC) with Crossroads Software, Inc., for the purchase of traffic collision software in an amount not to exceed \$23,000; and
- b.      Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

**3**  
**WELL #28**

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

- a.      Accepted completion of construction of the Well No. 28 Pump Replacement, City Project No. 641-WTR, completed by the General Pump Company, Inc., effective January 16, 2020; and
- b.      Directed the City Clerk to file the Notice of Completion with the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder's Office.

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4  
MINUTES

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

- a. Approved the Special Meeting minutes of January 25, 2020; and
- b. Approved the Regular Meeting and Special Meeting minutes of January 28, 2020.

5  
COUNCIL  
ORGANIZATION PLAN

The City Council unanimously received and filed the progress report on the Nonprofit & Community-Based Organization Development Plan prepared by RSG, Inc.

6  
SPORTS CENTER

The City Council unanimously received and filed an update regarding the Snack Bar operations at the South Gate Sports Center by motion of Council Member Rios and seconded by Council Member De Witt.

7  
WELL #24

The City Council received and filed notification, pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 116455, regarding the detection of Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in drinking water produced by the City's municipal water system that exceeds the State's Notification Level threshold by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Rios.

Council Member De Witt requested that Attachment "A" for the agenda bill be corrected to reflect the correct location of the wells.

Council requested that City staff plan to allocate funds to add regular testing of Perfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) for the City's well sites.

8  
WARRANTS

The City Council unanimously approved the Warrants for February 11, 2020 by motion of Council Auditor Davils and seconded by Mayor Bernal.


Total of Checks:	\$1,898,192.38
Voids:	(\$ 0.00)
Total Payroll Deductions:	<u>\$ 450,658.53</u>
Grand Total:	\$1,447,533.85

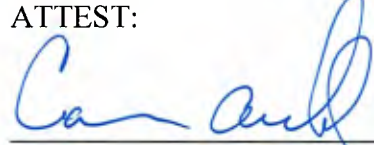
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**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Bernal adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m. and seconded by Council Member Davila.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
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M. Belén Bernal, Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
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Carmen Avalos, City Clerk