

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER** Maria Davila, Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

**INVOCATION** Pastor Anthony Kidd, Community of Faith Bible Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Dina Zaragoza, Executive Assistant to the City Attorney

**ROLL CALL** Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

**PRESENT** Mayor Maria Davila, Vice Mayor Al Rios, Council Member Maria del Pilar Avalos, Council Member Denise Diaz and Council Member Gil Hurtado; City Treasurer Gregory Martinez, Interim City Manager Chris Jeffers, City Attorney Raul F. Salinas

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Adolfo Varas thanked the City Council for adjourning tonight's meeting in memory of his cousin that passed away from COVID-19. He encouraged small businesses in South Gate to take advantage of the PPE Program through the Compton Chamber of Commerce.

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue, is happy to have new officers in South Gate and hopes this helps with patrols on the eastside that is being hit hard with crime. Ms. Johnson would like clarification on the reading of emails at City Council meetings. She also felt that the staff report for Item 3 at the previous City Council meeting was confusing and would like to see the Council Meeting run without the mudslinging from the members of the public at each meeting.

Robert Montalvo spoke about acquisitions of violence that were made against him at the last council meeting. He also thanked the City Manager for talking to him on his podcast. Mr. Montalvo spoke about the behavior of the City Council Members and wants them to put the residents first.

Thomas Buckley spoke about the behavior of the Commissioners and their interactions with the residents. He would also like to see counseling programs for the Council Members and Commissioners.

Andrea Paulino spoke about the behavior of some of the callers during the City Council Meetings.

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### COMMENTS FROM

**THE AUDIENCE CONT'D** Liz Ruiz, thanked the Council Members for working on trying to get some vaccination centers closer to South Gate and the behavior of some of the commissioners.

### REPORTS AND COMMENTS

**FROM CITY OFFICIALS** Steve Costley, Interim Parks and Recreation Director announced that staff is working with the American Red Cross organizing a blood drive.

Mayor Davila requested Chief Davis bring to Council at the next meeting a report on the status of crime in the City.

Randy Davis, Chief of Police stated that he will bring back a more detailed report. He was able to report that there has been a decrease in a lot of the violence crimes in the City but there was an increase in theft and grand theft autos.

Council Member Avalos asked the Chief if the officers and detectives have received their first dose to the vaccine.

Chief Davis responded that most of the staff has received at least the first dose of the vaccine.

Council Member Diaz will be representing Southern California on advancing equity with the California Cities and thanked Chris Jeffers, Interim City Manager for his hard work during these hard times.

Council Member Diaz stated that vaccines are being offered by some of the private companies in South Gate, such as Rite-Aid and Walgreens. Council Member Diaz would like see South Gate residents get first chance at receiving the vaccine before people from other cities from these local businesses. She also had a meeting with the White House COVID Response team last week and has a follow up meeting.

Council Member Avalos thanked the Fire Department for their assistance this week and encouraged everyone to be supportive of each other during these unprecedented times.

Council Member Hurtado attended the Independent Cities Authority Winter Seminar and asked the Chief of Police to speak on Racial and Identity Profiling Act of 2015 and the changes in the laws for Los Angeles County.

Chief Davis responded that the intent of the program is to eliminate racial profiling. South Gate falls under the report deadline of April 2023 and we will start collecting data in January of 2022.



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### REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

CONT'D

Chief Davis continued to explain that Criminal Justice Reform started in 2010 with AB109 and certain crimes were reclassified. There have been new directives from the District Attorney's Office that have created some challenges in the area of public safety. The reality is that law enforcement agencies are faced with dealing with far more people on the street than they have had in the past. People who may have been in State prison or County Jail are not. Currently, there does not seem to be a disincentive to commit crime with some people. If a person has a lengthy criminal record, this is not a first offence, there is zero bail when they get arrested and people are doing very little time in county jail where is the disincentive to commit crime.

Council Member Hurtado has been in contact with the Governor's Office, Speaker Rendon and Senator Gonzalez. Senator Gonzalez is part of the vaccine equity plan mainly for our region.

Vice Mayor Rios spoke about the effects of COVID-19 on the community. Vice Mayor Rios stated that HUB Cities is hosting a virtual job and resource fair coming to South Gate March 5<sup>th</sup>. Last week the Los Angeles Community College District met with the South Gate City Council. The College District set the meeting up to inform Council about plans for the College.

Mayor Davila explained that the flags are at half-mast at the request of the president in honor of the nearly 500,000 COVID deaths in the United States. On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mayor Davila will be meeting with Board Member Jackie Goldberg in regards to opening the schools.

Mayor Davila stated that at the Community College Meeting it was announced that they will start working on the campus on July 1<sup>st</sup>. It is estimated that they will have about 10,000 students attending this campus.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 were unanimously approved by motion of Council Member Avalos and seconded by Mayor Davila. Item 5 was pulled for separate discussion.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

### 1 PARCEL MAP 74973

The City Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 2021-10-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate approving Final Parcel Map No. 74973 for the property located at 12411 Industrial Avenue, South Gate, CA 90280, as necessary to authorize a two-lot subdivision during Consent Calendar.

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### 2 CITY COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS

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

- a. Approved Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-01-CC with Kiley & Associates, LLC, to continue providing federal legislative advocacy services to the City, retroactively effective September 25, 2020 through September 30, 2022, in the monthly payments of \$3,333 for a total of \$80,000 over a two-year period; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 1 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

### 3 GARFIELD AVE

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

- a. Approved Amendment No. 3 to Contract No. 3068 with Harris & Associates to fund additional Engineering Design Services that were performed to incorporate additional street and landscaping improvements in and around the Hollydale Library area, as a part of the Garfield Avenue and Imperial Highway Street Improvements Project, City Project No. 413-ST, Federal Project No. STPL-5257(030), in an amount not to exceed \$9,996; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 3 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

### 4 ENGINEERING

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

- a. Approved Amendment No. 4 to Contract No. 3340 with SAFNA Engineering & Consulting, a Division of SAFNA, to continue engineering services for water infrastructure projects and operations support, on a month-to-month basis for up to six months, to provide time to complete a recruitment process for a Civil Engineer, in an amount not to exceed \$124,000; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 4 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.



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### SURPLUS PROPERTY

The City Council unanimously approved A and B as amended by Council Member Avalos and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

**Amendment:** Contact community groups to see if they could use the bikes for their organizations and any unclaimed bikes are approved to go to auction.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

- a. Declared certain items as surplus property; and
- b. Authorized U.S. Auction Services to sell these surplus items at auction.

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### GOALS SOCCER

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

- a. Approved Acknowledgement Letter that the City of South Gate has received notice of the proposed reorganization of ownership transaction as required under Section 18.2 of the Ground Lease Agreement with Goals Soccer Centers, Inc., and waive the 60-day period to approve or reject the Transaction; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Acknowledgement Letter in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

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### MINUTES

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

- a. Approved the Regular and Special City Council Meeting minutes of January 26, 2021;
- b. Approved the Special City Council Meeting minutes of February 4, 2021; and
- c. Approved the Regular and Special City Council Meeting minutes of February 9, 2021.

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### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

The City Council unanimously approved A, B, C and D as amended by Vice Mayor Rios and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

- a. Approved an amendment to the Capital Improvement Program to add the following projects: (1) the South Gate Police Department (SGPD) Air Conditioner Replacement Project, City Project No. 667-GEN, and (2) Storm Water Infiltration Wells Improvements, City Project No. 670-SD;
- b. Appropriated \$15,000 from the unrestricted fund balance in the Building & Infrastructure Maintenance Fund to Account No. 524-501-21-9100 (BIM Fund - Facility Improvements) to fund the design phase of the SGPD Air Conditioner Replacement Project, City Project No. 667-GEN;
- c. Approved the transfer of \$17,600 in Los Angeles Unified School District Funds from Account No. 311-790-31-9572 (Chakemco Improvements-Atlantic-Legacy) to Account No. 311-790- 31-9540 (CIP Fund - Storm Water Infiltration Wells Improvements) to fund the design phase of the Storm Water Infiltration Wells Improvements, City Project No. 670-SD; and
- d. Appropriated \$17,600 in Measure W Funds to Account No. 311-790-31-9540 (CIP Fund - Storm Water Infiltration Wells Improvements) to fund the design phase of the Storm Water Infiltration Wells Improvements, City Project No. 670-SD.

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### WARRANTS

The City Council unanimously approved the Warrant Register with the exception of #91517 by motion of Council Auditor Avalos and seconded by Mayor Davila.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

- a. Approving Check No. 91517 from February 9, 2021; and
- b. Approved the Warrant Register for February 23, 2021:

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WARRANTS CONT'D	Total of Checks:	\$3,257,710.23
	Voids:	\$ (1,188.00)
	Total of Payroll Deductions	<u>\$ (425,366.06)</u>
	Grand Total:	\$2,831,156.17

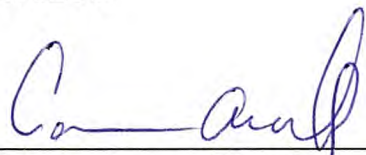
Cancellations: 90629, 91184

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Davila unanimously adjourned the meeting in memory of Rudy Rodriguez and Elder Alfaro at 8:10 p.m. and seconded by Council Member Avalos.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Davila, Mayor

  
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Carmen Avalos, City Clerk