

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER** M. Belén Bernal, Mayor called a Special City Council meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

**PRESENT** Mayor M. Belén Bernal, Vice Mayor Denise Diaz, Council Member Al Rios, and Council Member Maria Davila; Jackie Acosta, Director of Administrative Services, City Attorney Raul F. Salinas

**ABSENT** City Manager Mike Flad

**LATE** City Treasurer Greg Martinez arrived at 6:05 p.m.

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**ELECTIONS** The City Council interviewed and selected from among the candidates who submitted applications to fill the unexpired term of the City Council vacancy.

Mayor Bernal requested that the City Clerk explain the process for tonight's meeting.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk explained how the interview process will proceed.

Raul Salinas, City Attorney stated that each candidate will have 20 minutes during their interview.

Council Member Rios asked if the time limit for when the public speaks is 3 or 5 minutes.

Mayor Bernal said that during normal City Council meetings we allow 5 minutes and she would like to honor that amount of time.

City Clerk Avalos drew the candidates name randomly to determine the order of the interview. Candidate No. 1 will be Mr. Bill De Witt, Candidate No. 2 will be Mr. Gil Hurtado, Candidate No. 3 will be Mr. John Montalvo, Candidate No. 4 will be Melissa Alvarado, Candidate No. 5 will be Mr. Juan Carlos Mendez, Candidate No. 6 will be Mr. Irving Pacheco, Candidate No. 7 will be Ms. Fabiola Inzunza, and Candidate No. 8 will be Mr. Armando Velazquez.

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### ELECTIONS CONT'D

The following individuals spoke in support of Fabiola Inzunza.  
Bill Cosgrove, former South Gate teacher  
Delia Ariaga  
Cindy, 10215 Walnut Avenue  
Nancy Mesa  
Ricardo Conto, 9542 Bowman Avenue  
Gabriel Zamora  
Eddy, 10433 San Anselmo Avenue  
Nicolas Patino, 10001 Hildreth, spoke in support of Fabiola Inzunza.  
Diego

The following individuals spoke in support of Gil Hurtado.  
Joshua Barron, 8914 Beaudine Avenue  
Laura Gonzalez  
Nadi Reyes, 5832 Glady Street  
Candy Esquivel  
Robert Hinajosa  
Ofelia, South Gate resident  
South Gate resident, State Street  
Genesis Martinez, 8161 South Gate Avenue.  
Rebecca Avila, 3340 Michigan Avenue  
Rosa, South Gate resident  
Andrea Polino, 1625 Utah Avenue  
Marcia Rodriguez Cox  
Maria Navarro, 9411 San Antonio Avenue  
Claudia Valladares, 8957 Cypress Avenue  
Rosela Dominguez, 8987 Bryson Avenue  
Angelica Martinez  
Lindsey Marcia Cox  
Elia Chavez  
Adolfo Varas, 3375 Wisconsin Avenue

The following individuals spoke in support of John Montalvo.  
John Reyes  
Cristina Montalvo, 9815 Virginia Avenue  
Jeffery Davis  
Loraine Moore  
Erika McKennas  
Anthony Martinez

Linda Parsonson, 5708 Main Street, suggested letting several different candidates serve by dividing the time between candidates.



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### ELECTIONS CONT'D

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue, stated that she thinks that the City should have spent the extra money to have a Special Election. She has read the agenda package and that five out of the eight candidate's state they will not be running for office with one stating they would be testing the water to see if they would have a go at it. One candidate had their questionnaire omitted from the City's website even though it was filled out. This was the only page missing and whether it was an honest mistake or not it is obvious that this missing page was for this City Council's nemesis and also a candidate for consideration. Is this meeting even legal since the City's website agenda is not complete? She feels that the vacant position should go to one of the two experienced candidates being Bill De Witt or Gil Hurtado.

Julian A. Jarquin, 10606 McNERNEY Avenue, said that he supports a critical evaluation for all candidates.

Paul Cordova Marino spoke in support of John Montalvo and also said that his partner supports Fabiola Inzunza.

Henry C. Gonzalez, 10210 Alexander Avenue, thanked the community for coming out. The meeting today is to allow the City Council to do their job by selecting a replacement for Council Member Morales.

Jimmy Hugart South Gate Police Officer Association Executive Board, spoke in support of Bill De Witt.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk responded to the comment of a page missing from a candidate's application. She stated that there was no disrespect to any candidate. When the page was scanned it is possible that a page was missed however it was not done maliciously it was truly done without our knowledge. As soon as it was discovered the package was uploaded again and is currently on the City's website. All City Council Members did receive a complete package and it was copied accurately.

Mayor Bernal asked which candidate's application was missing the page.

City Clerk Avalos responded Mr. Gil Hurtado.

Mayor Bernal requested all Council candidate's exit the Council Chambers and wait in the Mayor's Office until their turn to interview.

### RECESS

The City Council recessed at 7:13 p.m., and reconvened at 7:18 p.m., with all Members of Council present.

The City Council interviewed Mr. Bill De Will for the vacant City Council position.

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**ELECTIONS CONT'D**

The City Council interviewed Mr. Gil Hurtado for the vacant City Council position.

The City Council interviewed Mr. John Montalvo for the vacant City Council position.

The City Council interviewed Ms. Melissa Alvarado for the vacant City Council position.

The City Council interviewed Mr. Juan Carlos Mendez for the vacant City Council position.

The City Council interviewed Mr. Irving Pacheco for the vacant City Council position.

The City Council interviewed Ms. Fabiola Inzunza for the vacant City Council position.

The City Council interviewed Mr. Armando Velazquez for the vacant City Council position.

**RECESS**

The City Council recessed at 9:03 p.m., and reconvened at 9:06 p.m., with all Members of Council present.

Mayor Bernal motioned to appoint Bill De Witt as Council Member and seconded by Council Member Davila. The vote was 4-0 in favor of the action.

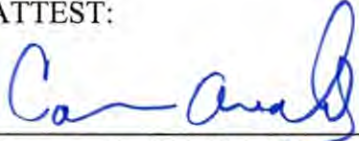
**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Bernal, yes; Vice Mayor Diaz, yes; Council Member Davila, yes; Council Member Rios, yes.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Bernal adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m. and seconded by Council Member Davila.

**PASSED and APPROVED** this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.

  
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M. Belén Bernal, Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
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Carmen Avalos, City Clerk