

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2020**

- CALL TO ORDER** Maria Davila, Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.
- INVOCATION** Randall Davis, Chief of Police led the Invocation.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Michael Flad, City Manager led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 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, City Manager Mike Flad, City Attorney Raul F. Salinas
- 1
PROCLAMATIONS** The City Council issued a Proclamation to Michael Flad in recognition of his eight years of dedicated service to the City and wish him well in his future endeavors.
- 2
FEES** The City Council opened the Public Hearing and continued consideration of a resolution amending Resolution No. 7872 (Schedule of Fees) to apply a 3.36% rate increase to the residential refuse collection and recycling services for Fiscal Year 2020/21, retroactively effective July 1, 2020, to the regularly scheduled City Council meeting of January 26, 2021 by motion of Council Member Diaz and seconded by Council Member Avalos.
- ROLL CALL:** Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.
- Mayor Davila opened the public hearing and asked if anyone in the audience wishes to speak on this item. Seeing no come forward, Mayor Davila closed the public hearing.
- 3
CDBG/HOUSING** The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and continued the consideration of amending the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019/20 Annual Action Plan by programming \$863,385 in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBV-CV3) funds to provide additional COVID-19 related programs and services, and to ratify the amended FY

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

3

CDBG/HOUSING CONT'D 2020/21 CDBG and HOME budget allocations, to the regularly scheduled City Council meeting of January 26, 2021 by motion of Council Member Diaz and seconded by Council Member Avalos.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

Mayor Davila opened the public hearing and asked if anyone in the audience wishes to speak on this item.

Amanda Tapia, Veronica Hernandez and Steven would like to see more public input on how these funds should be allocated. They would also like to urge the City to adopt participatory budget process so the citizens can directly inform the Council how these funds should be invested.

Cindy Esquivel, Virginia Johnson, and Adolfo Varas agree that the citizens should be more involved and the City has a process in place which is the CAC Commission. They would like to have the CAC Commission make recommendations to the City Council for the allocation of the funds.

Robert Montalvo stated because these are emergency funds the process should skip the CAC Commission and go straight to City Council to expedite the allocations of funds.

Seeing no one come forward, Mayor Davila closed the public hearing.

Paul Adams responded that this is emergency money and the City has tried to expedite these funds available to the community. He explained that the City is still processing the round two funds and currently the guidelines for the round three funds are still being decided on. Also, with the holidays it could be difficult to get a CAC Commission meeting scheduled but staff will look into all possibilities.

Vice Mayor Rios would like to see more resident participation and is open to looking into a participatory budget process.

Council Member Avalos asked because these funds are COVID related is there a timeline as to when these funds need to be spent.

Mike Flad, City Manager explained the various timelines and requirements for each organization.

Paul Adams, invited residents to participate in the CAC Commission meetings and speak during public comments so their recommendations can be heard.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

DEVIATE FROM THE AGENDA

At this time, there being no objections, Mayor Davila stated that item 13 would be considered out of its regular agenda order.

13 BUDGET

The City Council considered:

- a. Hearing presentations from the City Manager and the Director of Administrative Services on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020/21 Fall Revise Budget;
- b. Reviewing and discussing staffs recommendation on the various amendments proposed in the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Fall Revise Budget;
- c. Reviewing and discussing the Budget Subcommittee's recommendation on various amendments for the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Fall Revise Budget; and
- d. Approving staff's recommended budget amendments and/or any other amendments the City Council deems appropriate.

The City Council received and filed six of the seven recommendations excluding the item concerning LAUSD and LACCD made by the Budget Subcommittee for further review during the budget consideration by motion of Council Member Avalos 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.

The City Council received and filed recommendation number 3 concerning LAUSD and LACCD made by the Budget Subcommittee for further review during the budget consideration by motion of Council Member Avalos and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, recuse; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

Council Member Avalos requested that staff goes back and review the overtime account for the Police Department. She would like to have exact numbers as to how many officers we currently have on the force and how many are in the process. She would like to have a Special City Council Meeting to review the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Fall Revise Budget. Council Member Hurtado stated that he is willing to move forward with Staff's recommendations on the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Fall Revise Budget

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

13

BUDGET CONT'D

and look into the Budget Subcommittee's program recommendations at a future City Council Meeting.

Mayor Davila recommended at a Special City Council Meeting staff have a brief presentation for each department that covers the proposed changes. She would like staff to follow up on funding options for the Budget Subcommittee's program recommendations

Staff will schedule a Special City Council Meeting to continue the discussion on the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Fall Revise Budget and bring this item back to the City Council Meeting of December 8, 2020.

**COMMENTS FROM
THE AUDIENCE**

Virginia Johnson, thanked community members, Jovanna Cortez Laborin, Jimmy and Claudia Hugar, Cindy Esquivel, Mayor Maria Davila, Council Member Gil Hurtado and the others who volunteered by providing food and other staples to our residents of South Gate during these difficult times.

Ms. Johnson hopes no one accepts a poll by the Defund the PD group on a Facebook blog.

Ms. Johnson stated that for those that voted to pass California's Prop 19 on the November 3rd election to transfer property tax portability to homeowners forgot to read the small print where it takes away the heirs rights of Prop 13 protection when the parents pass away.

Kimberly Ortega read a statement from Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis regarding the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors discussion on the public health order and closure of outdoor dining in Los Angeles County.

Councilwoman Avalos asked Ms. Ortega about the funding for small businesses.

Ms. Ortega stated that the item was approved at today's board meeting. She will be reaching out to the entire Council and incoming City Manager for a briefing early next week to answer questions.

Adolfo Varas reminded residents that November 28th is the Small Shop Initiative and is encouraging everyone to support the small businesses.

Mr. Varas thanked PPE United Company. They are supplying all small businesses a 30-day free package for COVID-19.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE CONT'D

Mr. Varas also thanked Mayor Davila, Council Member Hurtado, Mr. C's Towing, United Hand Project, and Jimmy Hugar for providing food to over 10,000 people in South Gate and surrounding communities.

Mr. Varas informed City Attorney Salinas that he made a public records request on May 18th that has not been completed.

Mr. Varas stated that Bell Gardens Chamber of Commerce, Bell Chamber of Commerce and South Gate Chamber of Commerce are collaborating on a disaster preparedness virtual conference in partnership with the American Red Cross.

Robert Montalvo thanked staff for the clarification on the Budget Subcommittee Brown Act. Mr. Montalvo inquired on the brown water. He thanked Vice Mayor Rios for helping bring resources to South Gate.

Mr. Montalvo mentioned a food drive this past Saturday at the American Legion and thanked Councilwoman Diaz for participating. He thanked all Council Members for their hard work in the community. He mentioned a crack on San Juan and asked that it be looked at because it might be a liability issue.

Jovanna Laborin, 3372 Seminole Avenue, thanked Mayor Davila and Council Member Hurtado for their hard work in the community.

Ana, South Gate Chamber of Commerce invited everyone to shop Small Businesses Saturday this weekend.

Cynthia Esquivel thanked Mike Flad for his service to the City. She thanked Mayor Davila and Council Member Hurtado for the turkeys given to the churches, schools and American Legion.

Cecilia Goñez, thanked Mayor Davila and Council Member Hurtado for their hard work in the community. Ms. Goñez is very happy to be able to bring in a UCLA event to the City of South Gate.

City Clerk Avalos read the following emails:

Ivan Ojeda, a 40 plus resident supports the South Gate Police Department.

Lisa Baca hopes everyone is well and will be participating tonight on item 7.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

REPORTS AND COMMENTS

FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Steve Costley, Interim Parks and Recreation Director reported on Monday they were able to send out food boxes from Farmers Market to 250 residents for the month of November. This will continue in the month of December on the 15th. We are working to get vouchers for turkeys and we are working with Vice Mayor Rios.

Paul Adams, Interim Community Development Director thanked Mike Flad for his service to the South Gate community.

Raul F. Salinas, City Attorney will call Mr. Varas regarding his public records request.

He added that Habitat for Humanity and on December 7th Habitat is doing a free Veterans program. Mr. Salinas stated lets be thankful for all first responders and for people that find themselves homeless, in isolation or dealing with mental issues.

Mike Flad, City Manager introduced Chris Jeffers who will serve as the Interim City Manager. Mr. Jeffers has worked for the Cities of Glendora and Monterey Park.

Mr. Jeffers thanked Mr. Flad for the introduction and is looking forward for the opportunity to engage with Council, City Staff and the community.

Council Member Hurtado stated that the Independent Cities Association is updating the website and their seminars are being cancelled due to the pandemic. He thanked everyone for their generosity for providing turkeys.

Council Member Diaz stated that the Southeast Community Development Corporation allocated \$25,000 in emergency funds for South Gate families that cannot pay their internet, a college student that might need an iPad or computer please email her. She also attended a Vector Control meeting. She was appointed by Governor Newsom as a State Appointee to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. The California League of Cities appointed her to be their first ally on the LGBTQ Caucus.

Vice Mayor Rios thanked Mr. Costley for the vouchers. He thanked Armando for charting the South Gate Kiwanis Club. Vice Mayor Rios attended the event. He thanked Daisy Prieto the outgoing President and President Elect Sandy Rodriguez.

Vice Mayor Rios stated HUB Cities work center is in the city and serving the veterans and small businesses. The virtual youth job program is about to launch in December.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

CONT'D

Mayor Davila thanked the public for participating in the Council meetings, City staff for their hard work and colleagues.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Items 4, 6, 8, 10, 11 and 12 were approved by motion of Council Member Avalos and seconded by Mayor Davila. Items 5, 7 and 9 were 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.

4

COMMISSIONERS

The City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2020-03-CC entitled - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, amending Sections 1.09.020 (Composition), of Chapter 1.09 (Parks and Recreation Commission), 1.12.020 (Membership), of Chapter 1.12 (Planning Commission), and 1.25.010 (Membership), of Chapter 1.25 (Citizens' Advisory Committee), of Title 1 (Administration and Personnel), of the South Gate Municipal Code amending eligibility requirements for individuals appointed to serve in these civil offices approved during Consent Calendar.

5

PERSONNEL

The City Council unanimously approved A and B by motion of Council Member Avalos 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. Adopted Resolution No. 2020-39-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, appointing Chris Jeffers as Interim City Manager and approving Employment Agreement (Contract No. 2020-106-CC) effective November 30, 2020; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Employment Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

6

CDBG

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

- a. Rejected all bids received for the Request for Proposal posted on October 8, 2020 to provide general grant coordination and management services for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Program;
- b. Approved Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 3407 with Avant-Garde, Inc., for additional as needed administrative services for the CDBG and HOME Programs in an amount not to exceed \$149,705 for a one year term;
- c. Appropriated \$119,705 from the unassigned CDBG-CV administrative funds in Account Number 243-607-43-6101 (Professional Services) for additional administrative services related to the COVID- 19 pandemic;
- d. Appropriated \$30,000 from the unassigned HOME administrative funds in Account Number 241-601-43-6101 (Professional Services) to fund the unbudgeted amount for Amendment No. 2; and
- e. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 2 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

7

CDBG

The City Council approved A, B, C, and D by motion of Council Member Avalos and seconded by Vice Mayor Rios.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, yes; Council Member Avalos, yes.

- a. Approved Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreements for Fiscal Year 2020/21, retroactively effective September 22, 2020, with:
 - 1. The South Gate Chamber of Commerce (Contract No. 2020-107-CC) to administer the Small Business Job Retention and Creation Grant Program in the amount of \$300,000;
 - 2. The Conservation Corps of Long Beach (Contract No. 2020-108-CC) to provide an Employment and Job Training Program for the removal of discarded bulky items in the amount of \$36,581;

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

7

CDBG CONT'D

3. Compator, Inc., (Contract No. 2020-109-CC) to provide a Rental and Utility Payment Assistance Program in the amount of \$175,000; and
 4. The Hub Cities Career Center Corporation (Contract No. 2020-110-CC) to provide a Youth Employment Program in the amount of \$157,500;
- b. Approved Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-45-CC, CDBG Subrecipient Agreement, with Compator, Inc., to continue providing free Mental Health Counseling Services in the amount of \$325,000;
 - c. Approved Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-48-CC, CDBG Subrecipient Agreement, with Hub Cities Career Center Corporation to continue providing Job Security & Employment Program Services in the amount of \$50,000; and
 - d. Authorized the Mayor to execute these Agreements in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

8

DBE

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

- a. Approved Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Implementation Agreement (Contract No. 2020-111-CC) with the California Department of Transportation as required to receive federal funding assistance from the United States Department of Transportation;
- b. Authorized the Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works to execute the DBE forms required to be submitted to Caltrans annually; and
- c. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

9

SOUNDWALL

The City Council approved A and B by motion of Vice Mayor Rios and seconded by Council Member Avalos.

- a. Approved Contract Change Order No. 1 with Hot Line Construction, Inc., to compensate for the urgent repair work that was completed due to unforeseen conditions as a part of the 1-710 Corridor Soundwall Project, City Project No. 587-ST, in the amount of \$13,791; and
- b. Authorized the Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works to execute Contract Change Order No. 1.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Davila, yes; Vice Mayor Rios, yes; Council Member Diaz, yes; Council Member Hurtado, recuse; Council Member Avalos, yes.

10

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The City Council continued the Amendment to the Capital Improvement Program to add new projects and allocate additional funds to the regularly scheduled City Council meeting of December 8, 2020 unanimously approved during Consent Calendar.

11

STRATEGIC PLAN

The City Council continued the presentation of the City of South Gate Economic Development Strategic Plan Progress Update for Fiscal Year 2019/20 to the regularly scheduled City Council meeting of December 8, 2020 unanimously during Consent Calendar.

12

MINUTES

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

- a. Approved the Regular and Special City Council Meeting minutes of November 10, 2020; and
- b. Approved the Special City Council Meeting minutes of November 11, 2020.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020

14

WARRANTS

The Warrants were unanimously approved with the exception of #90848, 90844, and 90870 by motion of Council Auditor Avalos and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

- a. Approved Check No. 90727 from November 10, 2020; and
- b. Approved the Warrant register for November 24, 2020.

Total of Checks:	\$5,243,901.45
Voids:	(\$ 7,824.68)
Total Payroll Deductions (FY 2020/21)	(\$ 453,770.35)
Grand Total:	\$4,782,306.42

Cancellations: 237, 89626, 89928, 90047, 90716, 90869

ADJOURNMENT

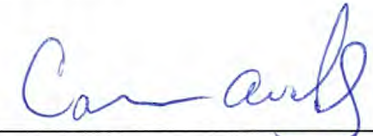
Mayor Davila unanimously adjourned the meeting in memory of Milady Quito, Principal of Independence Elementary School and in honor of Michael Flad for his service to the City of South Gate at 11:57 p.m. and seconded by Council Member Avalos.

PASSED and **APPROVED** this 12th day of January, 2021.

ATTEST:



Maria Davila, Mayor



Carmen Avalos, City Clerk