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

CALL TO ORDER

Maria Davila, Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at

6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Pastor Elias Gabriel, First Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE

Matthew Montero, Police Officer

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; Interim City Manager Chris Jeffers, City Attorney Raul F.

Salinas

LATE

Gregory Martinez, City Treasurer joined the City Council Meeting at 7:00

p.m.

1

PROCLAMATIONS

The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring the month of April as

National Fair Housing Month.

PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS/

CERTIFICATES

The City Council presented Certificates of Appreciation to the SELA Collaborative, Hub Cities Consortium, Southeast Community Development Corporation, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, Human Services Association and Council of Mexican Federations in North America.

PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT

& SELECTION

The City Council allowed staff to introduce the new and promotional fulltime employees hired or promoted during January and February 2021.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and unanimously approved items A, B, C, and D by motion of Council Member Avalos and seconded by Mayor Hurtado:

a. Authorized utilization of 2019 Homeland Security Grant Program Funds in the amount of \$51,788 for the purchase of communications equipment and accessories, plus installation, for the Police Department;

4 LAW ENFORCEMENT CONT'D

- b. Increased the Fiscal Year 2020/21 revenue projection in Account Number 231-4625 (Law Enforcement Grants Homeland Security Grant) by \$51,788;
- c. Amended the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Law Enforcement Grants Fund Budget by appropriating \$51,788 to Account Number 231-541-21-6204 (Law Enforcement Grants - Homeland Security Grant - Small Tools & Equipment) for the purchase of unit radios, portable radios, charging stations and accessories; and
- d. Authorized the Mayor to execute the State Homeland Security Program Subrecipient Agreement (Contract No. 2021-23-CC) for Grant Year 2019.

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

Captain Arakawa provided a presentation for this item.

Mayor Davila opened the public hearing. Seeing no one come forward Mayor Davila closed the Public Hearing.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and unanimously approved items A, B and C by motion of Mayor Davila and seconded by Vice Mayor Rios:

- a. Authorized utilization of 2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Funds, in the amount of \$42,237 for the purchase of equipment for sworn personnel;
- b. Decreased the Fiscal Year 2020/21 revenue projection in Account Number 231-4620 (Law Enforcement Grants Edward Byrne Memorial Grant) by \$2,763, from \$45,000 to \$42,237; and
- c. Amending the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Law Enforcement Grants Fund Budget by appropriating \$40,970 to Account Number 231-554-21-6204 (Law Enforcement Grants Edward Byrne Small Tools & Equipment) for the purchase of Body Worn Camera Equipment; and \$1,267 to Account Number 231-554-21-6340 (Law Enforcement Grants Edward Byrne Departmental Training) for the mandatory required 3% National Incident Based Reporting System allocation for the Police Department.

5 LAW ENFORCEMENT CONT'D

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

Captain Arakawa provided a presentation for this item.

Mayor Davila opened the public hearing. Seeing no one come forward Mayor Davila closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Davila asked how many cameras can be purchased with these funds.

Captain Arakawa explained the RFP process and that the goal is to purchase one camera for each officer.

Vice Mayor Rios asked if any officers currently have body worn cameras or if we are using only audio recordings and what is the timeline for this purchase.

Captain Arakawa responded that the officers are using digital audio recorders and that the RFP will be going out soon. The Police Department's goal is to implement the cameras before the end of the calendar year.

6 COMMUNITY DEV/HOUSING

The City Council opened the Public Hearing to take public comment on proposed projects and allocations as recommended by the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development Block Grant Funds. Staff's recommendation to the City Council to continue this Agenda Item to the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting of April 27, 2021 was unanimously approved by motion of 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.

Mayor Davila opened the public hearing. Seeing no one come forward Mayor Davila closed the Public Hearing.

20 SOLID WASTE MGMT

The City Council unanimously received and filed a presentation from Debbie Morris (HF&H) on Senate Bill 1383, Short-lived Climate Pollutants: Organic Waste Methane Emissions Reduction by motion of Council Member 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.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue, hopes the police department will get an updated crime watch page.

Ms. Johnson would like to receive information from the March 11th meeting on the stairless system initiative overview and is this for the train system as well as the bus system.

Ms. Johnson mentioned that the Rancho Los Amigos Wellness Center has a new zoom support group for anyone with brain injury and stroke.

Ms. Johnson stated that the South Gate residents cannot get a hard copy of the Wave newspaper.

Ms. Johnson thanked Ms. Jackie Acosta for her timely response to a concern.

Art Alvarez, Aldrich Road, thanked Chief Davis and City Council for addressing his concerns regarding the numerous accidents with young adults.

David W., is a volunteer with an organization called "California Cities for Local Control." The organization is concerned about housing bills from Sacramento restricting local cities ability to zone areas. He is asking local government to pass a resolution supporting local control. Their email is localcontrolca@gmail.com and the website is localcontrolca.com.

Alice Cueto thanked the South Gate Police Department for the etching activity on Saturday. Ms. Cueto was very happy the City was calling people informing them of the Vaccinations.

Candice thanked the police department for Saturday's event.

Claudia Rivera would like Councilwoman Diaz address her concerns of an audiotape release by a commissioner.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE CONT'D

Robert Montalvo thanked the police department for Saturday's event. He stated the Mayor should be at the forefront of everything including issues affecting the community.

Mr. Montalvo stated that in regards to the audio he offers his services to the community to clear any misunderstandings.

Ana, Chamber of Commerce invited the community to join them on Wednesday, March 31st at Noon to listen to the State of the City via Zoom. She also reminded the business community to apply for small business grants.

Liz Ruiz, Kauffman Avenue, and stated South Gate's the water quality is safe for consumption. She hopes Councilwoman Diaz holds a certain commissioner accountable for his actions.

Armando Velazquez is inviting the Council and public to join the South Gate Kiwanis Club on Saturday, April 3rd from 1-3 p.m. for an Easter event at the American Legion.

Amanda Tapia urged Council during Budget Subcommittee meetings to provide current updates on the status of the 2021/22 budget.

Ms. Tapia is also urging the Planning Commission provide status on the development of housing ordinances.

Thomas Buckley spoke on the water quality and how it affects the trust and confidence of the city.

Adolfo Varas asked for clarification if commissioners/board members are held accountable as a councilmember. He thanked Mayor Davila for her leadership during these troubling times.

Mr. Varas congratulated Mayor Davila and Councilwoman Avalos for receiving the Recognition of Women Empowering Women.

Mr. Varas will be having a 2nd Annual LGBT Community Event.

City Clerk Avalos read the following two emails.

Kalie Ortiz is from an organization called TreePeople. The organization will be distributing a variety of 500 free fruit trees to residents in the upcoming month.

Christina Montalvo is concerned about the water quality.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Steve Costley, Interim Parks and Recreation Director stated that this Friday thru Wednesday will be the second dose of vaccinations at the South Gate Park. He mentioned that AltaMed and Mercy Pharmacy will be having the first dose on April 1st and May 6th. He received a phone call from LA County Public Health Department about having a drive-thru clinic at the South Gate Park.

Director Costley stated a food distribution on Wednesday, April 7th at South Gate Park in parking lot 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will be another food distribution in May. And on Thursdays at the park is a "grab and go" meals in parking lot 6.

Darren Arakawa, Police Captain gave credit to the staff from the garage for the etching event on Saturday.

Jackie Acosta, Director of Administrative Services had nothing to report.

Arturo Cervantes, Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works had nothing to report.

Paul Adams, Interim Director of Community Development had nothing to report.

Raul F. Salinas, City Attorney stated that South Gate has for the past seventeen years a very strong tradition to allow the public to comment. In the past it was required for people to fill-out speaking cards.

Mr. Salinas stated that the Brown Act allows public to criticize Members of the City Council, City staff and commissioners relating to city business.

Chris Jeffers, Interim City Manager has been in the public service for 39-years is amazed with Councils efforts during this pandemic. Mr. Jeffers urges the community to keep getting tested.

Mr. Jeffers is encouraging everyone to shop locally.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk stated we try to be fair in the city and provide an opportunity for people to express their concerns. Ms. Avalos informed the Mayor of another email received and asked if she may read it into the record.

Mayor Davila gave her consent.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS CONT'D

City Clerk Avalos stated the email is from Angel Acosio asking how someone may apply to carry a concealed weapon license.

Council Member Avalos thanked the community for their comments and concerns.

Council Member Diaz had her board retreat for the Southeast Community Development and she mentioned if any resident has been affected due to the pandemic and loss of job or hours the board has funding to pay for their internet bills, and laptops & tablets were donated.

Council Member Diaz also seats on the Library Commission and discussion was had on the steps to safely reopen the libraries.

Council Member Diaz attended the Vector Control meeting and the board had their reorganization.

Council Member Diaz mentioned the community acknowledged and thanked everyone for the COVID-19 Memorial held last week. She thanked Captain Arakawa, Lieutenant Arana, & Lieutenant Evelyn Garcia for the drone footage of the lanterns in front of city hall.

Council Member Diaz thanked Council, Steve Costley and City Manager for the vaccination centers in the city.

Council Member Hurtado attended the ICA meeting and discussion was on the winter and summer seminars. He is grateful to everyone who participated at the COVID-19 Memorial.

Council Member Hurtado thanked everyone for their hard work for the vaccination centers. He thanked the Police Department for Saturday's event.

Council Member Hurtado has had communication with members of the community about having a city clean-up but because of Covid it is not a good idea exposing people at this time.

Vice Mayor Rios thanked everyone for their hard work during these challenging times.

Mayor Davila thanked everyone for their hard work during these difficult times.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Items 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Davila and seconded by Council Member Avalos. Items 7, 8 and 11 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.

MUNICIPAL CODE ADMIN

The City Council unanimously waived the reading in full and adopted Interim Urgency Ordinance No. <u>2021-04-CC</u> entitled - Interim Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, establishing a temporary limit on the charges imposed by third-party food delivery services on local restaurants during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic by motion of 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.

MUNICIPAL CODE ADMIN

The City Council unanimously waived the reading in full and adopted Ordinance No. <u>2021-03-CC</u> entitled - Ordinance of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, repealing Section 9.46.030 (Public Interest Agreements), in its entirety, of Chapter 9.46 (Development Impact Fee), to Title 9 (Buildings), of the South Gate Municipal Code by motion of Council Member 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.

9 EMERGENCY/DISASTER PLANNING/PROGRAMS

The City Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. <u>2021-12-CC</u> entitled - Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, extending the Local Emergency within the City as a result of the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic during Consent Calendar.

10 PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT & SELECTION

The City Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 2021-13-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, amending Resolution No. 6454 (Salary Resolution and Position Classification Plan) updating the job specifications of the Lead Electrician and Electrical Foreman positions in the Public Works Department, changing the title of the Electrical Foreman position to Electrical Supervisor and updating the salary pay table to add the Electrical Supervisor position during Consent Calendar.

11 WATER

The City Council unanimously approved items A, B, C, D, and E by motion of Mayor Davila and seconded by Council Member Avalos:

- a. Approved an Agreement (Contract No. <u>2021-24-CC</u>) with
 J. A. Salazar Construction and Supply Corporation for the construction of the Long Beach Boulevard Water Service Lateral Replacement Project (Project), City Project No. 638-WTR, in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,275,200;
- b. Appropriated \$100,000 in Water Funds from the unrestricted balance of the Water Fund to Account No. 411-731-71-9578 (Water Fund Long Beach Blvd. Water Service Lateral Replacement, City Project No. 638-WTR) to fully :[und the bid and associated project costs;
- Authorized the City Manager to approve up to \$139,800 in construction change orders to be funded with budget contingency funds should it be necessary;
- d. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney; and
- e. Approved the Notice of Exemption for the construction of the Project and directing the City Clerk to file it with the Los Angeles County Registrar Recorder's Office.

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

Art Cervantes, Director of Public Works recused himself from participating on this item due to a conflict of interest.

12 WATER

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

- a. Approved the Agreement (Contract No. <u>2021-25-CC</u>) with SA Associates to provide professional engineering services for the preparation of the City of South Gate 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, City Project No. 669-WTR, in an amount not to exceed \$35,000;
- Appropriated \$50,000 in Water Funds from the unrestricted balance of the Water Fund to Account No. 411-731-71-6101 (Water Fund - Professional Services) to fund these services; and
- c. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Professional Services Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

13 WASTEWATER MGMT

The City Council unanimously appropriated \$75,000 from the unassigned general balance of the General Fund to Account No. 412-732-52-6101 (Sewer Fund - Professional Services) to fund Contract No. 3549 with National Plant Services, Inc., for Sanitary Sewer Main Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Inspection Services of ten percent of the sewer system for Fiscal Year 2021/22 during Consent Calendar.

14 SPORTS CENTER MGMT

The City Council unanimously approved items A, B, C and D during Consent Calendar:

- Approved Purchase Order with Vortex Doors for the repair of the sliding glass doors at the Patricia G. Mitchell Swim Stadium in the amount of \$72,000;
- Appropriated \$72,000 from the restricted fund balance of the Park Enhancement Fund to account number 271-490-61-9100 (Park Enhancement Fund - Facility Improvements) to cover the cost to complete these repairs;
- c. Authorized the City's Purchasing Division to issue a Purchase Order for this project in accordance with the City's purchasing ordinance and policies; and
- d. Authorized the Director of Parks & Recreation to execute any additional documents as may be required to properly implement and manage this purchase and installation.

15 GENERAL PLAN

The City Council unanimously approved items A and B during Consent Calendar:

- a. Received and filed the Housing Element Annual Progress Report for calendar year 2020; and
- b. Directed staff to submit a copy of this Report to the State Department of Housing and Community Development prior to the deadline of April 1, 2021.

16 MINUTES

The City Council unanimously approved items A and B during Consent Calendar:

- a. The Joint Special Meeting minutes of February 17, 2021;
 and
- b. The Regular Meeting and Special Meeting minutes of March 9, 2021.

17 COMMUNITY DEV/HOUSING

The City Council unanimously approved items A, B, C, D, E and F by motion of Vice Mayor Rios 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.

- a. Adopted Resolution No. 2021-14-CC entitled Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California, approving Substantial Amendment No. I to the Fiscal Year 2020/21 Annual Action Plan reprogramming \$247,000 of unspent Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to provide additional programs and services in accordance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations;
- Approved Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 2020-108-CC with the Conservation Corp of Long Beach for the South Gate Youth Employment Training Program, adding an additional \$90,000 of CDBG funds;
- Approved Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 2020-107-CC with the South Gate Chamber of Commerce for the Small Business Job Retention arid Creation Program, adding an additional \$157,000 of CDBG funds;

17 COMMUNITY DEV/HOUSING CONT'D

- d. Approved a budget transfer of \$90,000 of CDBG funds from Account Number 243-634-49-6671 (HUB Cities) to Account Number 243-634-49-6666 for the Conservation Corp of Long Beach;
- e. Approved a budget transfer of \$157,000 of CDBG funds from Account Number 243-634- 49-6671 (HUB Cities) to Account Number 243-634-49-6668 for the South Gate Chamber of Commerce; and
- f. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreements in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

18 COMMUNITY DEV/HOUSING

The City Council approved items B, C, D, E, G, H & I and items A & F were continued by motion of Council Member Avalos and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

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

- a. Continued the Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus 3 (CDBG-CV3) Subrecipient Agreement with the Tweedy Mile Association for the Small Business Job Retention and Creation Program, in the amount of \$75,000, effective March 23, 2021;
- Approved Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-107-CC, CDBG-CV3 Subrecipient Agreement, with the South Gate Chamber of Commerce for continued Small Business Job Retention and Creation Grant Program, in the amount of \$75,000, effective March 23, 2021;
- c. Approved Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-108-CC, CDBG-CV3 Subrecipient Agreement, with the Conservation Corp of Long Beach for continued Youth Employment Training Program services, in the amount of \$75,000, retroactively effective February 1, 2021;
- d. Approved CDBG-CV3 Subrecipient Agreement (Contract No. <u>2021-30-CC</u>) with the California Latino Leadership Institute for the Southeast Youth Workforce Leadership Program, in the amount of \$25,000, effective March 23, 2021;

18 COMMUNITY DEV/HOUSING CONT'D

- e. Approved Amendment No. 3 to Contact No. 2020-45-CC, CDBG-CV3 Subrecipient Agreement, with Compatior, Inc. for continued Mental Health and Counseling Services, in the amount of \$120,000, effective March 23, 2021;
- f. Continued Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 3535, CDBG-CV3 Subrecipient Agreement, with Helpline Youth Counseling, Inc. for continued Homeless Prevention and Counseling Services and the Rental and Utility Payment Assistance Program in the amount of \$120,354, retroactively effective February 1, 2021;
- g. Approved Agreement (Contract No. 2021-31-CC) with Northgate Gonzalez, LLC (Northgate Markets) for the Food Insecurity Assistance Program in which City staff will purchase food and hygene supplies to be delivered to qualifying residents, in the amount of \$200,354 in CDBG-CV3 funds, and \$174,646 in unspent Fiscal Year 2020/21 from the Food Insecurity Assistance CDBG funds, for a total amount of \$375,000, effective March 23, 2021;
- h. Approved the waiver of any ethical conflict of interest in favor of AlvaradoSmith with respect to Northgate Markets given that AlvaradoSmith does not represent Northgate Markets in any matter within the juristidiction of the City, although it does represent the company in other matters outside the City; this will permit the City Attorney to execute the Agreement "as to form"; and
- i. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreements in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

ELECTION ADMIN

The City Council unanimously continued items A and B to the City Council Meeting of April 27th by motion of Mayor Davila 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. Received and filed a summary report pertaining to Senate Bill 970; and

19 ELECTION ADMIN CONT'D

- B. Provided staff with direction on how to move forward with planning for the 2022 City of South Gate Municipal Election with one of the two (2) options:
 - 1. The **First Option** is to move forward with implementing SB 970, thereby having automatically staggered primary election dates that will align our General Municipal Elections with the State Primaries of March 2020, June 2022, March 2024, June 2026, March 2028, June 2030 respectively; **OR**
 - 2. The **Second Option** is to move our current election cycle from the State Primary to the State General Election date of November of even number years.

21 WARRANTS

The City Council unanimously continued item A to the City Council Meeting of April 13th and item B was approved 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.

- Approving Check No. 91757 Family Violence Prevention Program and Wire No. 1512021/1592021 - Cal-Card from March 9, 2021
- b. Approving the Warrant Register for March 23, 2021

Total of Checks: \$3,195,473.75

Voids: \$ (525.16)

Total of Payroll Deductions

Grand Total: \$2,837,851.46

Cancellations: 91715

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Davila adjourned the meeting in memory of Andrea Calles Orellana, Teresa Cortez de Gutierrez, Richard Arredondo Ortiz, Albert Medrano Rojas, Delia Ronquillo and the ten victims from Boulder, Colorado at 10:38 p.m. and seconded by Council Member Avalos.

PASSED and APPROVED this 27th day of April 2021.

ATTEST:

Al Rios, Mayor

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk