

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER Al Rios, Mayor called a Regular City Council meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

INVOCATION Pastor Martha Moscoso, Faith and Hope Lutheran Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Darren Arakawa, Acting Police Chief

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

PRESENT Mayor Al Rios, Vice Mayor Maria del Pilar Avalos, Council Member Maria Davila, Council Member Denise Diaz and Council Member Gil Hurtado; Interim City Manager Chris Jeffers, City Attorney/Special Legal Counsel Raul F. Salinas

LATE City Treasurer Gregory Martinez arrived at the dais at 7:17 p.m.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT The City Council conducted a Public Hearing and accepted and authorized the Fiscal Year 2021/22 annual budget of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Funds in the amount of \$48,344 for the purchase of equipment for sworn personnel by motion of Council member Davila and second by Council Member Hurtado.

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

Darren Arakawa, Interim Police Chief provided the staff report for this item.

Mayor Rios opened the Public Hearing. Seeing no one come forward the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

DEVIATE FROM THE AGENDA At this time, there being no objections, Mayor Rios stated that item 10 would be considered out of its regular agenda order.

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PARKS The City Council discussed and provided direction regarding practice and playing space for the South Gate Aztecs Youth Football Program.

Staff will move forward and draft a letter to LAUSD requesting youth permits on site for the short term. Staff will work with the City Manager's Office and the City Council to achieve a long-term solution.

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COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Andrea Paulino, Hollydale resident, asked if there is a way to make the City Clerk's position appointed instead of elected.

Virginia Johnson, spoke about her concerns regarding City Clerk Avalos. She would also like to see the position be appointed and not elected.

Myra, Hollydale resident, spoke about her concerns regarding City Clerk Avalos working for another City. She would like to know why in the upcoming budget she is requesting additional part time staff.

Guadalupe Canderos, representative from Supervisor Hilda Solis's Office updated the community of the events that are being hosted by the Supervisor.

Art Alvarez, Aldrich Road, reported that there is an increase of homeless at the Riverton Steel property.

Cindy Esquivel thanked the Police Department and Mr. Costley for the extra patrols at the Skate Park in South Gate Park.

Robert Montalvo thanked the Council Members for coming to in person meetings. He mentioned that some of the South Gate vaccination clinics need better refrigeration equipment for the vaccine. He would like to see if the Senior Center is available for an upcoming event. Lastly, he will be emailing an invitation to Council for the American Legion Recognition Dinner on September 11th.

Adolfo Varas, spoke about his concern about City Clerk Avalos.

Ana, South Gate Chamber spoke on the annual Children's Christmas Lane Parade and hoping that the event will be able to be held this year. She also reminded the community that the small business grants are still available.

Josh Barron announced that Movies in the Park will start this Friday at the Golf Course. He thanked the Police Department and the Parks Rangers for their extra patrol at the Skate Park. Mr. Barron also sits on the Tweedy Mile Advisory Board, and they have approved several events the Tweedy Mile Association will host.

Resident asked if it is possible to have a Los Angeles Unified School District Office patrol the Skate Park.

RECESS

The City Council recessed at 8:36 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m. with all Members of Council present.

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COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE CONT'D

City Clerk Avalos read the following three emails.

Clifford Heart is concerned with the increases in the rent and what property owners are allowed to do with the current Covid situation.

Francisco Amezcua is concerned with safety in his neighborhood.

Liz Ruiz is concerned with the position of the City Clerk being elected and not appointed.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY STAFF

Steve Costley, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation provided an overview on the upcoming events at the parks. The pool is currently having problems with the pump operation and there could be a few days of cold water ahead.

Darren Arakawa, Interim Chief of Police reported that more people attended National Night Out than were expected and it was a very successful event. The Police Officer Association is having a backpack giveaway this weekend.

Greg Martinez, City Treasurer spoke on the lack of coupons in the mail because the post office lost the contract for delivery in South Gate.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk updated the public on the upcoming Recall Election. Due to Covid every voter in Los Angeles County will receive a mail in ballot so everyone has an opportunity to vote.

Chris Jeffers, Interim City Manager reported on the ongoing updates to the precautions being enforced by the County regarding the Delta variant. He urges the community to get vaccinated to avoid the possibility of another shut down. The West Santa Ana Branch Light Rail EIR is now available on the City's website and there is a 60-day comment period. Lastly, the Art Walk is happening August 15th and is a great opportunity for local artists to display their work and encouraged everyone to shop locally.

Council Member Hurtado attended National Night Out. He has received reports about a juggler on Firestone and Garfield and its apparent danger. He also reported on the Post Office and the falsification of records so that it shows that the mail is being delivered. He thanked staff for their work on the budget. He mentioned the issues on the City Clerk's position and since there are concerns by the residents, he would like the item placed on the agenda.

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REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY STAFF CONT'D

Council Member Davila updated everyone on the West Santa Ana Branch EIR and the upcoming meeting schedule. Back to School Day is August 17th and she would like to know how many LAUSD officers will be patrolling South Gate. Council Member Davila congratulated the Police Department on a successful National Night out and suggested bringing the event back to the station so more people can participate.

Council Member Diaz is concerned with Los Angeles County issuing a ban on homeless encampments on all government facilities and properties. She is requesting a SELA collaborative with the police departments to discuss how the cities are responding to this.

Vice Mayor Avalos stated that she received an email from a resident about a trip and fall hazard and the email was forwarded to Mr. Cervantes.

Mayor Rios attended the Bell Health facility opening that will be serving the southeast area. The SELA Collaborative was recognized as the nonprofit organization of the year. East Los Angeles Collage is having an open house and he invited the community. He also attended the National Night Out and wants to continue to support these programs that help make our community feel safe.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Items 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 were unanimously approved by motion of Vice Mayor Avalos and seconded by Council Member Davila. Item 5 was pulled from the Consent Calendar and was not discussed.

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

2 EMERGENCY

The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-34-CC entitled - A 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 was unanimously approved during Consent Calendar.

3 APPOINTMENTS

The City Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 2021-35-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California designating Vice Mayor Maria del Pilar Avalos as the voting delegate and Council Member Denise Diaz as the City's alternate voting delegate during the 2021 League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo on September 22- 24, 2021 during Consent Calendar.

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PERSONNEL

The City Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 2021-36-CC entitled - A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate, California correcting, approving, and adopting compensation tables and benefits for Executive Management Contract Employees hired after July 1, 2021, during Consent Calendar.

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PERSONNEL

The City Council will consider.

- a. Approving Amendment No. 2 to the Employment Agreement (Contract No. 2787) between the City and Randall Davis, Police Chief, consistent with direction previously given by the City Council to city negotiators for a structured deferred payment of accrued and vested leave after employee's separation from the City of South Gate.
- b. Authorizing the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

Item 5 was pulled from the Consent Calendar and was not discussed.

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DATA PROCESSING

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

- a. Amendment No. 4 to Contract No. 3035 with CivicPlus, formerly Icon Enterprises, INC, a Kansas Limited Liability Company, extending website maintenance support services through February 28, 2022, in an amount not-to-exceed \$5,146; and
- b. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 4 to Contract No. 3035 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

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WASTEWATER

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

- a. Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-09-CC with W. A. Rasic Construction Company, Inc. to fully fund emergency repairs that were performed on the municipal water and sanitary sewer systems, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$189,000;
- b. Appropriated \$141,000 to Account No. 412-732-61-6101 (Professional Services Account) from the unassigned Water Fund and \$48,000 to Account No. 412-732-52-6101 (Professional Service Account) from the unassigned Sewer Fund to fund Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-09-CC; and

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WASTEWATER CONT'D

- c. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2020-09-CC in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

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WATER

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

- a. Amendment No. 5 to Contract No. 3340 with SAFNA Engineering & Consulting, a Division of SAFNA, to continue engineering services for support on water capital projects and water operations, on a month-to-month basis, through August 10, 2022, in an amount not to exceed \$248,000;
- b. Appropriated \$248,000 in Water Funds from the unassigned water fund reserves to Account No. 411-731-52-6101 (Professional Service Account) to fund Amendment No. 5; and
- c. Authorized the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 5 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

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MINUTES

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

- a. Approved the Special Meeting minutes of June 23, 2021;
- b. Approved the Special Meeting minutes of June 29, 2021;
- c. Approved the Special Meeting and Regular Meeting minutes of July 13, 2021; and
- d. Approved the Special Meeting minutes of July 27, 2021

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DATE PROCESSING

The City Council unanimously approved A, B and C by motion of Council Member Davila and seconded by Council Member Diaz.

- a. Appropriated \$75,250 from the unrestricted fund balance in the American Rescue Plan Account Number 268-310-12-9006; and
- b. Approved an agreement (Contract No. 2021-106-CC) with Open Cities, Inc., to develop and host the City's new website for a five-year term; and
- c. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Agreement in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

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WASTEWATER

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

The City Council unanimously received and filed a presentation from John Hunter & Associates on the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board on July 23, 2021 by motion of Council Member Hurtado and seconded by Council Member Davila

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

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WARRANTS

The City Council unanimously approved the Warrants with the exception of Warrants #93430, 93437, 93439, 93451, 93486, 93504 by motion of Vice Mayor Avalos and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

- a. Approved Check No. 92718 from June 8, 2021; and
- b. Approved the Warrant Register for August 10, 2021

Total of Checks:	\$6,840,486.71
Voids:	\$ (65,233.62)
Total of Payroll Deductions:	\$ (336,801.99)
Grand Total:	\$6,438,451.10

Cancellations: 93058, 93485

ADJOURNMENT

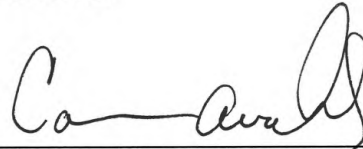
Mayor Rios unanimously adjourned the meeting at 10:09 p.m. and seconded by Council Member Hurtado.

PASSED and **APPROVED** this 14th day September of 2021.

ATTEST:



Al Rios, Mayor



Carmen Avalos, City Clerk