

**MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Gardena City Council
Tuesday, April 9, 2019**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 1700 West 162nd Street, Gardena, California; Mayor Tasha Cerda presiding.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Art Kaskanian; and Council Member Dan Medina. Other City officials and employees present: City Manager Edward Medrano; City Attorney Peter L. Wallin; City Clerk Mina Semenza; and Deputy City Clerk Becky Romero. City Treasurer Ingrid Tsukiyama was not in attendance. Mayor Tasha Cerda arrived a few minutes later while Council was in Closed Session.

At 7:00 p.m., the City Council recessed into Closed Session in the Management Information Center of the Council Chambers at City Hall, with the following in attendance: Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Art Kaskanian; Council Member Dan Medina; City Manager Edward Medrano; City Attorney Peter L. Wallin; and General Services Director Joseph Cruz. Mayor Tasha Cerda arrived a few minutes late in Closed Session.

2. CLOSED SESSION

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
EXISTING LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

- (1) California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region
Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R4-2019-0005
In the Matter of the City of Gardena

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)

- (1) One matter

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUTION

Government Code Section 54957.6

Title: City Manager

Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 7:53 p.m., and the City Clerk noted the return of all Council Members who were present at the meeting.

When City Attorney Wallin was asked if there were any reportable actions from Closed Session, he stated that no reportable action was taken.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Seeker Mitchell and Aniyah Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Both are students at Purche Avenue Elementary School; Aniyah Wilson participates in the STEAM Magnet program. They thanked the Council for inviting them to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced their family members who had brought them to the meeting.

B. INVOCATION

Miss Joyce S. Watanabe, of Bahá'í Faith, gave the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

- (1) Gardena Military Veteran Recognition to Honor Veteran
– *Due to unforeseen circumstances, no Veteran was recognized*
- (2) Presentation of Transit App.
– *Presented by Transportation Director Ernie Crespo*
- (3) City of Gardena Economic Development Video
– *Presented by City Manager Edward Medrano and Economic Development Manager Spencer De La Cruz*
- (4) Sustainability Plan
– *Presented by City Manager Edward Medrano*

B. PROCLAMATIONS

- (1) "GARDENA LIBRARY WEEK," April 7-13, 2019
– *was accepted by Community Library Manager Wendy Lee of the Gardena Mayme Dear Memorial Library; and Gardena Valley Friends of the Library Representatives: President Eleanor Bersano, Vice President Elaine Bersano, and Member Joyce Watanabe*
- (2) "CHALLENGE THE NORM AND INFLUENCE OF MARIJUANA USE ON YOUTH DAY," April 20, 2019 – *was accepted by Representatives of Gardena Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention (G-DAAP) Adult Coalition and the Gardena High School Task Force (HSTF) Youth Coalition*

C. APPOINTMENTS

- (1) Reorganization of City Council – Selection of Mayor Pro Tem
Council Member Kaskanian was selected to be new Mayor Pro Tem from April 2019 to April 2020. The new Mayor Pro Tem seating will be in place at the next City Council Meeting.
- (2) Reorganization of Council Assignments of Delegates and Alternates to Outside/City Committees
The Mayor and Council Member Assignments remained the same as those already assigned and approved on April 10, 2018.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS (Continued)

C. APPOINTMENTS (Continued)

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Appoint Council Member Kaskanian to serve as Mayor Pro Tem from April 2019 to April 2020 and to keep the Council Assignments the same as Approved on April 10, 2018:

Ayes: Council Member Henderson, Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, Council Members Medina, Kaskanian, and Mayor Cerda

Noes: None

Absent: None

(3) Council Appoints to Commissions, Committee, Boards, and Council (Commission Appointees to be Ratified and sworn in; Committee, Boards, and Council Appointees

- (a) Human Services Commission**
- (b) Planning and Environmental Quality Commission**
- (c) Recreation and Parks Commission**
- (d) Senior Citizens Commission**
- (e) Gardena Youth Commission**
- (f) Gardena Beautification Committee**
- (g) Gardena Economic Business Advisory Council**
- (h) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, Owner Representative**
- (i) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, Tenant Representative**
- (j) Gardena Rent Mediation Board, At-Large Representative**

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. WAIVER OF READING IN FULL OF ALL ORDINANCES LISTED ON THIS AGENDA AND THAT THEY BE READ BY TITLE ONLY

B. CITY CLERK

(1) Approved: Minutes of

(a) City Council Regular Meeting, March 26, 2019

(2) Approved: Affidavit of Posting Agenda on April 5, 2019

C. CITY TREASURER

(1) Approved: Warrants / Payroll Registers

(a) April 9, 2019: Wire Transfer: 11766-11768, Check Nos. 153464-153678; for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$1,287,010.58: Total Payroll Issued for March 29, 2019, \$1,738,477.21

D. CITY MANAGER

(1) Approved: Personnel Report No. P-2019-07

(2) Approved: Single Audit Report Required for Federally Funded Programs for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2018

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)

D. CITY MANAGER (Continued)

- (3) **Approved:** RESOLUTION NO. 6373, Amending the List of Authorized Games and Authorizing the Play of Certain Games in Licensed Card Clubs

RESOLUTION NO. 6373

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE LIST OF AUTHORIZED GAMES AND AUTHORIZING THE PLAY OF CERTAIN GAMES IN LICENSED CARD CLUBS

It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve all the Items on the Consent Calendar:

Ayes: Council Members Medina and Henderson, Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, Council Member Kaskanian and Mayor Cerda

Noes: None

Absent: None

6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

7. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET

A. APRIL 2, 2019, MEETING – *Meeting Cancelled*

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Ms. Kimberly Hatten, representative from the Junipero Serra High School: Gave miscellaneous news and updates.
- (2) Mr. Benjamin Butler, resident: spoke about the need of a 4-way stop sign on 147th Street between Crenshaw Boulevard and Van Ness Avenue.
- (3) Mr. Sean Kim, Program Director from International Youth Fellowship: Invited the Mayor and Council Members to their 3rd Annual International Youth Fellowship World Leaders Meeting.
- (4) Ms. Cheral Sherman, Vice President, Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve: Invited everyone to upcoming activities taking place at the Preserve: She provided a website address www.gardenawillows.org for anyone interested in becoming a financial supporter of the Preserve.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – *No Items*

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- (1) ORDINANCE NO. 1803, Approving Zone Change #2-18 Changing the Zoning of a 3.9 Gross Acre Site at 14031 South Vermont Avenue, 1101 West 141st Street, and 1017 West 141st Street to Medium-Density Multiple-Family Residential (R-3) (*Introduced by Council Member Henderson, March 12, 2019*)

ORDINANCE NO. 1803

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING ZONE CHANGE #2-18 CHANGING THE ZONING OF A 3.9 GROSS ACRE SITE AT 14031 SOUTH VERMONT AVENUE, 1101 WEST 141ST STREET, AND 1017 WEST 141ST STREET TO MEDIUM-DENSITY MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (R-3)

(ZC #2-18; APNS: 6115-017-036 AND 6115-018-004)

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion which included Council Member Henderson, Mayor Cerda, City Manager Medrano, and Assistant City Attorney Kranitz regarding changing the zoning will not get us closer to the Regional Housing number that we are expected to meet; and the clarification of these townhome-style condominiums with no one living above and no one living below. It was stated by Assistant City Attorney Kranitz that they are still legally a condo; a condo doesn't necessarily mean a "stacked" unit.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Ordinance No. 1803:

Ayes: Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, Council Members Henderson, Medina and Kaskanian and Mayor Cerda

Noes: None

Absent: None

- (2) PUBLIC HEARING: Approval of Agreement to Assist Remediation of Contaminated Property and to Provide for the Development of Housing

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 9:26 p.m. and asked if there were any comments. There were no comments from the public.

Council Member Henderson commented that, because he lives near this blighted area, he is all for us investing in this project; it was also noted that he lives farther away than 300 feet from the development of this project, therefore he will be allowed to vote on the item.

Mayor Cerda closed the Public Hearing at 9:28 p.m.

It was moved by Council Member Henderson and seconded by Council Member Medina and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Agreement:

Ayes: Council Members Henderson, Medina and Kaskanian, Mayor Cerda and Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka

Noes: None

Absent: None

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (Continued)

- (3) RESOLUTION NO. 6374: Establishing Regulatory Fees for Wholesales or Distributors of Fireworks in Accordance with Section 8.16.115 of the Gardena Municipal Code for Calendar Year 2019

RESOLUTION NO. 6374

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING REGULATORY FEES FOR WHOLESALERS OR DISTRIBUTORS OF FIREWORKS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8.16.115 OF THE GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2019

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion which included Council Member Henderson, Mayor Cerda and City Manager Medrano regarding moving forward with establishing the regulatory fees for distributors of fireworks because we were ordered by the court to do so. There was also a discussion about the fee not changing, the number of organizations for sell fireworks remains at 8, and if there were going to be a lottery system; City Manager Medrano stated it all depends who applies. He also mentioned that if an organization is interested in getting a permit, they should contact our Community Development Department.

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6374:

Ayes: Council Members Henderson, Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, Council Members Medina and Kaskanian, and Mayor Cerda

Noes: None

Absent: None

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES – No Items

D. GENERAL SERVICES – No Items

E. POLICE – No Items

F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES – No Items

G. TRANSPORTATION – No Items

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES, & REMARKS

A. COUNCIL ITEMS – No Items

B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

- (1) Council Member Medina – requested that a Video Department be created in our City to record city events. This did not become a directive, as a second to the request was not given.

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES, & REMARKS (Continued)**C. CITY MANAGER REMARKS RE: DIRECTIVES / COUNCIL ITEMS**

City Manager Medrano gave a verbal report of information to follow-up matters that had been directed or requested by the Mayor and Members of Council. Written reports had already been provided to the Council via copies in their regular mail packets. Those items are, as follows:

- (1) The Cinco de Mayo Memorandum of Understanding has been signed;
- (2) Hustler Casino has partnered with us and they are having an Easter donation drive to support our Food Pantry;
- (3) Nakaoka Community Center Auto Visual system improvement update;
- (4) City of Gardena's, first Leadership Academy for Employees; and
- (5) Recreation Department's interactive meetings with the community for programing and park improvements.

D. COUNCIL REMARKS

- (1) MAYOR PRO TEM TANAKA – He apologized to the Foundation about missing the scholarship presentation. He announced that his mother passed away that day, on the 4th of April, at the age of 93. He thanked the Gardena Explorer Post, the Gardena Police Officer Association, Chief Kang and his command staff for the very nice flowers. He also thanked Lisa Kranitz for the nice card and thanked the staff for their kind thoughts. He shared that his mother's funeral will be held on Thursday, May 2, 2019, 10:00 a.m., at Gardena Valley Baptist Church.
- (2) COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON – He gave his condolences to his colleague, Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka. Since the last Council Meeting, he attended Peary Middle School Career Day and Read a Book Day with Officer Kim Sterling. He said Officer Sterling looked great in plain clothes and he didn't recognize Officer Sterling at first. He said it was a great opportunity to sit with our own young community leaders. On that same day, he was asked to participate in Career Day at Verbum Dei High School and said he's waiting for an invitation from Serra High School. He attended the South Bay Association of Realtor events that was led by Madame City Clerk Mina Semenza. He said he also met with some of his other colleagues at the South Bay Cities Council of Governments Broadband Initiative meeting. He reported that they were working together with our South Bay cities to bring broadband to our communities. He said that bringing broadband to Gardena will bring opportunity with regards to connectivity in our parks and our community. He asked Madame Mayor if the meeting could be adjourned in memory of Ermiyas Joseph Asghedom, also known as Nipsey Hussle. He shared that Nipsey Hussle was a positive example to the youth who have stayed on one path and that he progressed his life and ended up on another better path to work as a part of the solution rather than a problem.
- (3) COUNCIL MEMBER MEDINA – since the last Council meeting, he was able to deliver birthday cakes to seven Convalescent Homes in Gardena and reported that they were very appreciated. He attended the West Basin Water Association meeting where it was reported that, in the past ten years, we had seven dry years and the past year we had 15 inches of rain and this year we had 19 inches of rain. He said that Diamond Lake Storage is at 180%. Water associations are working on saving more water and distributing to more cities. He reported that he will be attending a Metropolitan Bus Service Council meeting on Friday, April 12, and Director Ernie Crespo will be attending, as well. Then Mayor Cerda added that it would be proper to give recognition to Waste Resources for their donation of the cakes he delivers to the Convalescent Homes.

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES, & REMARKS (Continued)

- (4) MAYOR CERDA – she reported that the day after the last Council Meeting, she went to Sacramento to represent the California Cities for Self-Reliance JPA to lobby with Assembly Members and State Senators and to seek their help with some issues that are going on with our casinos that we will be hearing about in the coming months. On the next day, she attended the South Bay Association of Realtor's Annual Elected Officials Day and thanked City Clerk Semenza who is also President of South Bay Association of Realtor, for a nice, elegant event. She also attended the Jazz Festival Committee Meeting and reported that it is going along well and announced that the tickets will be going on sale May 6. She said she attended the New Frontier Democratic Clubs 59th Installation Award Luncheon, where Council Member Henderson was also present. On the past Thursday, along with Council Member Kaskanian, she attended the Gardena Police Foundation Annual College Scholarship Luncheon and thanked the foundation for doing such a great job and helping our youth. Later that evening, she attended the Tri-Cities CERT Meeting where Chief Kang was the speaker. She shared that Chief Kang gave great information relating to things that CERT members can do to be prepared for earthquakes or other types of natural disasters. She attended a memorial repast, along with Council Member Medina, for long-time resident and Elks Lodge member Martin Almaraz. She said the place was packed and it was a nice repast. Lastly, she shared her condolences to Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, and told him if he needed help with anything during this time, to please feel free to call her or any of the members of the Council.
- (5) COUNCIL MEMBER KASKANIAN – sent his condolences to Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka and his family. He said he also attended South Bay Association of Realtors Elected Officials gathering and thanked City Clerk Mina Semenza for the great food and drinks. He said it was a great event with a lot of elected officials from the South Bay and they discussed how and what we could do to improve South Bay. He attended the Gardena Police Foundation Scholarship Luncheon and thanked the Police Foundation for the generous scholarship money they gave to the students and to a couple of the explorers. He congratulated the recipients. On Friday, April 5, he had an opportunity to meet with Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi and spoke about City of Gardena and how well we were doing. He said that the Al Murastuchi congratulated him and offered his full support if we needed anything. He attended the viewing and rosary service for Martin Castaneda Almaraz last Thursday. This past Sunday, he attended a dinner with Armenia's First Lady in Los Angeles. He said she asked how it was as the elected official who is an Armenian in the City of Gardena and how he got elected in a non-Armenian community.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cerda announced:

- (1) Hustler Casino Easter Donation Food Drive, April 8-18, 2019. The drop off point is on Vermont Avenue.
- (2) Gardena High School Anti Marijuana 420, April 8-12, 2019.
- (3) Jazz Festival tickets will be going on sale on Monday, May 6, 2019.

11. REMEMBRANCES

Mrs. Olive Sueko Tanaka, 93 years old, life-long resident of Gardena, and beloved mother of City of Gardena Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Mr. Cesario Munoz Orellana, mid-90s years old, beloved grandfather of City of Gardena Custodian Henry Munoz with the Building and Facility Maintenance Division of the General Services Department; and Ermias Joseph Asghedom also known as "Nipsey Hussle, 33 years old."

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:53 p.m., Mayor Cerda adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to the next Regular City Council Meeting, at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, April 23, 2019.

MINA SEMENZA

City Clerk of the City of Gardena and
Ex-officio Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:



Tasha Cerda, Mayor

By:



Becky Romero, Deputy City Clerk

Chrysomelidae

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