

**MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Gardena City Council
Tuesday, April 23, 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 23, 2019, in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 1700 West 162nd Street, Gardena, California; Mayor Tasha Cerda presiding.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Tem Art Kaskanian; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Dan Medina; and Council Member Rodney G. Tanaka. 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.

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 Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Art Kaskanian; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Dan Medina; Council Member Rodney G. Tanaka; City Manager Edward Medrano; and City Attorney Peter L. Wallin.

2. CLOSED SESSION

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
Government Code Section 54957.6**

- (1) Agency Designated Representative:
Edward Medrano, City Manager
- Employee Organizations:
Unrepresented
- Gardena Police Officers Association (GPOA)
Mike Sargent, Association President
- Gardena Management Employees Organization (GMEO)
Vicky L. Barker, Attorney
- Gardena Municipal Employees Association (GMEA)
Fred G. Quiel, Attorney

Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 7:44 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

Miley Chacon and John Roa led the Pledge of Allegiance. Both are students at 186th Street Elementary School; Then they both took turns reading a prepared statement and thanked the Council for inviting them to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced their school Principal Mr. Aguilar and their family members who had brought them to the meeting.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION (Continued)

B. INVOCATION

Reverend Richard Kim, English Ministry Pastor, of Bible Baptist Church – South Bay gave the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

(1) Gardena Military Veteran Recognition to Honor Veteran Mr. Thierry R. Williams, who served in the U.S. Army. *Mayor Cerda read a brief Biography, and Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian presented Mr. Williams with a City of Gardena Veterans Commemorative Coin. Mr. Williams was given an opportunity to speak and appropriate photos were taken. He was then presented with a Certificate of Recognition from California Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi.*

(2) CENSUS 2020 Presentation Video

– *A PowerPoint presentation was presented by Ms. Mariecris Treece of the U.S. Census Bureau*

B. PROCLAMATIONS

(1) “NATIONAL GET ON BOARD DAY,” April 25, 2019

– *was accepted by Ms. Dana E. Pynn, Transit Administrative Officer with City of Gardena GTrans*

(2) “CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION DAY,” May 4, 2019

– *was accepted by Ms. Susana Medina, Chair of the Cinco de Mayo Scholarship and Festival Committee of Gardena*

(3) “MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK,” May 5-11, 2019

– *was accepted by City of Gardena City Clerk Mina Semenza*

C. APPOINTMENTS

(1) 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

(1) Charlotte L. Lynch (Mayor Tasha Cerda)

(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

It was moved by Mayor Cerda, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the Appointment:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

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, April 9, 2019

(b) Planning & Environmental Quality Commission, March 5, 2019

(2) **Approved**: Affidavit of Posting Agenda on April 19, 2019

C. CITY TREASURER

(1) **Approved**: Warrants / Payroll Registers

(a) April 23, 2019: Wire Transfer: 11769-11770. Prepay: 153679-153686; Check Nos. 153687-153918; for a total Warrants issued amount of \$2,352,462.96; Total Payroll Issued for April 12, 2019, \$1,649,416.71

D. CITY MANAGER

(1) **Approved**: Personnel Report No. P-2019-08

(2) **Approved**: RESOLUTION NO. 6378, Amending the List of Authorized Games and Authorizing the Play of Certain Games in Licensed Card Clubs

RESOLUTION NO. 6378

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

(3) **Approved**: Special Event Permit – Annual Strawberry Park Fiesta to held May 17-19, 2019
Saint. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
1050 West 163rd Street, Gardena, Ca 90247

(4) **Approved**: Payment to Midwest Roofing in the amount of \$30,528 for Emergency Roof Repair

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)

D. CITY MANAGER (Continued)

- (5) **Approved:** RESOLUTION NO. 6371, Approving the Engineer's Report for the Gardena Consolidated Street Lighting Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, Declaring its Intention to Levy and Collect Assessments Under the Gardena Consolidated Street Lighting District for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, and Setting a Time and Place for Hearing Protests in Relation Thereto (Public Hearing: May 28, 2019)

RESOLUTION NO. 6371

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR THE GARDENA CONSOLIDATED STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS UNDER THE GARDENA CONSOLIDATED STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR HEARING PROTESTS IN RELATION THERETO (PUBLIC HEARING: May 28, 2019)

- (6) **Approved:** RESOLUTION NO. 6372, Approving the Engineer's Report for the Gardena Artesia Boulevard Landscaping Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, Declaring its Intention to Levy and Collect Assessments Under the Gardena Artesia Boulevard Landscaping Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, and Setting a Time and Place for Hearing Protests in Relation Thereto (Public Hearing: May 28, 2019)

RESOLUTION NO. 6372

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR THE GARDENA ARTESIA BOULEVARD LANDSCAPING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS UNDER THE GARDENA ARTESIA BOULEVARD LANDSCAPING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020, AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR HEARING PROTESTS IN RELATION THERETO (PUBLIC HEARING: May 28, 2019)

- (7) **Approved:** RESOLUTION NO. 6375, Adopting a List of Projects for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 funded by SB1: The Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017

RESOLUTION NO. 6375

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING A LIST OF PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 FUNDED BY SB1: THE ROAD REPAIR AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2017

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

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

7. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET

A. APRIL 16, 2019, MEETING

(1) Parcel Map #1-18

A request for the subdivision of a 17,221 square foot residential parcel in the Low-Density Multiple-Family Residential Zone (R-2) into two separate parcels consistent with Title 17 and Title 18 of the Gardena Municipal Code and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption as a minor land division.

Project Location: 15906-15908 South Manhattan Place (APN # 4066-011-016)

Applicant: John & Nancy Hurt

Commission Action: Commission approved PC Resolution No. 6-19, approving Parcel Map #1-18

This item was Received and Filed

(2) Zone Code Amendment #1-19

A request that the Planning and Environmental Quality Commission recommend that the City Council make amendments to residential provisions of the Zoning Code. Staff has determined that these changes would not have the possibility of having any significant impact and therefore the ordinance qualifies for a Notice of Exemption.

Project Location: Citywide

Commission Action: Commission approved Resolution No. PC 7-19, recommending that the City Council approve Ordinance XXXX making changes to Title 18, Zoning, of the Gardena Municipal Code relating primarily to residential development.

A Public Hearing was set for the May 14, 2019, City Council Meeting

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Mr. Basil Hewitt, representative of Engineering employees of the Los Angeles County Sanitation District: came out to report to Council that today a union contract was put together and they unanimously reached an agreement.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – *No Items*

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT *No Items*

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

- (1) Franchise Agreement for City-Related Towing Services for July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2024 to RSD TOW INC., DBA U.S. TOW INC., - HAWTHORNE

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES (Continued)

- (1) Franchise Agreement for City-Related Towing Services for July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2024 to RSD TOW INC., DBA U.S. TOW INC., - HAWTHORNE (Continued)

There was one speaker, Khaled Jabi, of Hisham's Towing who spoke about the long-standing relationship his Company has had with the City of Gardena. He believes his Company exceeds the City's expectations and has been doing a good job for the past 32 years. He said 15 of his employees would be affected if Council approves the proposed agreement. He stated that he does not agree with the staff's recommendation to hire U.S. Tow; he doesn't feel that they have the proper equipment to service the City.

There was a long discussion between Mayor Cerda and Council Members, City Manager Medrano and City Attorney Wallin regarding U.S. Tow's ability to service our community, if the new company will offer 1 day free charge, concerns about our residents having to go outside of Gardena for this service, the outstanding amounts due from Hisham's and the number of times they have been delinquent, including the number of times notifications that had to be sent by either phone calls and/or email, when the new company will be fully operational in our City, a time when the City was in financial troubles, and Hisham's waived a \$120,000 invoice for providing trash services when there was problems with our regular trash carrier, and how we don't have this problem with any other vendor in our City.

Mayor Cerda first made a motion to award U.S. Tow the Franchise Agreement; none of the Council seconded the motion; then:

It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Award the Contract to Hisham's Towing on the condition that they pay their outstanding fees within 10 days or the Agreement would be forfeited:

Ayes: Council Member Medina, and Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian
Noes: Council Members Henderson, and Tanaka, and Mayor Cerda
Absent: None

Because of the 2 to 3 vote, another motion was put on the floor that stated:

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Agreement with U.S. Tow:

Ayes: Council Members Henderson and Tanaka, and Mayor Cerda
Noes: Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, and Council Member Medina
Absent: None

- (2) RESOLUTION NO. 6376: Setting the Amounts and Signatures Required on Warrants Issued by the City of Gardena and Repealing Resolution No. 4001

RESOLUTION NO. 6376

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, SETTING THE AMOUNTS AND SIGNATURES REQUIRED ON WARRANTS ISSUED BY THE CITY OF GARDENA AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 4001

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

- (2) RESOLUTION NO. 6376: Setting the Amounts and Signatures Required on Warrants Issued by the City of Gardena and Repealing Resolution No. 4001

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Resolution No. 6376:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

D. GENERAL SERVICES – *No Items*

E. POLICE – *No Items*

F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES

- (1) PUBLIC HEARING: Approval of Relocation Plan for Primm Pool Expansion

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 9:13 p.m. and asked if there were any comments.

Michelle Folk with Overland, Pacific & Cutler (OPC) explained that her Company offers “Advisory Services” to residents who have been relocated following state regulations.

Ms. Tracey D. Poellnitz, Resident: Spoke about having to relocate and expressed her dissatisfaction

There was some discussion that included Mayor Cerda, Council Member Henderson and City Manager Medrano regarding the displacement of these residents; because we are a government agency, the amount of time is longer than if a private owner were to have owned the property, which is 60 days; City Manager Medrano then spoke about meeting with these tenants to work with them regarding reaching out to a local network of realtors and possibly extending the 90-day notice for the City to proceed.

Mayor Cerda closed the Public Hearing at 9:19 p.m.

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Relocation Plan:

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

Noes: Council Member Medina

Absent: None

8, DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

G. TRANSPORTATION

- (1) **Approved:** RESOLUTION NO. 6377, Authorizing the Filing of a Grant Amendment Application for Federal Transportation Assistance

RESOLUTION NO. 6377

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATION AMENDMENT WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, AN OPERATING ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED BY 49 U.S.C. CHAPTER 53, TITLE 23 UNITED STATES CODE, AND OTHER FEDERAL STATUTES ADMINISTERED BY THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Resolution No. 6377:

Ayes: Council Members Medina and Henderson, Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian,
Council Member Henderson, and Mayor Cerda
Noes: None
Absent: None

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES, & REMARKS

A. COUNCIL ITEMS – No Items

B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

- (1) Council Member Henderson – requested a breakdown of the type of training Gardena Police Officers receive. Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian.
- (2) Council Member Tanaka – a status report on the roadway resurfacing on Dalton Avenue between Artesia and 169th where they recently resurfaced the road.

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) Earth Day Employee Challenge;
- (2) Report update regarding the property located at 12850 Crenshaw Blvd.;
- (3) Rowley Park Tennis Court resurfacing and local park updates;
- (4) 2019 Jazz Festival new and improved ticket sales and event parking;
- (5) Sister Cities Youth Visits, Summer 2019;
- (6) Medal of Valor Luncheon May 23, 2019;
- (7) Automation of the Monthly Report System and;
- (8) Community Survey updates.

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

- (1) MAYOR PRO TEM KASKANIAN – since the last Council Meeting, he attended the Easter Luncheon at the Nakaoka Community Center where they served lunch to over 100 senior citizens from all over the City. He said the Easter Bunny visited and gave gifts. He announced that the day after the Council meeting marks the 104th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. He asked Madam Mayor to adjourn the meeting in the memory of 1.5 million Armenians who were massacred by the Ottoman Empire in 1915, now modern Turkey. He shared that the Turkish government denied the Genocide. He announced that there will be a march to the Turkish Consulate and invited friends, family and colleagues to march with him at 1 p.m. at 6300 Wilshire Blvd.
- (2) COUNCIL MEMBER TANAKA – he said the only great thing he did was perform a wedding for our own Shige's Automotive, and thanked John and Kelly for letting him do so.
- (3) COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON – he attended the VFW 3261 barbeque honoring their district commander, Sir Art Connors. He attended the food truck event at Rowley Park and said it was an awesome event. He thanked Park and Recreation Staff and Nikki Sweeney. He shared that the event was very well attended, and a lot of the vendors sold out. He briefly stopped by the carnival until his sinuses started acting up. He said he attended a webinar on sustainability to get his skills and understanding a little deeper. He commended the City on the relocation services. He shared that before the 105 freeway was there, he had many family members living in that area. He said in many cases the landlords booted tenants out. He mentioned that our city is going above and beyond in regard to making sure we can make our tenants whole as possible and working with OPC is a good thing.
- (4) MAYOR CERDA – since the last Council Meeting, she attended Serra High School's 4th Annual Golf Tournament held at Chester Washington and had a great out there. She said her team came in 2nd place. Also, she attended Gardena VFW's annual cookout, which was for their district commander and president. She thanked them for the invite and said it was great enjoying the afternoon with them. She attended a retirement party for City of Carson, Councilmember Elito Santarina. She said it was really nice that the Council had a nice retirement party for him. She briefly attended Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and she thanked Pauline Moses for doing a great job. She said there were a lot of kids and eggs and the staff did a great job. She also thanked Stephany Santin for being out there. She attended a friendly softball game with the Gardena PD, Compton Fire Department, Compton School Police and Compton L.A. Sheriff Department in honor of Office Toshio Hirai. She happily reported that we won and brought home a huge trophy.
- (5) COUNCIL MEMBER MEDINA – since the last Council Meeting, he attended the Filipino Senior Citizens of Gardena installation and congratulated Ella Gamow for her presidency from 2018-2019. He said every member of the City Council has received a notice from the Vector Control of Greater Los Angeles regarding the start of mosquito season. He requested from everyone not to keep any standing water around, because that is where mosquito loves to breed. He shared that the wife of Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky died from an 80's mosquito bite, symptoms were flu-like. He advised everyone to please be careful and take a can of OFF and spray yourself when you are out at a park.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cerda announced:

- (1) 33rd Annual Cinco de Mayo Coronation, Sunday, April 28, 2019, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., at Nakaoka Community Center.
- (2) 33rd Annual Cinco de Mayo Parade and Festival, Saturday, May 4, 2019, Parade starts at 10:00 a.m., and ends at Mas Fukai Park where the Festivities are scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m.
- (3) Veteran Recognition flyer information is available on the City's website.

11. REMEMBRANCES

Ms. Vanessa Suarez, 21 years old, resident of Gardena; and the 1.5 Million Armenians who died at the hands of the Otoman Empire, during the Armenian Genocide.

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:45 p.m., Mayor Cerda adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to the next Regular City Council Meeting, at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, May 14, 2019.

MINA SEMENZA

City Clerk of the City of Gardena and

Ex-officio Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

Tasha Cerda

Tasha Cerda, Mayor

By:

Becky Romero

Becky Romero, Deputy City Clerk