

**MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Gardena City Council
Tuesday, May 14, 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, May 14, 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; and Deputy City Clerk Becky Romero. City Clerk Mina Semenza was away on excused absence; 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 Tem 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 LEGAL COUNSEL
EXISTING LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9(D)(1)

- (1) Herlene Thurman v. City of Gardena, et al
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC632157
- (2) Brenda Ruiz v. City of Gardena, et al
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC666965

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
REAL ESTATE NEGOTIATIONS
Government Code Section 54957.6**

- (1) Property at 2415 Marine Avenue

Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 7:52 p.m., and the Deputy 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

Marvin Evans and Kya Crump led the Pledge of Allegiance. Both are students at Junipero Serra High School. Marvin is the Spirit Commissioner and Kya is the Vice-President of the Associated Student Body. They both thanked the Council for inviting them to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION (Continued)

B. INVOCATION

Reverend Thomas Clark, Pastor of Spirit of Truth Ministry, gave the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

- (1) Gardena Military Veteran Recognition to Honor Veteran Mr. Daniel Cañas, who served in the U.S. Navy. *Council Member Medina spoke saying some kind words of Mr. Cañas as Mayor Cerda read a brief Biography, then Council Member Medina presented Mr. Cañas with a City of Gardena Veterans Commemorative Coin. Mr. Cañas was given an opportunity to speak, he introduced family members and friends in attendance, and appropriate photos were taken.*
- (2) Resolutions of Commendation to Members of the Gardena Police Department in Acknowledgement of Receiving Awards from the South Bay Police and Fire Memorial Foundation at the 45th Annual Medal of Valor Awards Ceremony on May 23, 2019
 - (a) *Police Officer Angel Hernandez – Life Saving Award*
 - (b) *Police Officer Jose Avalos – Lifesaving Award*– *Awards were accepted by Officers Hernandez and Avalos*
- (3) Certificate of Recognition to John J. Clarke in appreciation of His Service to the Community as an Owner Representative on the Gardena Rent Mediation Board
– *Mr. Clarke was not present to accept the Certificate of Recognition*

B. PROCLAMATIONS

- (1) “OLDER AMERICANS MONTH,” May 2019
– *was proclaimed by Mayor Cerda*
- (2) “NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK,” May 19 Through 25, 2019
– *was accepted by Joseph Cruz, General Services Director. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their ongoing support and invited everyone to their Annual Reception, to be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.*

C. APPOINTMENTS – *No appointments were made*

- (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
 - (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, April 23, 2019

(b) Planning & Environmental Quality Commission, April 16, 2019

(2) **Approved**: Affidavit of Posting Agenda on May 10, 2019

C. CITY TREASURER

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

(a) May 14, 2019: Wire Transfer: 11771-11775, Prepay: 153919-153924; Check Nos. 153925-154140; for a total Warrants issued amount of \$2,232,569.34; Total Payroll Issued for April 26, 2019, \$2,062,268.13; and May 10, 2019, \$1,590,746.24

D. CITY MANAGER

(1) **Approved**: Personnel Report No. P-2019-09

(2) **Approved**: RESOLUTION NO. 6382, Amending the List of Authorized Games and Authorizing the Play of Certain Games in Licensed Card Clubs

RESOLUTION NO. 6382

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**: RESOLUTION NO. 6383, Adding Civility and Decorum Policies to the Administrative Procedures Manual

RESOLUTION NO. 6383

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, ADDING CIVILITY AND DECORUM POLICIES TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES MANUAL

(4) **Approved**: RESOLUTION NO. 6379, Opposing Changes to Current State Card Club Regulations

RESOLUTION NO. 6379

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING CHANGES TO CURRENT STATE CARD CLUB REGULATIONS

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)

D. CITY MANAGER (Continued)

- (5) **Approved:** City Council Approval for Costs Associated with the INSB JPA Membership Assessment for Fiscal Year 2019-2020
- (6) **Approved:** Approval of Contract with Bartel Associates for the Other Post-Employments Benefits (OPEB) Actuarial Valuations
- (7) **Approved:** Acceptance of Projects and Notices of Completion
 - a. Pedestrian Safety Improvement 2018, JN 923
 - b. Sidewalk Replacement 2018, JN 922OCC Builders, Inc.
- (8) **Approved:** Amendment to Three-Year Contract with Mariposa Landscapes, Inc. Adding \$41,799 for a Total Contract Amount not to exceed \$41,799 (it was noted that there was a typo in the amount that that was agendized, bringing the grand total amount to \$275,000)

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

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

6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

7. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET

A. MAY 7, 2019, MEETING

(1) Parcel Map #1-19

A request for the subdivision of a 39,992 square foot parcel in the Industrial (M-1) zone 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: 1340 West 134th Street Place (APN # 6115-004-034)

Applicant: John Bertram

Commission Action: Commission approved PC Resolution No. PC 8-19, approving Parcel Map #1-19

This item was Received and Filed

(2) Zone Code Amendment #4-18

A request for a conditional use permit, per Section 18.32.030.B of the Gardena Municipal Code, to allow the on-site sale and consumption of beer and wine ancillary to a new restaurant establishment located in the General Commercial/Mixed-Use Overlay (C-3/MUO) zone and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption as an existing facilities project.

Project Location: 14320 South Western Avenue (APN: 6103-002-029)

Applicant: ChaNeal Irving

Commission Action: Commission approved PC Resolution No. PC9-19, approving Conditional Use Permit #14-18.

This Item was Received and Filed

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Ms. Cheral Sherman, Vice President, Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve: Invited the community to upcoming miscellaneous activities taking place at the Preserve including the Restoration Workday scheduled for May 18, 2019, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- (2) Malika Jones, Senior Engineer, Representative from the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, spoke about the upcoming Labor Contract and asked the Mayor and Council for their support to approve it.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- (1) Award Contract for Nakaoka Center Audiovisual Improvement Project to VectorUSA

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

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 VectorUSA:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- (1) PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 1804: Adoption of Zone Code Amendment #1-19
Applicant: City of Gardena

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 8:28 p.m. and asked if there were any comments.

There was discussion which included Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, Council Member Medina, Mayor Cerda and City Manager Medrano regarding roof height limits; were all homeowners were contacted; and if this would apply to an existing single-family home whose owner wants to raise their fence from 3 feet to 5 feet. City Manager Medrano replied that the standard roof height limit is 35 feet, which is three-stories high. The City is talking about projections only. Yes, people who applied for new building permits or are thinking about new housing development were contacted; and raising fences is specific to cluster developments. City Manager Medrano continued to say that there's a lot that needs to be changed in our zoning codes; as different uses of space occur, our code needs to stay fresh, so that we are in line with the current standards.

Mayor Cerda closed the Public Hearing at 8:30 p.m.

Ordinance No. 1804 was introduced by Council Member Tanaka

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES – *No Items*

D. GENERAL SERVICES – *No Items*

E. POLICE – *No Items*

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES

- (1) Authorization to Purchase Two New Vehicles from DCH Gardena Honda in the Amount of \$57,552.26

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Authorize the Purchase of Two New Vehicles:

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

G. TRANSPORTATION

- (1) Approval of Agreement with Fuel Solutions, Inc. for Design and Engineering Services for the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling and Maintenance Modification Project for \$66,964 and a Program Total Not to Exceed \$80,345

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the Agreement with Fuel Solutions, Inc.:

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

- (2) Approval of Agreement with NRM & Associates for Project Management Services for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fueling and Maintenance Modification Project for \$50,000 and a Program Total Not to Exceed \$60,000

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the Agreement with NRM & Associates:

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

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES, & REMARKS

A. COUNCIL ITEMS – No Items

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

B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

(1) Council Member Henderson asked:

- (a) For a follow-up report regarding the property located on El Segundo and Crenshaw Boulevards; and
- (b) If the City could investigate and/or conduct some research regarding Vacant Commercial Lot Fees.
This request was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian

(2) Mayor Cerda asked:

- (a) If the City could investigate whether people were living on the same vacant property, as mentioned earlier by Council Member Henderson; and
- (b) If we could investigate getting crossing guards at our schools.
This request was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian

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) Oath of Office Guidelines;
- (2) Report regarding the Crosswalk on Western Avenue and West 147th Street;
- (3) Futsol Court Proposal;
- (4) Video presentation regarding interactive City Manager's Monthly Report now on the City's website; and
- (5) Video presentation regarding Pension & Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), Sustainability Modification.

D. COUNCIL REMARKS

- (1) COUNCIL MEMBER MEDINA – since the last Council Meeting, he had a privilege and honor of speaking to students at Palos Verdes High School. He shared that six combat veterans including himself go to Palos Verdes High School every year so that the students have an opportunity to interview combat veterans from the Vietnam War. He thanked Ron Jackson who oversees the Veterans Affair. He attended the Southern California Association of Governments General Assembly held in Palm Desert and said his band "The Electeds" got to play. He said he had a great time with the Cinco de Mayo Parade and Festivities and thanked LAUSD Superintendent Mike Romero for bringing over 1000 Gardena students to the parade. He reported there were an overage of 3000 people. He thanked the City Council for showing up and celebrating with them. He attended the West Basin Water Association Quarterly Meeting. He reported the Colorado River's water was low and that we should continue to conserve water. He attended the Municipal Clerks 50th Anniversary Week event. He thanked Nikki Sweeney for coordinating and helping with the 3-day Cinco de Mayo project. He warned that the mosquitos are coming back and advised everyone to make sure to empty out pots and pans outside of homes that contain any stagnant water. He announced that Beautification Committee is getting ready for "Concerts on the Lawn;" June 29 will be the Public Works Band; July 27 will be a Hawaiian Reggae group; and August 10 the Esquires Band will perform. He attended the Metro Service Council Meeting with Transportation Director Ernie Crespo. He informed the residents that they will be able to find information about City buses and their schedules on www.GTrans.com.

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

- (2) MAYOR PRO TEM KASKANIAN – since the last Council Meeting, he attended the City's Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on April 25, 2019. He made a shout out to the volunteers and said he sincerely appreciated their time that they have provided to the City. He also thanked them for helping the City save \$179,000. On May 4, he attended the Cinco de Mayo events, and he thanked Nikki Sweeney. On May 7, he attended the Finance Committee meeting and reported that "we are in great shape." Also, on May 7, he attended a friendly meeting with City of Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson. On May 8, he attended the City Clerk Anniversary Celebration Reception and congratulated Mina Semenza, Gardena City Clerk, and her staff.
- (3) COUNCIL MEMBER TANAKA – he said that, as the City's alternate delegate, he attended the South Bay Cities Council of Governments April Meeting, as a substitute for delegate Council Member Medina. He apologized for missing the Volunteer Appreciation dinner due to having to attend that meeting. He thanked Deputy City Clerk Becky Romero and City Clerk Mina Semenza for the nice City Clerk celebration. He attended the South County Labor Dan Foley Outstanding Labor Leader Award on Saturday. He shared that Sergio Rascon was the recipient of that award. He shared there were more participants compared to last year for the Cinco de Mayo parade. For National Police Week, he reported that many of our officers are in Washington honoring our fallen officer, Toshio Hirai. He thanked everyone that supported him during his mom's passing. He thanked everyone from the City for all the cards, flowers, calls and their support. He also thanked all his friends and citizens and said he really appreciated their thoughtfulness.
- (4) MAYOR CERDA – she attended the Fair Housing Foundation reception held in Buena Park. She also attended the City's Volunteer Dinner with her colleagues and thanked the volunteers for all the great work that they do. She attended the 50th Anniversary of the Manzanar Pilgrimage. She also went to Sacramento for a couple of days to represent Gardena as a board member of the California Cities for Self-Reliance JPA. She reported that they are working to find good solutions for our casinos and the issues that they were dealing with there. Upon returning, she attended the youth night at the Elks for the Scholarship Essay Awards Contest along with Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian. Several awards were given to young scholarship recipients. The next morning, she attended the funeral services for Mrs. Olive Tanaka, Council Member Tanaka's mother. She sent her continued condolences to Council Member Tanaka and wished him safe travels to Colorado. Later that evening, she attended the Gardena Holly Park Homeowner's meeting with Council Member Henderson. The next morning, she attended the ribbon cutting for the new tennis courts at Rowley Park. She thanked everyone involved with the redoing of the tennis courts and finding funds to do so. She attended a luncheon for the members of the 100/442nd Combat Infantry of Nisei Veterans, which was held at the Nakaoka Community Center. She participated in the Cinco de Mayo parade and commended the committee, city staff, and everyone involved. She attended the Finance Committee Meeting. Last Saturday, she attended the South County Labor monthly breakfast. She thanked her colleagues, Council Member Tanaka and Council Member Henderson, for sticking around while she had other engagements to attend. She attended the 5th Annual Interfaith Iftar and Dinner, where several different interfaith groups, such as Pakistani, the Sierra Leone government, and the LAPD and County Sheriff law enforcement agencies as they are promoting peace among different ethnicities. She said she had a great meeting with 10 students and leaders from 156th Street Elementary School. The students realized there was a problem at their school, noticing there were no crossing guards and thought it was dangerous situation. The students made a presentation to her and Captain Saffell about why there was a need for crossing guards. She made a directive for the City to investigate getting crossing guards.

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

D. COUNCIL REMARKS (Continued)

- (5) COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON – he said he was a member of an emissary group that went to Metro, on behalf of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG), for Metro to understand and asked if they could get funding for a fiber project for SBCCOG from Metro and reported it was a positive meeting and looks like the South Bay will be receiving \$4.4 million to start working on fiber in our different communities. He said it was very helpful to see the Council engage in the project. Since the last Council Meeting, he attended the Holly Park Homeowner's Association meeting. He stated that everyone was excited for the tennis court's ribbon cutting. Now we could start having tournaments. He said the Cinco De Mayo parade was awesome. He said he has an idea to start another event and will work with his colleagues towards his idea. He attended the South County Labor Breakfast and said it lasted a long while; that he and Council Member Tanaka hung out until they were able to make a City presentation for Sergio Rascon. He attended Gardena High School's African American Family Day. He said it was encouraging to see all the young scholars, their families and their talents.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cerda announced:

- (1) 2020 Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) Community Meeting Thursday, May 16, 2019, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at Torrance Cultural Arts Center.
- (2) Mental Health and Community Resource Fair, Thursday, May 16, 2019, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., on the City of Gardena's Civic Center Lawn.
- (3) "One Life to Live" Gardena Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Task Force Dinner, Resources and Interactive Activities, Thursday, May 16, 2019, 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the Nakaoka Community Center.
- (4) Grand Opening of a new store "Giant Steps Store & More," 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., on Friday, May 17, 2019. The Ribbon Cutting is at 12:00 p.m. and the Opening includes a tour.
- (5) Free Hazardous and Electronic Waste Round-up, Saturday, May 18, 2019, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., in the City of Lynwood at the intersection of Butler and Blinger Streets.
- (6) "Kids to Park Day," a National Day of Outdoor Play with various free activities, Saturday, May 18, 2019, at Arthur Lee Memorial Johnson Park, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- (7) "National Public Works Week" Celebration Reception on Wednesday, May 22, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. in the Public Works yard.

Council Member Medina announced:

- (1) The Gardena Beautification Committee will be hosting CONCERTS ON THE LAWN in front of the steps of Nakaoka Community Center starting with the *Public Works Band* on Saturday, June 29, 2019 and the *Esquires Big Band* on Saturday, August 10, 2019.

11. REMEMBRANCES

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:24 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 28, 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