

**MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
City of Gardena City Council
Tuesday, August 27, 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, August 27, 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 7:01 p.m., the City Council recessed into Closed Session in the Management Information Center of the Council Chamber 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; Assistant City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Peter L. Wallin; and Human Resources Manager Nora Verceles.

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. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
Government Code Section 54957.6
Title: City Manager**

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

- (1) Agency Designated Representative:
Edward Medrano, City Manager
Employee Organizations:
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
Confidential / Unrepresented Employees

Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 7:52 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 the Closed Session, he stated that no reportable action had been taken.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Erika and RJ Shintaku, sister and brother, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Both Erika and RJ are Participants in various Programs supported by the Recreation and Human Services Department and the Gardena Sister City Association. They introduced their parents and thanked the Council for inviting them to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. INVOCATION

The Reverend Dwight Dudley, Pastor of Calvary Chapel South Bay, led the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

(1) Gardena Military Veteran Recognition to Honor Veteran Mr. Alfred L. Franklin, who served in the U.S. Air Force. *Mayor Tasha Cerda read a brief Biography, then Mayor Cerda presented Mr. Franklin with a City of Gardena Veterans Commemorative Coin. Also, on behalf of California Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi, Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian read the text of a Certificate of Recognition and it was presented to Mr. Franklin. Mr. Franklin was given an opportunity to speak, and appropriate photos were taken.*

B. PROCLAMATIONS – No Items

C. APPOINTMENTS

- (1) Council Appoints to Commissions, Committee, Board, and Council
(Planning and Environmental Quality Commission Appointees to be Ratified and Sworn in;
Other Commission, Committee, Council, and Board Appointees to be Ratified Only)
- (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) Gardena City Council Regular Meeting, August 13, 2019

(2) Approved: Affidavit of Posting Agenda on August 23, 2019

5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)

C. CITY TREASURER

(1) Approved: Warrants / Payroll Registers

(a) August 27, 2019: Wire Transfer: 11802, 11804-11805, 11811-11816; Prepay: 155465-155487; Check Nos. 155488-155654; for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$3,176,921.68; Total Payroll Issued for August 16, 2019: \$2,092,317.09

D. CITY MANAGER

(1) Approved: Personnel Report No. P-2019-15

(2) Adopted: RESOLUTION NO. 6407, Amending the List of Authorized Games and Authorizing the Play of Certain Games in Licensed Card Clubs

RESOLUTION NO. 6407

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) Moved to Excluded Consent Calendar: Approve GTrans' 2019 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Update

(4) Approved: Approve Administrative Agreement with International City Management Association Retirement Corporation (ICMA-RC)

Council Member Henderson asked to move Agenda Item 5.D.(3) from the Consent Calendar to the Excluded Consent Calendar.

It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve all Items on the Consent Calendar except Item 5.D.(3) which was moved to the Excluded Consent Calendar for further discussion:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

5.D.(3) Approved: Approve GTrans' 2019 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Update

Council Member asked City Manager Medrano if we could offer a recommendation for our Disadvantaged Business Enterprise liaison for our Transportation Department to advertise for jobs and contracts by looking at the more culturally, knowledgeable periodicals/newspapers, such as *La Opinion* and *Los Angeles Sentinel*. City Manager Medrano replied that we use *Planet Bids* a great deal, but we will do our part to extend advertisement to those periodicals.

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Item 5.D.(3) from the Consent Calendar:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

7. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET

A. AUGUST 20, 2019, MEETING – *Meeting Cancelled*

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- (1) Cheral Sherman, V.P. of Friends of the Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve: invited everyone to attend and support the various events scheduled at the Preserve.
- (2) Wendy Lee, Manager of the Gardena Mayme Dear Library: extended an invitation to upcoming library events; and she also gave a “shout out” to Police Chief Kang and his team for keeping them safe.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS

A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – *No Items*

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- (1) PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE NO. 1807, Making Changes to Chapter 18.19, Mixed Use Overlay Zone, of the Gardena Municipal Code Relating to Transitional and Supportive Housing

ORDINANCE NO. 1807

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, MAKING CHANGES TO CHAPTER 18.19, MIXED USE OVERLAY ZONE, OF THE GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO TRANSITIONAL AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 8:11 p.m. and asked if there were any requests to speak or any comments from the Council.

There was discussion among the Council Members and City Manager Medrano regarding other areas in our City that already provide for mixed use overlay and that Senate Bill 2 requires us to allow for this type of housing. It was also discussed whether it would be wise to solicit Developers to create supportive and transitional housing so we could reach our numbers when it comes to the Housing Element. City Manager Medrano replied that we have discussions with our Developers regarding this type of housing. Yet, our ability to influence them to do it is a different story. Asking them to consider looking at different options is something we are doing.

Mayor Cerda then closed the Public Hearing at 8:18 p.m.

Council Member Henderson introduced Ordinance No. 1807.

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

- (1) Re-Appointment of Representative to the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB)

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report recommending the re-appointment of Mr. Glenn Mitchell as a Representative to SBWIB.

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

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

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

D. GENERAL SERVICES – No Items

E. POLICE

- (1) Authorization to Purchase Five Patrol Vehicles from National Auto Fleet Group in the Amount of \$185,657.20 and Expend Build-Out Costs in the Amount of \$57,537.75

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion which included Council Member Henderson and City Manager Medrano regarding all our City vehicles and how tight we are sticking to the life cycle of those vehicles. City Manager Medrano replied this is the second year that we have been funding a revolving vehicle account, we are starting to build a reserve and putting all our vehicles on a rotation program. Council Member Henderson then asked about the life cycle of our computer equipment. City Manager Medrano replied that we fully fund that account; we depreciate all our computer assets. We would love to be in a position to depreciate every piece of equipment that we have but, as we know, it could be quite expensive.

It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to Authorize the Purchase and Build-Out Costs for Five Patrol Vehicles:

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

F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES

- (1) Authorization to Purchase Furniture and Office Hardware for the Nakaoka Community Center from D&R Office Works, Inc., in the Amount of \$88,576.92

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

There was some discussion regarding the start and end dates. City Manager Medrano replied it will take several weeks for the order to come in; internal remodeling of the office area of the Center will have to be done as well.

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to Authorize the Purchase of Furniture and Office Hardware:

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

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

G. TRANSPORTATION

- (1) Approval of Agreement with Makai Solutions, Inc. for Facilities Maintenance Services for a contract total of \$46,464

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

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

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

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES, & REMARKS

A. COUNCIL ITEMS

- (1) RESOLUTION NO. 6408, Withdrawing from the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority

RESOLUTION NO. 6408

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA,
CALIFORNIA, WITHDRAWING FROM THE CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR
SELF-RELIANCE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

City Manager Medrano presented the Staff Report.

There was some discussion regarding the amount of money Gardena paid into this JPA. It was stated that we paid \$30,000 to enter into the agreement, and each City paid \$33,000 to campaign, which covered unanticipated issues and lobbying efforts.

It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6408:

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

B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

Council Member Medina:

- (1) While stating that it was for informational purposes only, he handed out photocopies to Mayor and Council of a 2004 billing from Hisham's Towing indicating City of Gardena costs that Hisham's waived for trash bin storage services they provided at that time.

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

B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES (Continued)

Council Member Tanaka:

- (1) He asked if we could look into the conditions of Railroad crossings on Western Avenue.

Mayor Cerda:

- (1) Regarding the Chase Bank located at Rosecrans and Purche Avenues; she reported that it looks as though they are not taking care of the property. She asked if the property owners could be contacted to let them know how bad it looks, and request that regular property maintenance be done. Council Member Tanaka seconded her request.

Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian:

- (1) Has noticed an increased number of motorhomes parked on the streets in our City and asked if the City has a parking Ordinance.

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 were, as follows:

- (1) Memo regarding the Jazz Festival videographer and the assessment in procuring a videographer on a full-time basis;
- (2) City Manager's Monthly Report is no longer on paper, but on the City's website;
- (3) Information re: property near El Segundo and Crenshaw Boulevards; we are in the final stages of eviction; and
- (4) Showed a video of slides highlighting the 2019 Jazz Festival.

D. COUNCIL REMARKS

- (1) Council Member Tanaka – he apologized for not making the Leadership Academy graduation luncheon, but congratulated the graduates. He attended the Police Foundation support dinner and thanked those who have contributed in their events. He said the Chef put on a great dinner. He reported that he and Mayor Cerda attended a Yonsei basketball tournament. He ended by apologizing for not attending the Jazz Festival because the event was sold out.
- (2) Council Member Henderson – since the last Council Meeting, he attended the Gardena Police Foundation dinner. He said he had an opportunity to participate in a tour with the Boring company to go in a traffic loop underground in a Tesla going 120 miles per hour, which was very cool. He attended the Los Angeles Business Federation in celebration of newly-elected Council Members. He said he had a great time at the Jazz Festival. He said the graphics and the vibrations were good. He asked to look into giving letters to volunteers for volunteer service credits. He shared that he did community visits and phone calls. He said that the Chase Bank building on Rosecrans Avenue is a historic type of building, one of two in Gardena, and maybe making an historic site could be used as leverage to have them clean up that area.

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

- (3) Council Member Medina – since the last Council Meeting, he attended the Police Foundation Luncheon and said he found it very informative. He added that many people don't realize how much they invest in our City to make it a better, safer place and, most importantly, a proud place to live in. He attended the New Challenge Ministries event at which they gave out over 1,000 backpacks. He informed that New Challenge Ministries also give out food Monday-Saturday for bags worth up to \$100 worth of food for \$2. If someone is not able to afford the \$2, then they can get it for free. He attended the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) meeting and reported that they unanimously voted to aggressively pursue helping the homeless in the South Bay. He said that homelessness increased by 20% in the past year, and SBCCOG is looking for other means to help them. He said that P.A.T.H., out of Long Beach, helped build the 77-unit facility on Vermont Avenue and 163rd Street for homeless people. P.A.T.H. is building another location, in Compton, and said to contact P.A.T.H. for more information. He attended the Rotary District 5280 Boat Race at the Seaside Lagoon, where he also deejayed.
- (4) Mayor Cerda – since the last Council Meeting, on August 14, on behalf of the City of Gardena and the California Cities for Self-Reliance JPA, she testified at a hearing in Sacramento with regards to the Bureau of Gambling. She attended the Gardena Police Foundation Luncheon and thanked all the businesses that are part of the foundation as their donations help the community. She also thanked the foundation, and all those who came out to the event. She attended the 2019 Goodwill Games of the Yonsei Basketball Organization; kids from Japan were playing against USA kids. She attended the Elks Luau, supporting the Elks Lodge. On Saturday, with one of our City Attorneys, Lisa Kranitz, several residents, youth, and herself went on a Sanitation District-sponsored Boat Tour and she shared her experiences and what she learned during the tour. She attended the Casimir Gatekeepers Neighborhood Watch Club's Annual Block Party. On Sunday, August 25, she attended the Jazz Festival and commended and thanked the staff of all the departments who participated. She shared about the great responses she has received from various event attendees.
- (5) Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian – he said he was out of town for a few days but was able to attend the Gardena Police Foundation Luncheon. He said he agreed with all the remarks that his colleagues have given and thanked the Foundation for a great job and to everyone for the support for the Foundation. He announced that he is also recruiting businesses for the Foundation. He attended the Jazz Festival on Sunday and said it was "Perfect; Supreme." He thanked Stephany Santin, other City staff, and the Police Department for making it a "top-notch" event. He said he asked attendees to see where they came from and got responses such as Rialto, Lancaster, Victorville, Santa Clarita, and Oceanside, which shows that they are doing a great job spreading the word about this annual Festival.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) Keep Gardena Beautiful Day, on 09/21/2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.;
- (2) Community Meeting on the 'New Way of Voting' to be presented by the Los Angeles County Recorder Registrar's Office on 09/11/2019, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at GTRANS;

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS (Continued)

- (3) In conjunction with the Hawthorne Police Department, Gardena Police Department's 'Coffee with A Cop,' on 09/10/2019, at Starbucks on the corner of Rosecrans Avenue and Crenshaw Boulevard from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.; and
- (4) The City of Gardena is seeking volunteers to help teach English to Korean-speaking senior citizens. If anyone is interested, please contact City Hall, at (310) 217-9500.

11. REMEMBRANCES

Mrs. Nellie P. Fesuk, 94 years old, and long-time resident of Gardena. She is the beloved wife of Mr. Stephen Fesuk, a military veteran who was honored by the City Council in September of 2018. They were married for 69 years, she was a past President of Gardena Emblem Club #257 and an active member of the Gardena Elks Lodge; and Mr. Vazken Jarakian, 78 years of age, a long-time business owner in Gardena, and the beloved uncle of Mayor Pro Tem Art Kaskanian.

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:06 p.m., Mayor Cerda adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to a Regular City Council Meeting, at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

APPROVED:


Tasha Cerda, Mayor

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

By: 
Becky Romero, Deputy City Clerk

