

**MINUTES  
Regular Meeting of the  
City of Gardena City Council  
Tuesday, December 10, 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, December 10, 2019, in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 1700 West 162<sup>nd</sup> 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: Interim City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Peter L. Wallin; Deputy City Attorney Carmen Vasquez; 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 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; Interim City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Peter L. Wallin; and Deputy City Attorney Carmen Vasquez.

**2. CLOSED SESSION**

- A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT  
Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)  
Position: City Manager

**Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 7:56 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 Council unanimously agreed to appoint Clint Osorio to serve as City Manager under a 3-year contract.*

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION**

- A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Damian Labra-Ocampo and Celeste Buenrostro led the Pledge of Allegiance. Damian and Celeste are students at 135<sup>th</sup> Street Elementary School. Both were chosen because they are “model students.” They introduced their family members and thanked the Council for inviting them to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION (Continued)

B. INVOCATION

The Reverend Taso Stavropoulos, Pastor of Unity Baptist Church in Gardena, led the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

- (1) Gardena Military Veteran Recognition to Honor Veteran Mr. Eugene “Gene” Hale, who served in the U.S. Army. Prior to presenting Mr. Hale with the honors, *Council Member Henderson spoke saying some kind words about members of the Military who served in Vietnam and thanked them for their service. Then Mayor Tasha Cerda read a brief Biography; Council Member Henderson presented Mr. Hale with a City of Gardena Veterans Commemorative Coin. Mr. Hale was given an opportunity to speak, and appropriate photos were taken.*

B. PROCLAMATIONS –

- (1) “Bill of Rights Day,” December 15, 2019 and  
“Bill of Responsibilities Day,” December 16, 2019  
– *was proclaimed by Mayor Cerda*

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

**REQUEST TO ADD ITEM 4.C. (2) TO THE AGENDA.**

*The matter came to the City’s attention after the posting of the Agenda*

- (2) Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Appointment

**It was moved by Mayor Cerda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Add 4.C.(2) to the Agenda:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

**4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS (Continued)**

**C. APPOINTMENTS (Continued)**

- (2) Re-appointment of Council Member Medina as representative of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board of Trustees

City Manager Osorio 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 Re-appoint Council Member Medina to serve as representative of the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board of Trustees for a full 2-year Term commencing on January 6, 2020:**

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

**Noes: Mayor Cerda**

**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, November 26, 2019

- (2) **Approved:** Affidavit of Posting Agenda on December 6, 2019

**C. CITY TREASURER**

- (1) **Approved:** Warrants / Payroll Register

(a) December 10, 2019: Wire Transfer: 11837-11838; Check Nos. 156856-156980; for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$430,711.13; Total Payroll Issued for December 6, 2019: \$1,628,549.17

**D. CITY MANAGER**

- (1) **Approved:** Personnel Report No. P-2019-21

(a) **Approved:** Request City Council's Approval of Employment Agreement promoting Interim City Manager Clint Osorio to City Manager, currently serving as Interim City Manager, effective December 10, 2019, through December 9, 2022

- (2) **Approved:** Acceptance of Projects and Notice of Completion

(a) Pedestrian Safety Improvement 2018-2019, JN 947

(b) Sidewalk Replacement 2018 -2019, JN 948  
CEM Construction Corp.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)**

- (3) **Approved:** Agreement Amendment with MACRO, a Division of Ross & Baruzzini for a Contract Amendment Total \$155,583 and a Project Total of \$171,141

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

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

**Noes:** None

**Absent:** None

**6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR**

**7. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET**

**A. DECEMBER 3, 2019, MEETING – Meeting Cancelled**

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Mr. Tyrone Banks, resident: reported that employee parking for the construction company that is working on a project that is going up on Crenshaw Blvd., along with employee parking for Amazon are causing problems with residents, making it difficult and unsafe.
- (2) Ms. Cheral Sherman, Vice President, Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve: said that she is very pleased with the recent changes assisted by the City. She announced that the Preserve now has a part-time Naturalist on staff to assist staff and guests at the Preserve. She announced upcoming activities taking place at the Preserve and invited everyone to participate.
- (3) Jesse Rowden, Wilrey Davis, Nechelle, Rod Shears, residents: spoke about parking and safety concerns in their neighborhood on El Segundo Boulevard due to the Amazon facility on the north side of El Segundo Boulevard, and the City's growing infrastructure.

**8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS**

**A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

- (1) City of Gardena Audit Reports for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), Family Child Care and Municipal Bus Lines.

There was a discussion which included Mayor Cerda, Council Member Henderson, and City Manager Osorio, who was happy to report that there were no findings in the audit of the financial statements. Council Member Henderson asked if there were any items moving forward that we need to be more cognizant of. City Manager Osorio explained that there is a need for internal service funds; we now have the mechanism with regard to methodology and allocation, which we will start using.

Frances Quan of the PUN Group presented PUN Group's audit process.

*This Item was Received and Filed.*

**8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS**

**B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

- (1) RESOLUTION NO. 6418, Objecting to the Recommended Methodology of the SCAG Regional Council Related to RHNA Allocation.

**RESOLUTION NO. 6418**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, OBJECTING TO THE RECOMMENDED METHODOLOGY OF THE SCAG REGIONAL COUNCIL RELATED TO THE RHNA ALLOCATION

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion which included Council Member Medina, City Manager Osorio, and Assistant City Attorney Lisa Kranitz regarding sending letters of opposition objecting to the recommended methodology of the SCAG Regional Council related to the RHNA Allocation. Assistant City Attorney Kranitz spoke on the matter, and explained the chosen methodology went against the recommendation of staff, the RHNA subcommittee, and the Community Economic and Human Development Committee. She continued to further discuss the potential penalties and stated that the amount of housing units which has been assigned to Gardena is unrealistic and could ultimately lead to Gardena being found to have a non-compliant Housing Element. Council Member Medina asked that a letter from City of Gardena, stating our City's opposition, be prepared, addressed to him as a representative of SCAG, and given to him to personally present when he attends the next RHNA meeting. It was agreed that a letter would be prepared.

**It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6418:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

- (2) Approve Consultant Agreement with Veronica Tam in the amount of \$86,175 (with Contingency) regarding Housing Element Update.

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was some discussion which included Council Member Henderson, City Manager Osorio, and Assistant City Attorney Kranitz regarding the scope of work and if the milestones were not met; It was stated by City Manager Osorio that the milestones are there to make sure the work is being done; the contract is for the full amount of all work within the scope. Assistant City Attorney Kranitz then said that "the City was really fortunate to obtain Ms. Tam's services, because we were told she was unavailable: she is truly a leader."

**It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the Consultant Agreement with Veronica Tam:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES – *No Items*

D. GENERAL SERVICES

- (1) Authorize Contract Renewal with CWE Corporation in the Amount of \$188,215 for MS4 Permit Monitoring and Compliance Services

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion which included Council Member Medina, City Manager Osorio, Lead Engineer Kevin Kwak, and Joe Green, Director of CWE Corporation, regarding the length of the contract renewal and how many reports are turned in per year. It was stated that the length of contract was one (1) year and the reports are done for a 12-month period of time.

**It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Mayor Cerda, and carried by the following roll call vote to Award Professional Services Contract Renewal with CWE Corporation:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

E. POLICE – *No Items*

F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES – *No Items*

G. TRANSPORTATION

- (1) Approve Agreement with Clever Devices LTD. for the Purchase of GTrans Real-Time Information Deployment (GRID) System and Five Years of Software Support, Plus Contingency, for a Total Program Cost of \$2,932,975

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report. GTrans Director Crespo presented a PowerPoint.

There was a lengthy discussion between Mayor Cerda, GTrans Director Crespo, and all of the Council Members regarding the implementation of this system which will maximize automation, efficiency, data collection, and analysis. Council Members had questions regarding being able to see incidents on bus, tracking late drivers, needing more manpower, making sure staff takes their breaks so they could start fresh, emergency button, if the new computer will be a distraction to the bus drivers, how many buses in our entire fleet, will all data be kept onsite? GTrans Director Crespo replied that we will now have the ability to listen and see physically where the bus is at; included in the contract is to purchase four (4) wireless signs; we do not anticipate hiring any more supervisors; once the emergency button is pushed it goes back to dispatch; there are currently 43 peak service buses, and GTrans is planning to add 25 future buses. Hopefully, this will eliminate bus bunching. If this is happening every day, the bus schedules will be re-adjusted. All of the data will be kept on the city premises, our Operations/Bus Team will work directly with Clever Devices, LTD; we just recently hired a Systems Analyst and he is working closely with City IT Staff at both GTrans and City Hall.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

G. TRANSPORTATION (Continued)

- (1) Approve Agreement with Clever Devices LTD. For the Purchase of GTrans Real-Time Information Deployment (GRID) System and Five Years of Software Support, Plus Contingency, for a Total Program Cost of \$2,932,975 (Continued)

**It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Council Member Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Agreement with Clever Devices LTD:**

**Ayes: Council Members Medina and Tanaka, 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 Medina asked City Manager Osorio for follow-up information regarding a paving project he had previously mentioned at Gramercy Place, between 166<sup>th</sup> Street and Artesia Blvd. This was seconded by Mayor Cerda.
- (2) Council Member Henderson asked if we could have the City investigate some citizen complaints regarding the trash receptacle collection; Mayor Cerda seconded it.
- (3) Council Member Tanaka asked if we could have some type of coordination plan with the traffic light synchronization to help with traffic gridlock throughout the city, but specifically at the intersection of Western Avenue and Artesia Blvd.; Mayor Cerda seconded the request.
- (4) Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian asked for a status report from a previous directive seeking information about the clean-up of the vacant property on the southeast corner of Marine and Western Avenues.

C. CITY MANAGER REMARKS RE: DIRECTIVES / COUNCIL ITEMS

City Manager Osorio 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 and flyers had already been provided to the Council via copies in their regular mail packets. Those items were, as follows:

- (1) The Creation of the Sustainability Division and the objectives, including the preparation of a City Ordinance;
- (2) Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, 12/14/2019, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Nakaoka Community Center;
- (3) Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Commemoration Parade will be taking place on Saturday, 01/18/2020;
- (4) A short video presentation of our Annual Winter Wonderland and Tree Lighting on Tuesday, 12/03/2019, from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on the City Hall grounds; and
- (5) Thanked the Mayor and Council for their support in his appointment to City Manager and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

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

- (1) COUNCIL MEMBER MEDINA – since the last Council Meeting, he attended the Winter Wonderland. He said he delivered half-sheet cakes to the Convalescent Homes this past Friday, which were provided by Waste Resources. He played Santa Claus for the Boys & Girls Club on Gardena Boulevard. He reminded everyone that he will be at the Vector Control this coming Thursday and will have a report next month. He reported on trends in the SCAG region which consists of 6 counties. He said that, from year 2000 to 2018, the population grew from 16 million to 19.1 million. Yet, he's sad to report that more and more people are leaving California because they cannot afford to live here.
- (2) MAYOR PRO TEM KASKANIAN – since the last Council Meeting, he also attended the Winter Wonderland and said it was a great event. He said a lot of kids were enjoying the snow, even a couple of days after the event he spotted kids playing in the snow. He attended the Christmas Party held at the Elks Lodge. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- (3) COUNCIL MEMBER TANAKA – he attended Joe Cruz's farewell luncheon and thanked him for all his work. He said he attended the Christmas Tree Lighting/Winter Wonderland. He attended the Gardena Towers Co-Op where Officer Sterling gave a safety demonstration and lecture to our Seniors. He apologized for not attending the City Hall Tree Trimming because he had the date mixed up on the calendar. He apologized to Chief for not being able to attend the Shop with a Copy event at Target. He congratulated City Manager Osorio and said he knows that he will do a good job for the City. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year.
- (4) MAYOR CERDA – she attended the Elk's Build-A-Bear event held at Del Amo for the disabled children at the LA Regional Hospital. She attended the Winter Wonderland and she thanked the staff for an amazing job; that it gets better and better every year. On Friday, December 5, she attended the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Realtors Installation Dinner. The following day she participated in a toy giveaway held by SIERF. She attended the 4<sup>th</sup> District Homecoming Celebration for Commander Sherrod Conyers and District President Romney Hagan at the VFW Hall. She apologized for not making it to the Shop with a Cop event but thanked them for all that they did. She suggested that some other departments get out and do goodwill outreach as well. On Sunday, she attended the Merry Berry Party held at the Elk's Lodge and that was where they actually gave out the bears that they had built the previous week. She briefly attended the Top-Notch Senior Awards Dinner and thanked all the volunteers. She thanked the entire city staff for all that they do throughout the year. She congratulated Clint Osorio and said he has and will continue doing a great job. Lastly, she thanked the entire Council and said she appreciate the time and effort they put in.
- (5) COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON – he reported he did some community visits. He thanked Joe Cruz and attended his farewell event, commenting that Joe has done some great work for the City and, since he's going over to work for Los Angeles County, he would like Cruz to find us our \$200,000 over there. He attended the Hollypark Community Association holiday party. He wasn't able to make it to the Tree Lighting at the Winter Wonderland celebration due to being a guest lecturer at UCLA. He attended the Brotherhood Crusade Dinner at the Beverly Hilton and told Madam Mayor that they appreciated that both he and Mayor had sent congratulatory letters for that event. He participated in an ADA Seminar with regards to cities being compliant. He attended a seminar on 5G and how cities can utilize 5G. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Holidays, Happy Kwanza, and Feliz Navidad. He asked everyone to make sure they spend time with their family. He congratulated Clint Osorio for being selected as our City Manager. He thanked City Staff for making it through this year.



**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Cerda announced:

- (1) Official Pining Ceremony for Michael Saffell to the position of Chief of Police, Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 10:00 a.m., at the Nakaoka Community Center.
- (2) Fair Housing Free Workshop, Thursday, December 19, 2019, at the Nakaoka Community Center.

**11. REMEMBRANCES**

In memory of **Mr. Harold Prewitt**, 72 years old, a part-time Recreation Leader II with the Recreation & Human Services Department from May 1999 to October 2006. He served as a Sports Official, and Leader of one of the After-School Programs, and also assisted with the Program for the Developmentally Disabled; and **Mrs. Rowena W. Labeaud**, 91 years of age, resident of Gardena for over 50 years, well-known advocate/ambassador for our community, and the beloved mother of Home Improvement Lead Person David Labeaud with the City of Gardena General Services Department.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Cerda announced that the Tuesday, December 24, 2019, Regular City Council Meeting is cancelled and then, at 10:05 p.m., adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to a regular City Council Meeting, at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

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

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