

**MINUTES  
Regular Meeting of the  
City of Gardena City Council  
Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 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: City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Carmen Vasquez; City Clerk Mina Semenza; and Deputy City Clerk Becky Romero. City Treasurer Ingrid Tsukiyama was not present.

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; City Manager Clint Osorio; and City Attorney Carmen Vasquez.

**2. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Government Code Section 54957.6

**(1) Agency Designated Representative:**

Clint Osorio, 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 7:49 p.m., and the City Clerk noted the return of all Council Members who were present at the meeting.**

*When City Attorney Vasquez was asked if there were any reportable actions from the Closed Session, she stated that no reportable action had been taken.*

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION**

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Miranda Giron and Chris Contreras led the Pledge of Allegiance. Miranda and Chris are students at Pacific Lutheran Junior/Senior High School. Miranda and Chris were chosen to lead the Pledge of Allegiance because they are Officers on Pacific Lutheran's Student Council. They introduced their family and thanked the Council for inviting them to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION (Continued)

B. INVOCATION

The Reverend John E. Ward, Senior Pastor / Minister of Music, of First Southern Baptist Church of Gardena, led the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

(1) Gardena Military Veteran Recognition to Honor Veteran Mr. Adolphus Tate Jr., who served in the U.S. Army. *Council Member Medina spoke, saying some kind words and reminding every one of the dedicated sacrifices from our Vietnam Veteran and thanked Mr. Tate Jr. for his military service. Then Mayor Cerda read a brief Biography and Mr. Tate Jr., was presented with a City of Gardena Veterans Commemorative Coin. Mr. Tate Jr. was given an opportunity to speak, he introduced his family, and appropriate photos were taken.*

B. PROCLAMATIONS

(1) "BLACK HISTORY MONTH," February 2020  
- *was proclaimed by Mayor Cerda*

C. APPOINTMENTS – *No Appointments were made*

- (1) Council Appointments to Commissions, Committees, Councils, and Boards  
(Appointees to be Ratified and Sworn In)
- (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, January 28, 2020
- (2) Approved: Affidavit of Posting Agenda on February 7, 2020

C. CITY TREASURER

- (1) Approved: Warrants / Payroll Register
- (a) February 11, 2020: Wire Transfer: 11851-11859; Prepay: 157562-157567; Check Nos. 157568-157732- for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$1,120,241.24; Total Payroll Issued for January 31, 2020: \$1,683,324.00

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)**

**D. CITY MANAGER**

- (1) **Approved:** Personnel Report No. P-2020-3
- (2) **Approved:** ORDINANCE NO. 1811, Enacting a Transactions and Use Tax (Sales Tax) to be Administered by the Department of Tax and Fee Administration, Subject to Adoption by the Electorate (Introduced by Council Member Rodney G. Tanaka, November 26, 2019)

**ORDINANCE NO. 1811**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, ENACTING A TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX (SALES TAX) TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TAX AND FEE ADMINISTRATION, SUBJECT TO ADOPTION BY THE ELECTORATE

- (3) **Approved:** Acceptance of Projects and Notice of Completion  
Normandie Avenue Street Improvement, Redondo Beach Blvd., to Artesia Blvd.,  
JN 920 All American Asphalt
- (4) **Approved:** Funding Agreement Between the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and the City of Gardena for Metro ExpressLanes Direct Allocation Funds for Incremental Transit Service Program
- (5) **Approved:** Ratify Administrative Approval of the Elderly Nutrition Program Contract ENP 162006 Amendment Four

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

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

**6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

**A. FEBRUARY 4, 2020, MEETING – *Meeting Cancelled***

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Ms. Cheral Sherman, Vice-President, Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve: gave miscellaneous news and updates regarding the Preserve. Also, she spoke about ways the public can assist the Preserve with their fund-raising efforts. Ms. Sherman invited everyone to visit the Preserve.

**8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS**

**A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – No Items**

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

(1) PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of the 2019 California State Building Code with Local Amendments

- (a) ORDINANCE NO. 1815, Repealing Chapter 15.04 of the Gardena Municipal Code and Adopting a New Chapter 15.04 that Adopts by Reference the 2019 California Building Standards Code with Amendments, Except Part 9, and Readopts Section 15.04.020 Relating to Fees (Introduced by Council Member Dan Medina, January 14, 2020)

ORDINANCE NO. 1815

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, REPEALING CHAPTER 15.04 OF THE GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE AND ADOPTING A NEW CHAPTER 15.04 WHICH ADOPTS BY REFERENCE THE 2019 CALIFORNIA STATE BUILDING STANDARDS CODE, WITH AMENDMENTS, EXCEPT PART 9, AND READOPTS SECTION 15.04.020 RELATING TO FEES

- (b) RESOLUTION NO. 6424, Setting Forth Findings for Required Amendments to the 2019 California State Building Code Relative to Local Climatic, Topographic and Geologic Conditions

APPLICANT: City of Gardena

RESOLUTION NO. 6424

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, SETTING FORTH FINDINGS FOR REQUIRED AMENDMENTS TO THE 2019 CALIFORNIA STATE BUILDING CODE RELATIVE TO LOCAL CLIMATIC, TOPOGRAPHIC AND GEOLOGIC CONDITIONS

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report for both Items 8.B.(1) (a) Item 8.B.(1) (b).

Mayor Cerda opened the Public Hearing at 8:12 p.m. and asked for any comments. No comments were made by the public. At 8:13 p.m., the Public Hearing was closed.

There was a discussion regarding the color of paint on buildings, and if it would fall under this Ordinance. City Manager Osorio responded that it does not, that would fall under aesthetics, and we would need to adopt another Ordinance for that type of use.

**It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Ordinance No. 1815:**

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

**It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6424:**

**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**

- (1) FIRST READING: ORDINANCE NO. 1816, Amending Section 5.24.170 of the Gardena Municipal Code regarding Card Club Employee Work Permits (Introduced by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian)

**ORDINANCE NO. 1816**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 5.24.170 OF THE GARDENA MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING CARD CLUB EMPLOYEE WORK PERMITS

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion which included Mayor Cerda, Council Members, City Manager Osorio, and City Attorney Vasquez regarding recent amendments to State law (AB 649) which now allows persons who are 18 to 20 years of age to work in card clubs without a work permit provided they do not perform any duties on the floor of the gambling establishment or in connection with the playing of card games. It was also stated that these positions would be exempt from paying work permit fees and the casino would be responsible for doing background checks, as well as monitoring them, if they were to work on the floor.

*Ordinance No. 1816 was introduced by Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian.*

**D. GENERAL SERVICES – No Items**

**E. POLICE**

- (1) RESOLUTION NO 6432, Approving the Acceptance and Award from the State of California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Tobacco Law Enforcement Program in the Amount of \$74,817.00

**RESOLUTION NO. 6432**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE AND AWARD FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, TOBACCO LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$74,817.00

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion which included Mayor Cerda, Council Members, City Manager Osorio, and Police Chief Saffell regarding who applied for grant, if the amount set forth was the amount applied for, how much would be used in working with community-based organizations and if this grant would assist us with educational programs regarding vaping. City Manager Osorio indicated that our Police Department applied for the grant, the amount received is the amount applied for, and about \$8,400 would be used for working with the community. Police Chief Saffell then stated that we partner with ADAAP, GDAAP and BHS to help educate the public. He continued to say that it would also help pay the officers to be at the training, and that the enforcement is in the City of Gardena. Mayor Cerda then asked about the vaping event that was recently held, and Police Chief Saffell indicated that it went very well.

8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)

E. POLICE (Continued)

- (1) RESOLUTION NO 6432, Approving the Acceptance and Award from the State of California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Tobacco Law Enforcement Program in the Amount of \$74,817.00 (Continued)

**It was moved by Council Member Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6432:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES – No Items

G. TRANSPORTATION – No Items

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS

A. COUNCIL ITEMS – No Items

B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES

All Council Members:

- (1) On behalf of the full Council, Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian asked if they could get a complete, detailed report regarding the grant application services that had been provided by California Consulting. Council Member Henderson seconded the directive.

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) Memo, status update regarding State Legislature vote on AB881 ADUs and AB66 Jr. ADUs;
- (2) Memo, status update regarding California Consulting;
- (3) Memo, status update regarding Mayor Cerda's previous directive regarding Johnson Park lighting;
- (4) Memo, status update regarding overgrown trees at the Willows Preserve;
- (5) Memo, status update regarding Chase Bank property;
- (6) "Coffee with a Cop", Tuesday, 03/10/2020, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., at McDonalds restaurant located on Artesia, Gardena;
- (7) Homeless update, Saturday, 04/25/2020, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at Nakaoka Community Center; and
- (8) A video presentation by Stephany Santin, Director of Recreation and Human Services, of the Free Shredding Event for Gardena Residents that took place on Saturday, 02/1/2020, at Gardena City Hall on the Civic Center Lawn.

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS (Continued)

D. COUNCIL REMARKS

- (1) MAYOR PRO TEM KASKANIAN – He attended the Candidates Forum at Rowley Park on February 6 and thanked the Torrance League of Women Voters for putting the event together. On February 9 he attended the Elks Lodge 66<sup>th</sup> Birthday Breakfast event and congratulated them. On the same day, he attended the Armenian Sisters' Academy's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner and said it was a successful event.
- (2) COUNCIL MEMBER TANAKA – He said he pretty much attended the same events as Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian. He said the birthday breakfast at the Elks Lodge is always a good thing and congratulated them, as well. He said the Candidates Forum was interesting and well attended and thanked the Torrance League of Women Voters, Rowley Park's Homeowners Association, and all the City employees who worked diligently to provide the Forum.
- (3) COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON – He attended the Biz Fed Responsible Governance and Fiscal Accountability Committee Meeting. He attended the Business and Entrepreneurship and Technology Academy (BETA) mixer at Narbonne High School. He was invited to the SEIU 2015's Lunar Celebration dinner. He stated he did his community visits and has also attended the Candidates Forum and thanked the Community for coming out. He shared there was filming happening in the City.
- (4) MAYOR CERDA – Since the last Council Meeting, she also attended the BETA event held at Narbonne High School. She shared that they spoke about advantages of networking and playing ice breaker games. She attended a funeral service for a local Minister, Pastor Hurlon Futrel. She attended a repast for a resident, Miguel Bermudez, held at the Elks Lodge. She attended the Candidates Forum at Rowley Park and shared that it was a nice turnout. She clarified some statements that 4,000 condos were not coming to Gardena, that the City was not on the verge of bankruptcy, there are no new plans for the U-Haul location on the corner of Rosecrans and Van Ness Avenues, and that our previous City Manager Mitch Lansdell and previous Mayor Paul Tanaka, were responsible for getting Gardena out of the 26 million dollar debt. She encouraged everyone to fact check her if unsure or would like to follow up. She commented that it would be a good idea to have the Vape seminar extended out to the Neighborhood Watch Meetings.
- (5) COUNCIL MEMBER MEDINA – He clarified some statements that were made by candidates at the recent Forum. He said that they claim that we do not address problems on Rosecrans Avenue but, in fact, we spent 22 million dollars to revamp Rosecrans Ave. from Vermont Ave. to Crenshaw Blvd. He said that our Public Works people work diligently to get work done not only on the north side of Gardena but the south side, as well. He shared that 16 cities were told about grants available through SCAG, but only three cities: Gardena, Inglewood, and Hawthorne, applied for a grant. He asked the candidates to do their homework. He attended the Vector Control conference in San Diego where he learned more about mosquitoes, ticks, pigs, and hogs. He asked everyone to please empty out any standing water. He delivered seven birthday cakes to convalescent homes. He shared that one of the ladies who turned 103 years old thought it was solely for her birthday but ended up sharing it with everyone. He said he was proud that he had a meeting with the principal of Gardena High School and received a green bracelet which was given to those who had 100 days of perfect attendance.

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Cerda announced:

- (1) Candidates Forum for the City of Gardena's March 3, 2020 Election is scheduled for February 13, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., at the Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162<sup>nd</sup> Street, Gardena.

**11. REMEMBRANCES**

Mr. Kenneth L. Dixon, 62 years of age, beloved father of Recreation Leader I Kendra Dixon of the City of Gardena Recreation and Human Services Department and the beloved husband of former City of Gardena employee Deborah Dixon who worked in the Human Resources Division; Mrs. AnnaBella Lillie Ward, 96 years old, long-time resident of the Gardena area, who loved to shop in Gardena and be involved in Gardena activities, and all the grandchildren she raised attended Gardena schools; Mr. Michael Doerschel, 50 years old, the beloved son of Mrs. Sheila Doerschel, who is a long-time Gardena resident and businesswoman, as well as a member of COPCAP and the Gardena Valley Lions Club; Mrs. Linda Platas, age 55 years, the beloved Step-Mother of Customer Service Clerk I Sarah Platas, with the City of Gardena Transportation Department; Ms. Diane Hill, 62 years old, beloved sister of Bus Operator Tonya Hill, with the City of Gardena Transportation Department; and The Honorable Council Member Emeritus Gwendolyn Joyce Duffy, 97 years old, long-time resident of Gardena; the first woman to be elected to the Gardena City Council, serving the City in that capacity from April 1982 until March 1999; and honored on the City's Wall of Fame in 2001. She was a member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, Gardena Emblem Club, Gardena Valley Friends of the Library, the Gardena-Carson Family YMCA Board of Directors, the former YWCA of Gardena Valley, the Gardena Sister City Association, and Gardena Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention (G-DAAP), to name a few. She also chaired the former Gardena WeTIP Committee. Additionally, she was the recipient of numerous local, state, and international awards for her dedicated service which focused on family, youth, education, community, and good government.


**12. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:56 p.m., Mayor Cerda adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to the next regular City Council Meeting, at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 25, 2020.

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