

**MINUTES  
Regular Meeting of the  
City of Gardena City Council  
Tuesday, February 25, 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 25, 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 7:10 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 7:52 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**

Nikolas Escobar and Crystal Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance. Nikolas and Crystal are students at Robert E. Peary Middle School. Nikolas and Crystal were chosen to lead the Pledge of Allegiance because they are members of "LEADERSHIP" at Peary and consistently demonstrate their leadership qualities. They acknowledged school administrators who accompanied them to the meeting and thanked the Council for inviting them to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & INVOCATION (Continued)

B. INVOCATION

The Reverend Iki Tolu Taimi, Lead Pastor, of Gardena Genesis Community, led the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, & APPOINTMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

- (1) Gardena Military Veteran Recognition to Honor Veteran Ms. Marilyn E. Rideaux., who served in the U.S. Air Force. *Mayor Cerda thanked Ms. Rideaux for her military service. Then Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian read a brief Biography and Ms. Rideaux was presented with a City of Gardena Veterans Commemorative Coin. Ms. Rideaux was given an opportunity to speak and appropriate photos were taken.*

*Mayor Cerda, requested that "Agenda Item 4.A.(3) be heard before Agenda Item 4.A.(2)"*

- (3) RESOLUTION OF COMMENDATION, to The Honorable Dan Medina in Acknowledgement and Recognition of Distinguished Service to the City and Community of Gardena as a Gardena Council Member; and, Further, to Bestow upon Him the Title of Council Member Emeritus, effective in March 2020 *Mayor Cerda acknowledged Council Member Medina as the founder of this tradition now set at each Gardena City Council Meeting where we recognize Gardena Military Veterans. The Resolution of Commendation was accepted by the Honorable Dan Medina.*

- (2) CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION to Commission, Committee, Council, and Board Appointees of the Honorable Council Member Dan Medina, for Dedicated Community Service

- (a) Steve Sherman, Planning and Environmental Quality Commission
- (b) Richard Luna, Human Services Commission
- (c) Lucia Ordonez, Gardena Youth Commission
- (d) Carlos Lifosjoe, Gardena Economic Business Advisory Council
- (e) Moe Shemirani, Gardena Economic Business Advisory Council
- (f) Tracy Solomon-Clark, Gardena Rent Mediation Board, Tenant Representative
- (g) Gerlin E. Muñoz, Gardena Rent Mediation Board, Owner Representative
- (h) Florence Bagsby, Gardena Rent Mediation Board, At-Large Representative
- (i) Gail M. Laidoner, Gardena Beautification Committee

*Recognized recipients were present to receive their Certificates of Recognition, except for Carlos Lifosjoe, Moe Shemirani, Florence Bagsby and Gail M. Laidoner. The recipients who were present were given an opportunity to speak. They thanked Council Member Medina for the opportunity to serve the community in their respective capacity.*

B. PROCLAMATIONS

- (1) "WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH," March 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

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

**C. APPOINTMENTS – No Appointments were made (Continued)**

- (1) Council Appointments to Commissions, Committees, Councils, and Boards  
(Appointees to be Ratified and Sworn In) (Continued)
  - (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, February 11, 2020
- (2) **Approved:** Affidavit of Posting Agenda on February 21, 2020

**C. CITY TREASURER**

- (1) **Approved:** Warrants / Payroll Register
  - (a) February 25, 2020: Wire Transfer: 11860-11864; Prepay: 157733 Check Nos. 157734-157921- for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$2,167,095.82; Total Payroll Issued for February 14, 2020: \$1,584,443.32

**D. CITY MANAGER**

- (1) **Approved:** Personnel Report No. P-2020-4
- (2) **Approved:** SECOND 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, February 11, 2020)

**ORDINANCE NO. 1816**

AN ORDINANCE 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

- (3) **Approved:** Carnival Contract with Baque Bros Concessions/Classic Rides, Inc. for Carnival at Mas Fukai Park on April 17-19, 2020

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)**

**D. CITY MANAGER (Continued)**

- (4) **Approved:** Ratify Administrative Approval of the Elderly Nutrition Program Contract ENP162006 Amendment Five
- (5) **Approved:** Ratify Administrative Approval Supportive Services Program Contract ENP 192003 Amendment One
- (6) **Approved:** Contract for Refurbished Dual and Mono Inverters with PSI Repair Services Inc., for a Contract total of \$590,000

**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 Henderson and Mayor Cerda  
**Noes:** None  
**Absent:** None

**6. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

**A. FEBRUARY 18, 2020, MEETING – Meeting Cancelled**

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Ms. Cheral Sherman, Vice-President, Friends of Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve: announced the new hours of operation for the Preserve and the self-guided tours. She gave a brief description of the nature activity currently taking place at the Preserve. She encouraged guests to come and enjoy the Willows Preserve.
- (2) Ms. Charlotte Lynch, resident: thanked Council Member Medina for his service to the community and a special recognition for being the “Brain Child” for the inception of the now customary City Council Meeting recognition of local military veterans.

**8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS**

- A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES – No Items
- B. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – No Items
- C. ELECTED & ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES – No Items
- D. GENERAL SERVICES

- (1) Approve Purchase Order to Altec Industries, Inc. for an Altec Model LR7-60E70 Articulating Aerial Device (insulated) Tree Truck in the amount of \$181,062.00 and a 2019 Vermeer BC 1000XL-49 – 12” brush chipper with 49 HP Tier 4F Engine in the amount of \$42,608.86 for Public Works Maintenance Equipment Purchase, JN 954

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

**8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)**

**D. GENERAL SERVICES (Continued)**

**(1) Approve Purchase Order to Altec Industries, Inc. (Continued)**

There was a discussion and the following questions/comments were made by Council: How purchasing this equipment and truck will reduce a lot of labor, how this fits into our sustainability plan, what is the percentage of our vehicles that have been replaced, what's the remaining balance of our gas tax fund, what we do with old equipment, which fund does the money go back into, and if we have to use the money in this fund every year. City Manager Osorio replied that vehicle replacement is incorporated into our budget within the last year or two, the percentage of vehicles that have been replaced is fairly low at this point, as we get more funding we will start replacing them; he continued to say that we have about \$1.1 million left in the gas tax fund, the equipment gets auctioned off every year and the money goes back to same funding source; we do have to use a certain amount every year it's called maintenance of effort, you would have to follow the projects that are listed in the budget.

**It was moved by Council Member Medina, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Purchase Order:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

**E. POLICE – No Items**

**F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES**

**(1) Authorization to Execute a Three-Year Professional Services Agreement with CivicRec/CivicPlus**

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion and the following questions were asked by Council: Will the credit card data be held on the CivicPlus network; how were we doing things in the past and how much time this will save us; if an employee will be able to be eliminated because we are purchasing this software. City Manager Osorio replied that yes, the credit card data will be held on the CivicPlus network, he continued to say that this will be one system, and will be all-inclusive, from the systems we were using before. Director of Recreation and Human Services, Stephany Santin came forward and said this would improve customer service, we would not be eliminating an employee, and that we would be able to focus more on other projects; Ms. Santin then stated that prior to this, we were gathering information by writing it down and inputting into excel spreadsheets; this will definitely be saving employee time, she continued to say that all of our residents can now do appointments from anywhere and will not have to come to the Nakaoka Community Center. City Manager Osorio then asked Ms. Santin, if after the one-year mark, if a report could be provided to show the savings.

**It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Council Member Medina, and carried by the following roll call vote to Authorize Agreement:**

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

**Noes: None**

**Absent: None**

**8. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS (Continued)**

**F. RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES (Continued)**

(2) Approval of the Fourth of July Fireworks Contract between the City Gardena and Pyro Spectaculars Inc.

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

There was a discussion where Council was asked to select a contract option which includes a three-year commitment totaling \$99,999. The contract includes a \$5,001 (14.2%) discount for year one (1) and locks in years two (2) and three (3) at \$35,000. In addition to the cost savings, Option 2 also ensures the City has a scheduled firework show on July 4<sup>th</sup>, the most popular day of the year for fireworks shows. If the City's professional fireworks show is canceled related to changes to the City's municipal code; the contract includes a termination clause limiting the city's liability for early cancellation. The following comments were made by Council: We're known in Gardena for having a fireworks show in our City every year, because we had a couple of bad experiences, and it was quite embarrassing what happened last year, I am not comfortable going with a 3 year contract; it was also proposed to take the \$35,000 bid for the first year, and see if we can get a discount for year 2 and year 3; it was also brought up in addition to the fireworks price quoted, we would also have to pay \$10-\$15,000 for security, and \$2,000 for clean-up by our Parks and Recreation; this could cost up to \$75,000-80,000 for a 20 minute show; they continued to say it's always been a free event, and asked if there was any way we can recoup costs, possibly by getting food trucks, vendors, etc.; they also discussed moving the date to possibly July 3<sup>rd</sup> or July 5<sup>th</sup>. Recreation and Human Services Director, Stephany Santin came forward and said over the last two years, we used another vendor for our fireworks show and the show was terrible, the show didn't last the full 18 minutes, there was a lapse in disbursing the fireworks, we were promised that music would be synchronized with the fireworks and that did not happen; we did not end up paying the vendor for last year's show. When we went back to Pyro Spectaculars, this is the price we were quoted because we left looking for something a little better and it backfired. Mayor and Council asked Ms. Santin to come back with more options.

**It was moved by Mayor Cerda, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote:**

**Ayes: Mayor Cerda and Council Member Henderson**

**Noes: Mayor Pro Tem Kaskanian, Council Members Medina and Tanaka**

**Absent: None**

***Item 8.F.(2) was not passed by Council.***

**G. TRANSPORTATION – No Items**

**9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS**

**A. COUNCIL ITEMS – No Items**

**B. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES**

**Council Member Henderson:**

- (1) Asked City Manager Osorio if he could get an update regarding a past traffic study completed by the City regarding stop signs at 147<sup>th</sup> going East and West between Crenshaw Blvd. and Van Ness Ave.; Council Member Tanaka seconded the directive.

**9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS (Continued)****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 a previous directive regarding California Consulting Grant writing;
- (2) Memo, salary survey regarding a previous directive regarding grant writers;
- (3) "Live, Work and Play" latest edition;
- (4) "Afternoon in the Park" a celebration of Black History, Saturday, February 29, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Rowley Park;
- (5) 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cymbidium Orchid Show, Saturday & Sunday 2/29/20, Saturday from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m. Sunday 3/1/20 from 10:00 a.m., to 4:00 p.m., at the Nakaoka Community Center;
- (6) "46<sup>th</sup> Annual Koi Show", Saturday & Sunday March 14-15, 2020, Saturday 2/29/20 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;
- (7) Gardena All In "Viva Las Vegas" Fundraiser event, Saturday, 03/21/2020, from 5:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., at Nakaoka Community Center. Price is \$25; and
- (8) Youth Chess Tournament, Saturday, March 28, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Nakaoka Community Center.

**D. COUNCIL REMARKS**

- (1) COUNCIL MEMBER MEDINA – said he attended Southern California Association of Governments, which represents 119 cities. He reported one of the biggest issues was regarding housing. He shared one of the reasons for homelessness was due to not being able to afford to pay rent or buy a home. He said they were working with Mayor Garcetti on setting up temporary homes as well as temporary porta-potties and mobile washing trucks to help people clean up. He said Ventura County was in desperate need of people to rent and buy homes.
- (2) MAYOR PRO TEM KASKANIAN – said he attended two candidate forums held at Rowley Park and Nakaoka Community Center. He thanked League of Women Voters of Torrance and our City Clerk and staff for putting the forum together. He wished all the candidates best of luck. He asked the registered voters to go out and vote; your voice counts.
- (3) COUNCIL MEMBER TANAKA – said he attended Ms. Gwen Duffy's service held at the Lighthouse Memorials & Receptions. He went to the candidates' forum and wished all the candidates good luck. He apologized for not being able to make it to the JCI event because he had prior engagements.
- (4) MAYOR CERDA – said she attended Ms. Gwen Duffy's repast held at the Lighthouse Memorial & Receptions. She said it was nice to talk with her family and sharing stories of the few times she met with Ms. Duffy and spent time with her. She attended the most recent candidate forum held at the Nakaoka Community Center. Last Sunday, she attended the stamp unveiling of an American Journalist, Ms. Gwen Ifill, held at the Gardena Hollypark Methodist Church. She stated that it was a nice ceremony, where they unveiled the stamp and had nice music. She attended the newly formed CCGGA JPA meeting where they deal with issues involving our casinos. On Thursday, she attended a special dinner and legislative break-in hosted by Assembly Member Mike Gipson held at the Porsche Center. She

9. COUNCIL ITEMS, DIRECTIVES & REMARKS (Continued)

D. COUNCIL REMARKS (Continued)

(4) MAYOR CERDA (Continued)

reported that Assembly Member Mike Gipson said they will be holding "Reimagine the 65<sup>th</sup> District" where they will have a special showcase for the cities. She said our City Manager, herself, Council and Economic Development Director will be invited to showcase ourselves. She attended a grand opening of a new, state-of-the-art gymnasium at El Camino College. She said along with neighboring cities, she presented a certificate and congratulated El Camino College. Last Saturday, she attended "The Day of Remembrance" at JCI where they showcased a film on internment camps in Hawaii. Lastly, this past Friday, she attended a Recognition Luncheon of the veterans of the 100 and the 442 Nisei Post 1461, where we handed out a couple of medals.

- (5) COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON – since the last Council Meeting, he participated in the candidate's forum hosted by the League of Women Voters. He thanked the City Clerk's office for stepping up with that event. He announced that early voting has started and encouraged everyone to vote. He thanked all the candidates and asked to wish them all good luck. He said it's always encouraging to have a community dialogue on things happening in our City. He attended the Gwen Ifill stamp unveiling at Hollypark Methodist Church. He said he executed some community meetings. He reminded everyone that voting day is actually March 3<sup>rd</sup>, but you can vote early.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cerda announced:

- (1) "State of the City 2020" scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2020, Meet, Greet & Eat at 6:00 p.m., Program scheduled at 7:00 p.m., at the Nakaoka Community Center, 1670 W. 162<sup>nd</sup> Street, Gardena.

11. REMEMBRANCES

Mr. Robert 'Bob' Lehman Bacharach, 79 years old, beloved husband of Mrs. Jackie Bacharach, Executive Director of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments; and Mrs. Margie L. Smith, 85 years of age, resident of Gardena for over 49 years; Mr. David Labeaud, 68 years old, a former Home Improvement Lead Person with the City of Gardena General Services Department. Mr. Labeaud retired on January 2, 2020, after serving the City of 26 years 7 months of City service.

12. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:25 p.m., Mayor Cerda adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to the next regular City Council Meeting, at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, March 10, 2020.

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