

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the
Gardena City Council
Tuesday, December 14, 2021

In order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, Governor Newsom has signed Assembly Bill 361. Please be advised that the Council Chambers are closed to the public and that some, or all, of the Gardena City Council Members may attend this meeting telephonically.

The Regular Meeting Notice and Agenda of the Gardena City Council of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order via Zoom at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, Mayor Cerda presiding.

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Art Kaskanian; and Council Member Paulette C. Francis; Other City Officials and Employees present: City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Carmen Vasquez; and City Clerk Mina Semenza.

At 7:07 p.m., the City Council recessed into Closed Session via Microsoft Teams, with the following in attendance: Mayor Tasha Cerda; Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka; Council Member Mark E. Henderson; Council Member Art Kaskanian; Council Member Paulette C. Francis. Other City Officials and Employees present: City Manager Clint Osorio; City Attorney Carmen Vasquez; Outside Counsel Lou Dumont; and Director of Administrative Services Ray Beeman and Transportation Director Ernie Crespo.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION - None

2. CLOSED SESSION

2.A CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- EXISTING LITIGATION Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
Thomas, Stormy v City of Gardena, et al.
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 19STCV12455

2.B CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
Government Code Section 54957.6
Agency Designated Representative: Clint Osorio, City Manager
Employee Organizations:

1. Gardena Police Officers Association (GPOA), Matt Hassoldt, Association President
2. Gardena Management Employees Organization (GMEO), Vicky L. Barker, Attorney
3. Gardena Municipal Employees Association (GMEA), Fred G. Quiel, Attorney
4. Confidential / Unrepresented Employees

- 2.C CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9:
(One [1] Matter)

Mayor Cerda reconvened the meeting to the Regular Open Session at 8:10 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 was any reportable action from Closed Session, she stated that staff was provided with direction but no reportable action was taken.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Henderson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **INVOCATION**

Mayor Pro Tem Rodney G. Tanaka led the Invocation.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

5.A Legislative Update by Senator Steven Bradford - ***Presentation was made by Senator Steve Bradford***

5.B Recognition of the City of Gardena's Transportation Department 2021 American Public Transportation Association Bus Safety Gold Awards - ***Presentation was made by Ara An of Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell's Office. Transportation Director Ernie Crespo came into the meeting to accept the award.***

6. **PROCLAMATIONS** - None

7. **APPOINTMENTS** - None

8. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

8.A Waiver of Reading in Full of All Ordinances Listed on This Agenda and that they Be Read by Title Only

CONTACT: CITY CLERK

8.B Approve Minutes:

Regular Meeting of the City Council, November 16, 2021

CONTACT: CITY CLERK

8.C Approval of Warrants/Payroll Register, November 23, 2021

CONTACT: CITY TREASURER

December 9, 2021: Wire Transfer: 12082-12084; Prepay; Check Nos. 165344-165497 – for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$1,051,226.68 Total Payroll Issued for November 19, 2021: \$2,007,985.49.

8.D Approval of Warrants/Payroll Register, December 14, 2021

CONTACT: CITY TREASURER

December 9, 2021: Wire Transfer: 12085-12098; Prepay: 165498-165506; Check Nos. 165507 -165661 – for a total Warrants issued in the amount of \$6,543,638.29
Total Payroll Issued for December 3, 2021: \$1,597,301.49

8.E Monthly Portfolio, September 2021

CONTACT: CITY TREASURER

8.F Monthly Portfolio, October 2021

CONTACT: CITY TREASURER

8.G Personnel Report No. P-2021-21

CONTACT: HUMAN RESOURCES

8.H RESOLUTION NO. 6538, Re affirming Proclamation and Resolution No. 6441, which declared the Existence of a Local Emergency

CONTACT: CITY MANAGER

RESOLUTION NO. 6538

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, REAFFIRMING PROCLAMATION AND RESOLUTION 6441 WHICH DECLEARED THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

8.I RESOLUTION NO. 6539, Making the legally required findings to Re-Authorize the use of Teleconferencing in accordance with Assembly Bill 361 for meetings of the Gardena City Council and other Commissions, Committees and Boards subject to State open meeting laws.

CONTACT: CITY MANAGER

RESOLUTION NO. 6539

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, MAKING THE LEGALLY REQUIRED FINDINGS TO RE-AUTHORIZE THE USE OF TELECONFERENCING IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 361 FOR MEETINGS OF THE GARDENA CITY COUNCIL AND OTHER COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES AND BOARDS SUBJECT TO STATE OPEN MEETING LAWS

- 8.J RESOLUTION NO. 6540, Adopting a Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Opioid National Settlements arising out of In Re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, Case No. 1:17-MD-02804.
CONTACT: CITY MANAGER

RESOLUTION NO. 6540

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF GARDENA TO ENTER INTO SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH MCKENSSON CORPORATION, CARDINAL HEALTH INC., AMERISOURCEBERGEN CORPORATION, JOHNSON & JOHNSON, JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., ORTHO-MCNEIL-JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., AND JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICAL, INC., AGREE TO THE TERMS OF THE MOU ALLOCATING SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS, AND AUTHORIZE ENTRY INTO THE MOU WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

- 8.K Approve Amendment 01 to Local Agreement CCTR- 1084 with the California Department of Social Services for additional funding of the Gardena Family Child Care Program.

CONTACT: RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES

- 8.L Acceptance and Notice of Completion For Western Avenue Street Improvement, JN 955, Hardy and Harper, Inc

CONTACT: PUBLIC WORKS

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Council Member Kaskanian, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve all Items on the Consent Calendar with the exception of Item 8.G:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

9. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR

- 8.G HUMAN RESOURCES - Personnel Report No. P-2021-21 - This Item was pulled by Mayor Cerda

Mayor Cerda pointed out the typos with regards to the conflict of numbers on the personnel report and asked to be corrected by the next council meeting.

It was moved by Council Member Kaskanian, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve Item 8.G:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

10. PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION ACTION SHEET

10.A DECEMBER 7, 2021 MEETING

The Planning Commission considered an Ordinance adopting changes to Title 17 (Subdivisions) and Title 18 (Zoning) of the Gardena Municipal Code relating to the implementation of Senate Bill 9 allowing the subdivision of single-family residential lots into two and the creation of two residential units per lot as mandated by State law. The adoption of this Ordinance is not a project under CEQA pursuant to California Senate Bill 9. The Commission's consideration involved making a recommendation to the City Council.

APPLICANT: City

LOCATION: Citywide

Commission Action: The Planning Commission voted 3-2 -0, approving Resolution No. PC 14-21, recommending that the City Council adopt Urgency Ordinance No. 1838 and Ordinance No. 1839.

City Council: No action needed. This item is scheduled for the January 11, 2022, meeting.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – No Speakers

11. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- 11.A City of Gardena Audit Reports for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021: Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), Family Child Care and GTrans

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Ken Pun, President of The Pun Group gave a PowerPoint presentation.

Council Member Henderson asked what the difference between CAFR and ACFR was. Kenneth Pun clarified that the name was changed because it is an offensive term in South Africa. Mayor Cerda thanked Kenneth Pun for the very informative report.

This Item was Received and Filed

11.B RESOLUTION NO. 6541, Approving the Application for Per Capita Grant Funds

RESOLUTION NO. 6541

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDENA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR PER CAPITA GRANT FUNDS

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Adopt Resolution No. 6541:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

12. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - No Items

13. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - ELECTED & CITY MANAGER'S OFFICES

13.A Approval of the 2021 -2025 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Gardena and the Gardena Management Employees Organization (GMEO)

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

City Manager Osorio presented a PowerPoint presentation. Administrative Services Director, Raymond Beeman and Director of Transportation Ernie Crespo, who were the primary negotiators, came into the meeting and were available for any questions.

Mayor Cerda thanked City Manager Osorio for all the hard work that he and the entire team did throughout the negotiations.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka, seconded by Council Member Francis, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the MOU and authorize the City Manager to execute the MOU with a term of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

13.B COVID-19 Update

City Manager Osorio presented the update.

Mayor Cerda asked if the cases were separated by the Delta or Omicron variants. City Manager Osorio replied that it was not specified by variant and was a mixture of all variants of COVID cases.

14. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS – POLICE – No Items

15. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - PUBLIC WORKS - No Items

16. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - RECREATION & HUMAN SERVICES

- 16.A Approve Memorandum of Understanding Between the South Bay Cities Council of Government (SBCCOG) and the City of Gardena Regarding Use of Allocated County of Los Angeles Innovation Grant Funds to Implement the City's Homeless Plan and Outreach Coordinator Program beginning January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Recreation and Human Services Director Stephany Santin presented a PowerPoint presentation.

There was a lengthy discussion which included all members of the Council, City Manager Osorio, City Attorney Vasquez and Director of Recreation and Human Services Santin regarding the funding for the Homeless Plan and how it will be administered.

It was moved by Council Member Francis, seconded by Council Member Henderson, and carried by the following roll call vote to Approve the MOU between the City of Gardena and South Bay Cities Council of Government to implement Innovation Grant Funds:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

17. DEPARTMENTAL ITEMS - TRANSPORTATION

- 17.A Approve Contract with Commline, Inc. for purchase and installation of a Radio System for \$433,488

City Manager Osorio presented the Staff Report.

Council Member Henderson asked if we are not allowing competitive process to thrive if not associated with the JPA, and how would they have competed for this contract. City Manager Osorio said this is a sole source agreement simply because Commline, Inc. works directly with the INSB radio system network, which we are piggybacking off of, and that Commline, Inc. is the sole provider for the encryption that is in the radios. Council Member Henderson stated that he just wanted to make sure that as we move forward, and as more JPA's get created, that Gardena is making sure everyone has an opportunity to compete for our business. Council

Member Francis asked if we were moving from a lease agreement to a purchase agreement and asked how long the contract was for. City Manager responded that it was a separate agreement with INSB. Council Member Francis asked about the maintenance, purchase and replacements of radios if lost. City Manager Osorio stated the maintenance and warranty only applies to the radio we have, if lost, we would replace it but if it gets damaged it's under warranty and will be replaced.

It was moved by Council Member Henderson, seconded by Council Member Francis, and carried by the following roll vote to Approve Contract:

Ayes: Council Members Henderson, Francis and Kaskanian. and Mayor Cerda

Noes: None

Abstain: Mayor Pro Tem Tanaka

Absent: None

18. COUNCIL ITEMS - *No Items*

19. COUNCIL DIRECTIVES - *No Items*

20. CITY MANAGER REMARKS RE: DIRECTIVES / COUNCIL ITEMS

City Manager Osorio gave a verbal report of information to follow-up on matters that had been directed or requested by the Mayor and Members of Council. Those items were, as follows:

1. Gave a verbal update for Council Member Francis' succession plan directive for the City of Gardena as it relates to the executive team, specifically City Manager and the Directors. He said should a department head go on a short-term leave, the department head has the discretion of designating an alternate for his/her position, if not, city manager can appointment internally. If long-term or a matter of separation from the position, the City Manager may select the interim director from an internal candidate pool or an external candidate pool by running a recruitment. Regarding City Manager, whether short or long-term, the City Council has discretion hiring a replacement from within for interim or permanent basis. If in absence of a qualified candidate internally, the City Council may elect to go on a national search for a recruitment of a City Manager. City Manager Osorio said he will provide a written memo.
2. Video of all events that took place and for upcoming events:
 - Rotary Club of Carson Gardena Dominguez Operation Gobble
 - Senior Citizen Health Fair, Friday, November 19, 2021
 - Share your input as we create a master plan for Mas Fukai Park, Saturday, November 20, 2021
 - "Wobble Wobble Before You Gobble" Line Dancing Event, Saturday, November 20, 2021
 - The Gardena Valley Lions Club and City of Gardena 14th Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon, Thursday, November 25, 2021, at El Pollo Inka Peruvian Restaurant.
 - City of Gardena Walking in a Winter Wonderland and Holiday Crafts Boutique, Saturday, December 4, 2021

- Save the Date – Santa’s Holiday Pajama Party for GFCC Families, Saturday, December 4, 2021
 - Save the Dates - Jolly Trolley Park Tour, Thursday, December 9, Tuesday, December 14, and Thursday December 16, 2021
 - Annual Employee Tree Trimming Party, Thursday, December 8, 2021
 - Save the Date - Harbor Gateway North Winter Wonderland, December 10, 2021
 - Helping Hands 2021 Toy & Food Voucher Giveaway for Gardena Residents, Deadline extended to Wednesday, December 1, 2021
 - Breakfast with Santa, Saturday, December 11, 2021
 - Holiday Home Decoration Contest, Deadline Saturday, December 11, 2021
 - Ribbon Cutting & Holiday Mixer, Wednesday, December 15, 2021
 - 18th Annual Compton Veterans Stand Down, December 18, 2021
 - 2nd Annual Holiday Drive Thru Event by Gardena Elks Lodge #1919, Sunday December 19, 2021
 - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Parade, Saturday, January 15, 2022
3. Invited Administrative Analyst Mary Simonell to present on Gardena Community Aquatic & Senior Center Prop 68 Grant Award. He thanked Mary Simonell for presenting and invited and thanked three Directors, Raymond Beeman, Allan Rigg and Stephany Santin, along with everyone else involved for making this grant happen.
 4. He wished his kids a happy birthday for turning 10 years old on Saturday, and if they are still awake watching, to go to bed.

21. COUNCIL REMARKS

1. COUNCIL MEMBER HENDERSON - He congratulated GTrans for their awards dinner and the Parks and Recreation for their holiday dinner. He also attended other meetings. He stated that since this is the last meeting of the year, he thinks that’s a great note “to go out on as a city” as we talk about success – our success is breeding more success as we continue to move forward and the success has to do with all of us, our community, our staff, all the employees that make us who we are. He reiterated what Councilwoman Francis stated, “this is just the beginning of new things to come”. He talked about the city having transparency being a responsive government, having high street quality in the state of California, lighting plans, tree plans, park plans now we’re working on a homeless plan, and getting through the worst part of a pandemic were tough decisions had to be made. He thanked his colleagues and everybody for always putting Gardena first and getting things done and for all the effort that they put in and making sure that we’re a top-notch community as Councilman Tanaka says “we are the jewel of the south bay” our next thing is to be the jewel of LA County and after that we’ll be the jewel of the State of California. He wished everyone a Happy Holidays and is looking forward to 2022.
2. COUNCIL MEMBER FRANCIS - Since the last meeting, she attended a virtual conference with Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi; a Zoom meeting - Loss of State of

Homelessness Seminar; and attended the Winter Wonderland, where she seen the Jolly Trolley for the first time. She also attended the GTrans Award Banquet and thanked the GTrans team/staff for their dedication, good leadership and commitment. She also believed that municipal bus transportation should have been considered essential workers during this COVID time, since so many people depended on bus transportation. She also attended the CERT Training, the Search Teams Holiday Potluck, Breakfast with Santa, and the Jolly Trolley at Rowley and Freeman Park. She thanked the Recreation staff for a wonderful job. She has also attended the Citizens Redistricting Commission which is about to come to a conclusion and pointed out the City of Gardena is going to move out of congressional Maxine Waters 43rd District into Ted Lieu 33rd congressional district and recommends that the city stays put. She stated that if anyone has a concern and wants to make a public comment, go to the website wedrawthelines.com. She also stated that as we close 2021, she wants to encourage everyone to keep doing what they are doing and pray for everyone this Christmas year. She also thanked the Council Members/Colleagues for being passionate about our city. She is also looking forward to next year to create a greater vision for our city. She also stated not to be discouraged about the new variants and continue to wear your mask, practice social distancing, and keep sanitizing and we are going to get through this “better days are ahead”. She wished everyone a Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas.

3. MAYOR PRO TEM TANAKA – He stated that there’s standing committees that he attends all the time and believes that the important ones are the City events, like attending the Rotary Gobble, City Tree Lighting, Santa Claus showing off our new trolley and GTrans recognition, one driver in particular had a perfect driving record for 21 years with no accidents. He attended the Tri-City CERT, which was a great event. He went to see Santa Clause at Rowley Park and there were varies activities for all the kids. He expressed his appreciation and thanked all the city staff/employees for their dedication and hard work for everything that they do for the community, citizens, and children’s because “we do things that nobody else is doing”. He specially thanked the Recreation and Human Services Department. He hopes that next year will be twice as better, even with COVID. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year.
4. MAYOR CERDA – Since the last City Council meeting, she attended her monthly board meetings such as, the CCGA, Sanitation and the 2021 Conference of Mayors. She also attended the G3 Rosecrans Grand Opening. She participated in the Genesis Church food giveaway and then attended Wobble before you Gobble at Rowley Park and she thanked Parks and Recreation for working with the organization that put the event together. She also attended Al Muratsuchi Community Virtual Coffee Event, where she received great feedback from residents in the Gardena area, the COG Executive Legislative Meeting, the ADAAP Awards Ceremony, she was the keynote speaker for their Red Ribbon Awards Ceremony, she attended the Winter Wonderland and the Tree Lighting ceremony, she mentioned that she was able to get there early and it was great to see all the employees come together to make that event special, she gave a special “thank you” to all the departments involved; the tree lighting ceremony and then attended the GTrans award ceremony and congratulated them again on obtaining those two awards, she also attended Breakfast with Santa, the Parks & Rec holiday party, the Carnelian HOA holiday party, the Elks Build A Bear drive thru event, the employee

President, and the Winter Wonderland put on by Harbor Gateway. She congratulated our employees in getting the Prop 68 Grant award and was excited that we were able to purchase the Chase building so we can offer services on the northside of town. She thanked the entire City Council and all the employees we did not get to mention, we appreciate you, our residents appreciate you, we hear it back on our end from them, at the end of the day it is a team effort.

5. COUNCIL MEMBER KASKANIAN – Since the last Council meeting, he attended all the events that were mentioned by his colleagues, he mentioned he would like to wish all of his Gardena family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, he hopes that everyone has a safe and healthy new year, he also congratulated GTrans on getting the two awards, he wasn't able to attend the celebration because he was out of the country, he then thanked his colleagues for working so hard to make Gardena a better place to live.

22. ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

Mayor Cerda announced:

1. Jolly Trolley Park Tour, Thursday, December 16, 2021

23. REMEMBRANCES

Katsumi Sugimoto; 96 years of age. Mr. Sugimoto was a WWII Army Veteran. Dolores Orozco; 72 years of age, beloved grandmother of Alejandra Orozco, Admin Analyst in the City Manager's Office. Julius C. Crofton; 76 years of age, long time resident of Gardena, father of five children and beloved brother of LaVerne Knight. Jessie Hamilton; long time Gardena resident, beloved wife of the late Arnold Hamilton and mother of Pamela Stephens.

24. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:43 p.m., Mayor Cerda adjourned the Gardena City Council Meeting to the Closed Session portion of the City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m., and the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

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