

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Gil Hurtado called a regular City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION Jean Reed, VFW Post 1732 Auxiliary Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Nick Godoy, VFW Post 1732 Commander

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

PRESENT Mayor Gil Hurtado, Vice Mayor Henry C. Gonzalez and Council Member Bill De Witt; City Manager Ronald Bates and City Attorney Raul Salinas

LATE Council Member Gregory Martinez arrived at the dais at 6:47 p.m.

ABSENT Council Member Maria Davila and City Treasurer Rudy Navarro

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PRESENTATIONS The City Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Loy and Olga Galvan at 5301 Batavia Road, in recognition of receiving the Residential Beautification Award and to Niky's Sports at 3537 Tweedy Boulevard, in recognition of receiving the Commercial Beautification Award for November 2008.

2
PARKS The City Council approved the Parks & Recreation Master Plan, by motion of Mayor Hurtado and seconded by Council Member De Witt. Council Member Davila was absent; and

- a. Approved the Commission's recommended list of priority goals; and
- b. Directed staff to begin implementation and to return to Council for specific direction or authorization as needed; and
- c. Directed the Parks & Recreation Commission to review Master Plan and its implementation annually and to complete an update for the plan every five years.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue requested microphones for the commission. She thanked Nellie Cobos and Bryan Cook for email updates. She would like to see the City pick up E waste one day a year. She requested an explanation on tax 10.25% and believes South Gate should stay at 9.25%.

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COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE CONTINUED

Vice Mayor Gonzalez responded that the cap increase is from the State and is not sure if it would be approved. He requested a staff report on tax.

Nick Godoy, 8611 San Gabriel Avenue mentioned that the signal timing at Firestone Boulevard west of Long Beach Boulevard is not working properly. He recommended that when permits are issued by Building and Safety for construction, residents should be required to call Dig Alert if they are digging.

Ronald Bates, City Manger responded that the 9.25% was the cap when voters approved the tax. This increase brought South Gate to the cap, with the exception of if a legislative bill is signed by the governor. This would allow an over-ride to the cap and that is what happened with Measure R. MTA was allowed the increase and at the time of our Measure, South Gate did not know it would be raised. For the sales tax to be increased in California it would have to be approved by the State Legislative with the governor's signature. The southeast cities will get money from Measure R about two million a year for local streets/roads, I-5, I-10, I-605 construction projects and rail projects.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Lolita Brown Fletcher announced that the Personnel building will be closed on Wednesday because of tenting. The tenting was cancelled but the building will still be closed.

Robert Todd, Chief of Police informed Council that the Santa Cop program received a donation from Waste Management.

Robert Dickey, Director of Public Works informed Council that a street light circuit was out at Illinois Avenue and Iowa Avenue. Public Works is checking on possible stimulus funds to improve street lights.

Steve Lefever, Director of Community Development informed Council that the South Gate General Plan is in compliance with State requirements and will go before the State for review soon.

Ronald Bates, City Manger informed Council that an agreement with Central Basin Water District should be reached soon in regards to underground storage.

Raul Salinas, City Attorney informed Council that the bankruptcy court has decided on the GWS Settlement and the City will get the Miller Way property back and terminate the lease with Garrido.

Carmen Avalos, City Clerk mentioned that two people filed for Council and one pulled for Treasurer.

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REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

CONTINUED

Council Member Martinez mentioned that two cities, South Gate and Pico Rivera will be at the highest tax level in State of California. If the state approves the increase that will put South Gate just under 11% sales taxes. He requested that the travel team and the usage of lights be placed at the next agenda. He also requested a financial report regarding the 9.25% tax because the City has no General Fund Reserve.

Council Member De Witt informed that the Los Angeles County Sanitation District will ship refuse by rail to Imperial County. The Puente Hills landfill will increase fees to cover these costs. The Puente Hills landfill closing date is December 31, 2013 and the rail project must be completed by then.

Vice Mayor Gonzalez announced that Assembly member Hector De La Torre will speak at the Rotary meeting of December 13, 2008 about state budget.

Mayor Hurtado announced that the South Gate Lighting Ceremony at City Hall will be on Thursday, December 4th.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 were approved during consideration of the Consent Calendar by motion of Vice Mayor Gonzalez and seconded by Mayor Hurtado. Council Member Davila was absent.

3 MUNICIPAL CODE ADMINISTRATION

The City Council waived the reading and adopted Ordinance No. 2256 entitled – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of South Gate amending Title 13 (Franchises) Chapter 13.10 (Compensation), Section 13.10.010 (Rates-General), of the South Gate Municipal Code, during Consideration of the Consent Calendar. Council Member Davila was absent; and

- a. Adopted Resolution No. 7286 entitled – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of South Gate amending the City's Fee Resolution No. 7265.

4 COMMUNITY DEV/ HOUSING

The City Council approved Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2460 with the Oldtimers Community Housing Development Corporation – IV (CHDO) regarding a change of property location and an increase in HUD HOME funds, during Consideration of the Consent Calendar. Council Member Davila was absent; and

- a. Authorized the Mayor to execute the Amendment in a form approved by the City Attorney.

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PARKS

The City Council approved the Youth Employment Plan promoting the employment of at-risk youth in the care, and upkeep of facilities built or renovated with Proposition A grant funds as required by the grant agreement, during Consideration of the Consent Calendar. Council Member Davila was absent.

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PARKS

The City Council approved the Request for Proposal for the South Gate Park Infrastructure Improvement Design Project and authorized advertisement during Consideration of the Consent Calendar. Council Member Davila was absent.

7

PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT & SELECTION

The City Council removed the City's hiring freeze on three (3) General Fund Recreation Coordinator positions, during Consideration of the Consent Calendar. Council Member Davila was absent.

8

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

The City Council appropriated \$35,000 from Air Quality Management District (AQMD) funds for the retrofit of two vehicles to comply with regulations, during Consideration of the Consent Calendar. Council Member Davila was absent; and

- a. Authorized staff to proceed with the bidding process and the retrofit of two City vehicles.

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SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY MGMT

The City Council authorized U.S. Auction to sell on consignment miscellaneous surplus items, during Consideration of the Consent Calendar. Council Member Davila was absent; and

- a. Declared the attached list of assets as Surplus Property.

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MINUTES

The City Council approved the Special City Council Meeting Minutes of October 21 & 28, 2008; November 11, 2008 and Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2008 and November 11, 2008, during Consideration of the Consent Calendar. Council Member Davila was absent.

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PERSONNEL ADMIN

The City Council continued the discussion and providing direction on proposed workplace violence prevention policy, to the City Council meeting of January 13, 2009, by motion of Vice Mayor Gonzalez and seconded by Mayor Hurtado. Council Member Davila was absent.

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**WARRANTS AND
CANCELLATIONS**

The City Council approved the Warrants and Cancellations with the exception of Warrant No. 145996 for November 25, 2008, by motion of Vice Mayor Gonzalez and seconded by Mayor Hurtado.

Total of Checks:	\$2,351,831.82
Total of Payroll Deductions:	<u>\$ < 67,603.66 ></u>
Grand Total:	\$ 2,284,228.16

Vice Mayor Gonzalez motioned to approve Warrant No. 145996 and seconded by Mayor Hurtado. Council Member Martinez abstained. Council Member Davila was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

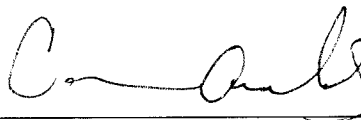
Mayor Hurtado adjourned the meeting in memory of Bill Cox, long time South Gate resident at 8:07 p.m., and seconded by Vice Mayor Gonzalez. Council Member Davila was absent.

PASSED and APPROVED this 9th day of December, 2008.

ATTEST:



Gil Hurtado, Chairperson



Carmen Avalos, City Clerk