

**CITY OF SOUTH GATE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Bill De Witt called a regular City Council meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

INVOCATION Pastor Nick Garife, 2008 Grand Marshall led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Sylvia Masushige, 2008 Azalea Queen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL Carmen Avalos, City Clerk

PRESENT Mayor Bill De Witt, Vice Mayor Gil Hurtado, Council Member Henry C. Gonzalez, Council Member Gregory Martinez and Council Member Maria Davila; City Treasurer Rudy Navarro, City Manager Ronald Bates and City Attorney Raul Salinas

1
PROCLAMATION The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring the week of April 13 through 19, 2008, as The Week of the Young Child.

2
PROCLAMATION The City Council issued Proclamations declaring the week of April 13 through 19, 2008, as “National Library Week” for both the Hollydale and Leland R. Weaver Libraries.

3
PROCLAMATION The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring the week of April 13-19, 2008 as National Public Safety Telecommunicator’s Week; and

- a) Presented Certificates of Appreciation to the South Gate Police Department Dispatchers in recognition of National Public Safety Telecommunicator’s Week.

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PRESENTATION The City Council presented Certificates of Appreciation to 2007 Azalea Queen Bobby Thompson and 2007 Grand Marshall Pastor Charles Brady in recognition of their outstanding service to the community; and

- a) Introduced 2008 Azalea Queen Sylvia Masushige and 2008 Grand Marshall Pastor Nick Garife, and presented them with Keys to the City.

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PRESENTATION

The City Council presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Virginia Johnson for receiving the 2008 Woman of the Year Award for the 50th Assembly District in recognition for her dedicated service to the community.

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PRESENTATION

Mayor De Witt introduced the 2008 Miss Azaleita Sofia Huerta, Princess Jacqueline Rojas, Princess Estrella Bermudez, Miss Photogenic Christina Martinez and Miss Congeniality Angela M. Huerta.

7

CITY COUNCIL

The City Council re-organized and the Oath of Office was administered to the newly selected Mayor and Vice Mayor.

Gil Hurtado was unanimously appointed Mayor by motion of Mayor De Witt and seconded by Council Member Davila.

Henry C. Gonzalez was unanimously appointed Vice Mayor by motion of Mayor Hurtado and seconded by Council Member De Witt.

RECESS

The City Council recessed at 7:33 p.m. and reconvened at 8:12 p.m., with all Members of Council present.

**COMMENTS FROM
THE AUDIENCE**

Roberto Machuca, 8415 San Antonio Avenue, reported attending a Healthy Eating Workshop two weeks ago at the South Gate Girl's Clubhouse. Steve Lefever, Director of Community Development and Julia James, Director of Finance were also present.

Virginia Johnson, 5751 McKinley Avenue, congratulated City Council for another great year. She asked City Council to keep a watchful eye on the desecration of our American flag on May Day.

Jose Antonio Gutierrez, 9409 Hildreth Avenue, informed Council that the residents on Hildreth are allowed two parking permits and is asking for additional parking permits for members of his family.

Ana Casas, 8968 San Juan Avenue, complained to Council about the new dial-a-ride. She thanked Council Member Martinez for helping her with the dial-a-ride problem last week.

Mayor Hurtado explained that all problems will be addressed.

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COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE CONT'D

Ronald Bates, City Manager responded that staff is aware of the problems and are very concerned. He asked Paul Adams, Director of Parks & Recreation for an update on what's happened since the City realized the problems.

Ana Casas asked Council to please fix the problems. She once again thanked Council Member Martinez for helping her with the dial-a-ride problem last week.

Council Member Gonzalez understands Ms. Casas and informed her that staff is looking into the dial-a-ride situation.

Council Member Martinez reported that Ms. Casas called him a few times last week.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY OFFICIALS

Council Member Martinez requested to include Tweedy Boulevard with Mr. Gutierrez's request because the residents on Tweedy Boulevard are also have parking problems.

Council Member De Witt reported that Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) will be having a very important meeting on Friday to discuss the Orangeline project. He thanked the Public Works Department for their quick response to the sewage problem on Abbot Road.

Council Member Davila highlighted upcoming community events.

Vice Mayor Gonzalez announced that on Wednesday, April 16th at 6:00 p.m. in the South Gate High School auditorium the LAUSD will be having the site selection for Elementary No. 9. He mentioned reading an article on Lorenzo Mata former South Gate High School student in the LA Times newspaper. He also reported receiving a few phone calls about the Police Department not enforcing the preferential parking on Cypress Avenue.

Mayor Hurtado reported attending the Gateway Cities meeting last week and heard a presentation on some projects. He also received updates on the freeway projects.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Agenda Items 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 were unanimously approved during consideration of the Consent Calendar by motion of Mayor Hurtado and seconded by Council Member De Witt. Item 8 was removed for separate discussion.