

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD JANUARY 24, 2006.**

Mayor/Chairman Guidi called the City Council, Community Redevelopment Agency and Parking Authority meeting to order jointly and concurrently at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the City Hall, 4455 West 126th Street, Hawthorne, California.

ROLL CALL-Present: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.
Absent: None.

Father Chris from St. Joseph's Church gave the evening's Invocation and Darlene Love led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Guidi presented a Proclamation honoring Principal Carlen Powell of Cimarron Avenue Elementary School, for her extraordinary efforts in the leadership, dedication and commitment to her students. A Proclamation was also presented honoring the teachers and staff of Cimarron.

1.

The City Council did not act on this closed session.

Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code). Name of Case: S&W Towing & Storage Corporation v. City of Hawthorne, Case No: BC 343974.

2.

Under Discussion/Action Items:

Councilmember **Catano** thanked Harold Roth for keeping him updated on planning commission meetings and Joe Scofield for being a concerned citizen and informing him on the many things happening in Hawthorne.

Councilmember **Lambert** announced that electronics can be disposed of at the Hyperion Treatment Plant at 7660 Imperial Hwy in Playa Del Rey.

Councilmember **Velez** appreciates all the comments made regarding the helicopter program, but stated that the helicopter was grounded for business purposes.

Mayor **Guidi** responded to comments regarding the helicopter program by stating that he helped bring the helicopter into the City. He stated that other South Bay cities were supposed to become involved in the use of the helicopter along with fund assistance but the city ended up with no significant financial assistance whatsoever. The people who are criticizing the shut-down of the helicopter program are not from Hawthorne although they carefully orchestrated their presentation tonight. Mayor Guidi said that it is not fair for Hawthorne taxpayers to pay for a helicopter that spends more time in other South Bay Cities than in Hawthorne. We were planning to ground the helicopter one year ago but we were advised that other cities would help with the financial burden. The Mayor of Redondo Beach cancelled three appointments with me to discuss this issue. The City Manager is responsible for the day to day administration of the City and he makes decisions concerning the City's financial bottom line. Unfortunately, that does not include the City helicopter.

Prentice: The city manager manages the city at the direction of the council

Our Finance Director has provided us with the numbers to calculate the amount of money we need to operate. I have already stated last year that we are expecting more budget cuts as a result of the Sacramento Tsunami affecting all cities. Indeed, even the federal government has started cutting many programs that affect our City's Housing and SBWIB Department. . They've closed or they're getting ready to close a workplace investment site in Westchester. Mayor Guidi said he was getting frustrated with all these people from other cities who claim that their city will provide funding for the helicopter, yet their elected officials don't seem to agree. It costs almost \$300,000 to keep the helicopter in the sky. Although the city budget is balanced right now, we need to start preparing for future budget cuts. Sound

financial business decisions by the this City always seem to be undermined by people who come to our meetings to criticize our decisions without researching our budget. The decision was made a month ago through the city manager's recommendation that the City needs to ground the helicopter. The city council agreed to support the city manager. The program is done. We need to lock the helicopter hangar and clear it of the personnel who store their personal vehicles in there. More cuts may be made in the future, so I guess we need to be prepared for others who live outside the city to criticize the hard business decisions made by this council. The Mayor is a strong believer in the advantages of having a police helicopter for law enforcement purposes, but the city is simply not getting the financial assistance from other cities that it has requested. Boeing and Ford is laying off employees and the City is trying to prevent that type of future. The Mayor said he is working hard to bring in other new businesses to generate more revenue for the City. The City's bank account indicates that we need to be very attentive to our bottom line. We need to anticipate the upcoming budget cuts at the state and federal level and stabilize the City.

Mayor **Guidi** thanked the Principal and the Board of Dana School for inviting him to be a guest speaker.

Mayor **Guidi** thanked Brent Morgan for the Bodger Park meeting last night.

Mayor **Guidi** has received complaints regarding personal vehicles being stored on city owned property.

Mayor **Guidi** thanked Hamid Pournamdari of the Housing Department for collecting \$800,000 for collection of Section 8 payments from Los Angeles.

Councilman **Velez** stated having a discussion/action item on this agenda and the topic being.

- Police Towing Contract. (Velez).

Councilmember **Velez** asked for an update of where we stand in regards to the tow contract. City Attorney, Glen Shishido stated that there has been a guilty plea by both the manager and the corporation and a letter has been sent to terminate the contract by February 10, 2006. Councilman Velez asked that the City Manager submit a report with recommendations on what we are going to do on an interim basis and a long term basis.

Councilmember **Parsons** feels that the helicopter is a valuable tool that protects officer's safety but it is hard to justify the helicopter for a six square mile city. But as a south bay resource, the south bay cities need a police helicopter and asked that other cities join in to help pay for helicopter.

Councilmember **Parsons** spoke on the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), a program that the City of Redondo Beach runs to train civilians on what to do in a disaster and suggested that Hawthorne look into what it would take to form CERT program.

Councilmember **Parsons** inquired on when the next quarterly budget report will be available.

Under Nominations to serve on City Committees and Boards, Mayor Guidi re-appointed the following individuals on their respective commissions.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Les Wixon
Alejandro Vargas
Darlene Love
Manuel Balboa
Allen Richards

PLANNING COMMISSION

Robert E. Smith
James Cole Jr.
Bernard Belonski
Patrick Carey

Mayor Guidi **did not** re-appoint Planning Commissioner Juan Ortiz.

Councilmember Velez moved, seconded by Mayor Guidi to approve his recommendation.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.
NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION AND FINE ARTS COMMISSION

David Hughes
Charles Bowie Jr.
Tim Ostensen
Margaret Jeppesen
Herminia Balboa

Mayor Guidi **did not** re-appoint Lorraine Hendricks-Stewart.

Mayor Guidi requested that the City Clerk placed a call to Norm Morton to find out if he would like to be re-appointed to the commission due to the fact that he didn't receive an application, and if he indeed said yes, he will be re-appointed at the next regular city council meeting .

Councilmember Catano moved, seconded by Mayor Guidi to approve Mayor Guidi's recommendation.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.
NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

YOUTH COMMISSION

Steve Mitchell
Hugo Rojas
W.D McCoy
Ammar Kahf
Dixie Tobey

Councilmember Catano moved, seconded by Councilmember Lambert to approve Mayor Guidi's recommendation.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.
NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

3.

Under oral communications, **Don Harris**, President of the Chamber of Commerce, reminded everyone that the State of City luncheon will be held on Thursday, February 9th. **Ferris "Bud" Schick** **stated** that for many years the city has been very generous in not having a strict enforcement policy of the 72 hour parking law mandated by the state and would it not be just as difficult to enforce a 24 hour or 48 hour time frame as it would be to enforce the 72 hour limit. Suggested that parking too close to an intersection can be solved by a bucket of red paint. **Robert Butler**, owner of Bravo Aviation, on behalf of the Professional Helicopter Pilots Association thanked the council for all their efforts and professionalism in leading the city and that their teamwork will find a way to put Air 55 back in the air. **Corey Fleiscier**, Chairman of the Redondo Beach Public Safety Commission, thanked the Council for the helicopter program that has made the South Bay a better place and would like to see the helicopter program brought back. **Tim Lynn**, a retired police officer and a police pilot who flies Air 55, asked the Council to take into mind the hard work that has been done to get the air unit to where it is today so that it may be put back into the air. **Patrick Furey**, a former police officer and through his current employment as an attorney for another governmental agency, had the fortune to do a ride along on Air 55, was disheartened to find out that the program had been grounded and hopes that the Council can find it within their budget to get Air 55 in the air again and that other cities will see and hear the benefits and help out the way we need it. **Allen Richards**, 13828 Ramona Ave., announced that the Ramona Neighborhood Association will have their election of officers on Thursday, February 16th at the Ramona School cafeteria at 7pm. and invited the Council and Staff. Also stated that Hawthorne needs Air 55 and hopes other cities will help out financially. Suggested that real estate agencies be given information to pass on to new owners on how to properly use the trash bins. Feels that oversize vehicles have no reason to be on residential streets. **Darlene Love**, 2003 W. 116th St., asked if an officer can be sent out to Cimarron School to remind parents not to leave their cars parked blocking traffic. Stated that there is still a vacant seat at the table sponsored by the Women's Club. Anyone interested in one seat should contact Ms. Love.

John Slauson, 825 Maple, feels that Air 55 is an incredible program that should be given careful consideration. **Frances Stiglich**, 11534 Gale Ave., asked that the helicopter be kept. Inquired on tire-slashing incident that occurred in her neighborhood. Stated there is a major problem with trash at the vacant lot.

No one else indicated a desire to be heard.

Mayor/Chairman Guidi ordered oral communications closed.

4.

Mayor/Chairman Guidi recessed the Community Redevelopment Agency, Parking Authority and Housing Authority meetings to conduct the meeting of the City Council.

5.

Mayor Guidi moved, seconded by Councilmember Lambert, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the regular meeting of January 10, 2006 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.

NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

6.

Mayor Guidi moved, seconded by Councilmember Lambert, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on January 24, 2006's agenda.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.

NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

7.

City Clerk Angie Reyes English announced that this was the time and place for the public hearing on Zone Text Amendment 2006ZA01 [Planning Commission Resolution No. PC 2006-02], Amending Section 17.58.030 C [Industrial Building Parking Requirements] of the Hawthorne Municipal Code – CEQA Determination: Categorically Exempt.

The Planning Department submitted declaration of publication, which was ordered, filed. No written communications were received.

Under oral comments, no one else indicated a desire to be heard.

Mayor Guidi ordered to close the public portion of the hearing. MOTION CARRIED.

ORDINANCE NO. 1839. (1st Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 17.58.030 (C) OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO REQUIRED PARKING (INDUSTRIAL).

Ordinance No. 1839 was introduced by title only by Mayor Guidi.

8.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Mayor Guidi moved, seconded by Councilmember Lambert, that the following warrants, properly audited and signed, be paid.

Warrants Nos.: 186325-186405 ; 352269-353106

Warrant Totals: \$1,043,073.74 ; \$2,241.114.52

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.

NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

Resolutions and Ordinances.

9.

RESOLUTION NO. 7007.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, DESIGNATING MUNICIPAL AUDITING SERVICES AS AN AUTHORIZED CITY REPRESENTATIVE TO EXAMINE SALES AND USE TAX RECORDS.

Mayor Guidi moved, seconded by Councilmember Lambert, that Resolution No. 7007 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.
NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

10.

RESOLUTION NO. 7008.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING AN ON-STREET PARKING SPACE AT 12503 GREVILLEA AVENUE FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

Mayor Guidi moved, seconded by Councilmember Lambert, that amended Resolution No. 7008 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.
NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

11.

RESOLUTION NO. 7009.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT INTERNAL AFFAIRS FILES (FROM JANUARY 1, 2000 TO DECEMBER 31, 2000) PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. 6832.

Mayor Guidi moved, seconded by Councilmember Lambert, that Resolution No. 7009 be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.
NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

12.

ORDINANCE NO. 1838. (1st Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 1.22.010 OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Ordinance No. 1838 was introduced by title only by Councilmember Lambert.

The City Manager, Richard Prentice, presented the following agenda and requested approval of the indicated recommendations:

13.

Approve to renew a sublease with the El Camino Community College District for space at the South Bay One-Stop Business and Career Center, Inglewood located at 110 S. La Brea Avenue in the City of Inglewood, California.

14.

Issue of Rosecrans/Aviation Widening Project – Construction of Sound Wall on Rosecrans Avenue, 2 ft. South of Northerly Property Line; and Approval of No-Fee Encroachment Permit for Use of 2 ft. Strip of Public Land Subject to 100% Approval of the Property Owners Adjacent to the Sound Wall.

RECOMMENDATION: That if 100% of the home owners agree to engage a contractor and pay to remove their rear property line walls/ fences and extend their side yard walls/ fences, the City Council Authorize the Public Works Director to issue a no fee encroachment permit.

NO ACTION TAKEN ON THIS ITEM.

15.

Approve Progress Payment No. 3 due to Christopher R. Morales, 15100 E. Nelson Avenue, Industry, Ca 91744 for Modification of Traffic Signal at Prairie Avenue and Rosecrans Avenue in the amount of \$39,933.00 from the State Gas Tax Fund, Account #220-4106-4547.

16.

Approve Progress Payment No. 5 due to Horizons CCI Services Inc., for Hawthorne Youth Camp Renovation – Jackson Lake, 22601 Big Pines Highway, Big Pines, Ca., in the amount of \$89,302.59 from Account #100-6104-4224.

Councilmember Catano moved, seconded by Mayor Guidi, that items 13, 15, and 16 of the City Manager's agenda be approved.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Catano, Lambert, Parsons, Velez, Mayor Guidi.

NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None.

17.

Mayor Guidi recessed the City Council meeting to reconvene meetings of the Community Redevelopment Agency, Parking Authority and Housing Authority.

Mayor Guidi called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present.

18.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. in memory of Humberto Hernandez, Orlando Escobar, and Ebenezer Pascual.

Angie Reyes English
City Clerk