

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD FEBRUARY 24, 2003**

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.

Pastor Al Wise of Del Aire Assembly of God Church gave the evening's invocation and announced that the South Bay Leadership Prayer Breakfast will be held on April 2.

Mayor Guidi presented a Certificate of Merit to Girl Scout Troop #774 for its service to the community as the Color Guard at the February 24, 2004 City Council Meeting.

Mayor Guidi welcomed Don Harris from Don Harris Insurance Agency who was here representing the Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Guidi called Officer Mark Escalante to the podium to presented ceremonial flags to Police Chief Stephen Port and to City Manager Richard Prentice.

Mayor Guidi officially welcomed new City Manager Rick Prentice to his first Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Catano presented a Certificate of Commendation to United States Army Private First Class Alexy Rodriguez for his years in military service to our country.

Georgina Briggs presented a brief video on the American Cancer Society Relay for Life fundraiser and requested the cooperation of the City Council and the community. The first meeting will be held on March 1st at 6:30 pm at La Vida Medical Group in Lawndale. Ms. Briggs will be the chairperson for the event. Anyone interested in participating can call 973-2507.

Mayor Guidi presented a brief video on the Leslie Zepeda Memorial Neighborhood Improvement Program. Mayor Guidi invited everyone to attend this event on February 28th at 10:00 a.m. between Gale and Eucalyptus at 116th and Gale.

Mayor Guidi called Brigitte Bueler to the podium. She has entered the Miss California Scholarship Pageant and requested sponsorship.

1.

Mayor Guidi recessed the City Council meeting to conduct a closed session regarding Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code. Name of Case: City of Hawthorne ex rel. Howard F. Wohlner v. H&C Disposal Company. Case No. BC 213 338.

Mayor Guidi called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present. He announced that the closed session was to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code. Name of Case: City of Hawthorne ex rel. Howard F. Wohlner v. H&C Disposal Company. Case No. BC 213 338 and staff has been directed.

2.

Mayor Guidi recessed the City Council meeting to conduct a closed session regarding Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9 (One potential case).

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

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present. He announced that the closed session was to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9 (One potential case) and staff has been updated and that no action was taken.

3.

Under Elected Official reports:

Councilmember Catano moved seconded by Mayor Guidi to appoint **Mr. Charles Bowie** to the **Parks and Recreation Commission**.

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

Councilmember Velez moved seconded by Councilmember Parsons to appoint **Mr. Alejandro Vargas** to the **Civil Service Commission**.

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

Mayor Guidi left the meeting at this time.

Councilman **Parsons** stated that California cities are trying to put together a ballot initiative for the November 2004 ballot that says that the state of California cannot come to local cities and take our property tax, sales tax or vehicle license fees without the approval of the people. It also would require that when there is a state mandate, the state must provide the funds.

Councilman **Parsons** is concerned that the County wants to build a 450 unit apartment complex just north of the City.

Councilmember **Parsons** received a letter from the County librarian stating that cities that don't pay into the library tax will probably see their library hours severely cut back. He asked that the situation be looked into since the Wiseburn Library is in Hawthorne but is also used by the County who are paying the tax.

Councilmember **Parsons** inquired if there is a way of putting a community calendar on the City webpage so that meetings don't overlap each other.

Councilmember **Parsons** announced that the Hollypark HOA will meet at Atherton Baptist Church on March 4th at 7:00 pm and that the Bodger Park HOA will meet at Kit Carson cafeteria on March 29th at 6:30pm.

Councilmember **Parsons** announced that will be a dinner to raise funds for the Leslie Zepeda Memorial Fund on March 5th at Hawthorne Middle School at 5 pm. Tickets are \$5 and \$2.50 for children.

Councilmember **Parsons** announced that the Rotary/Kiwanis softball game scheduled for March 6th has been postponed.

Councilmember **Parsons** announced that cell phone donations are being taken at City Hall to be reprogrammed and given to battered women.

Councilmember **Parsons** stated that our local 911 center will soon begin to receive the GPS signal. If you get a cell phone with a GPS, you will be connected directly to the nearest 911 center.

Mayor Pro Tem **Catano** attended a press conference for the kickoff of the ballot initiative and stated that it is very important that we get enough signatures to put it on the ballot.

Councilmember **Lambert** encouraged voters to vote no on measure 56 because it would skyrocket property tax.

Councilmember **Lambert** is receiving complaints over jumbo jets that are flying over 118th.

Councilmember **Lambert** would like the zoning codes on Hawthorne Blvd. between El Segundo and Rosecrans be reviewed again.

Councilmember **Lambert** is receiving calls from longtime Hollyglen residents regarding no signage for street sweeping days.

Councilmember **Lambert** announced that the South Bay Council of Governments will hold its annual General Assembly on February 26th at Redondo Beach Historic Library Building at Veteran's Park from 2pm to 8pm.

Councilmember **Velez** attended the Circuit City grand opening.

Councilmember **Velez** expressed concern over recent shootings of police officers and asked that our officers be careful out there.

Councilmember **Velez** reported on a problem with ice cream trucks in the Airport neighborhood area that are conducting business after 6 pm and asked that the code be enforced.

City Treasurer **Lubenec** attended the Circuit City grand opening.

City Clerk **Juarez** would like to see the Council pass a resolution in support of the Local Taxpayers and Public Safety Protection Act.

City Clerk **Juarez** announced that poll workers are needed for the March 2nd election. Anyone interested can call 800-815-2666.

City Clerk **Juarez** reminded voters that they will now be using the ink system to vote at the polls. You can still vote by touchscreen until February 27th.

City Clerk **Juarez** reminded everyone that this election is a modified closed primary and if you are registered with a particular party you have to vote that way. Nonpartisan registered voters can cross the line and vote Democratic, Republican or American independent.

City Clerk **Juarez** attended the Blue and Gold celebration dinner for Cub Pack #856 celebrating 88 years of Boy Scouts and reported that Cub Pack #856 is alive and well and that they are the future leaders of tomorrow.

City Clerk **Juarez** reminded Council and Staff that the agenda deadline is Wednesday at noon.

City Clerk **Juarez** announced that the Parks and Recreation foundation be holding its golf tournament on April 5th in Murrieta.

Councilmember **Catano** attended the Air Force Base awards and also received thanks while there for everything that Hawthorne has done to save the base.

Councilmember **Catano** thanked Nilo Michelin, Assistant City Attorney, for being a judge at the Lions International Speaker contest which was won by Hawthorne High senior Roxanna Sandoval.

Councilmember **Catano** distributed flags to the children at Washington School.

4.

Under oral communications, **Don Harris**, 5412 W. 134th Pl., representing the Chamber of Commerce, stated that he is very proud that an organization like Circuit City has opened a state of the art facility in the City and thanked the Council for bringing it about. As President of the Chamber, pledged his support to Council and Staff to continue and help create a better business environment for the City. Thanked Georgina Briggs for sharing the Cancer fundraiser project. Reminded everybody that there will be a Chamber of Commerce mixer on March 25th at Cerise Auto Body at 13020 Cerise Ave. from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. **Walt Dixon**, 4378 W. 138th St., announced that Leuzinger High School will have its annual Memorabilia Day on March 5th. There will be a free continental breakfast. Lunch will cost \$12. **Rhonda Chatterton**, President of the Hollyglenn HOA, announced that the association will have elections this Thursday at the general meeting at Dana at 7:00 pm. Announced that this Saturday will be

the Wiseburn Library reopening and the Dr. Seuss 100th Birthday Celebration. Special guests will be The Cat in the Hat and Supervisor Yvonne Burke. The library collection for children in the memory of children’s librarian Robert Morgan continues. April 24th will be the Rock Around the Block fundraiser for music and art for the Wiseburn School District. **Robert Briggs**, President of the Ramona HOA, announced that their general meeting will be held this Thursday at 7:00pm at Ramona School. There will be a presentation by the Los Angeles County Fire Department on emergency preparedness. **Darlene Love**, announced that the Hollypark meeting will be held on March 4th at Atherton Church. **Frances Stiglich**, President of the Eucalyptus HOA Association, encouraged neighbors to come to the meeting on Saturday. **Jerry Jamgotchian**, asked for an explanation of closed session item one and the action that was directed to staff to take. Asked if there would be a staff presentation on agenda item 15.

No one else indicated a desire to be heard.

Mayor Pro Tem Catano ordered oral communications closed.

5.

Mayor Pro Tem Catano recessed the Community Redevelopment Agency, Parking Authority and Housing Authority meetings to conduct the meeting of the City Council.

6.

Councilmember Lambert moved, seconded by Councilmember Parsons, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the regular meeting of January 27, 2004 and the regular of meeting of February 10, 2004 be waived and that they be approved and adopted with a correction to reflect that on the minutes of January 27, 2004 it stated that Darlene Shima was appointed to the Centinela Youth Services and not to the League of California Cities.

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

7.

Councilmember Lambert moved, seconded by Councilmember Parsons, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on February 24, 2004's agenda.

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

8.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

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

Warrants Nos.: 180955-181072 ; 321484-322509
Warrant Totals: \$ 787,554.80 ; \$3,772,361.57

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

Resolutions and Ordinances.

9.

RESOLUTION NO. 6862.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, URGING THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS TO UTILIZE ALL MEANS AVAILABLE TO PERSUADE MEXICO TO AMEND ITS CURRENT EXTRADITION POLICY TOWARD INDIVIDUALS ACCUSED OF COMMITTING CAPITAL CRIMES IN THE UNITED STATES.

Councilmember Lambert moved, seconded by Councilmember Parsons, that Resolution No. 6862 be approved and adopted.

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

10.

ORDINANCE NO. 1792. (1st Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, RECLASSIFYING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 14234-38-42 PRAIRIE AVENUE (APN 4051-031-006) FROM M-1 (LIMITED INDUSTRIAL TO C-3 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL).

Ordinance No. 1792 was introduced by title only by Councilmember Lambert.

11.

ORDINANCE NO. 1793. (1st Reading)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT RELATIVE TO LEGAL NONCONFORMING BUILDINGS AND USES UNDER CHAPTER 17.38 OF THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE.

Ordinance No. 1793 was introduced by title only by Councilmember Catano.

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

12.

Approve Progress Payment No. 18 to Pepper Construction, 17841 Mitchell, Irvine, Ca 92614, for Construction of the New Hawthorne Police Station. This Payment of \$ 1,066,704.87 will come from a low interest loan from the California Infrastructure & Economic Development Bank, Account #380-2101-4086. The total project will be funded from this loan and contributions from the City's General fund.

13.

Approve Proposals to Hire a Consultant to Conduct Performance Audits of Franchise Refuse Haulers in the City of Hawthorne.

14.

Approve the Plans and Specifications for Local Street Improvements and Authorize the Project to be advertised for bids with a return date of March 23, 2004.

15.

Approval of Project Location Amendment – Section 108 Loan to Muscle Improvement Inc (Gold's Gym)
RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council Approve the Final Consolidated Plan, Annual Plan, Program Year 2003 Project Loan Amendment for Section 108 Loan Guarantee to Muscle Improvement Inc (Gold's Gym). Project will be located at 4917 West 147th Street, Hawthorne.

THIS ITEM WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA BY THE CITY MANAGER

16.

Approve Amendments to the Budget for fiscal year 2003-04 and Additional appropriation and revision of projected revenues.

17.

Property Pool Insurance.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council Approve to withdraw from Property Pool Insurance from the Independent Cities Risk Management Authority.

Councilmember Parsons called Mr. Kelly McDowell, President of ICRMA from the City of El Segundo and Mr. John Parsons, Vice President of ICRMA from the City of Redondo Beach to discuss agenda item No. 17, an item proposed by Councilmember Lambert. Councilmember Lambert feels that the City of Hawthorne is paying a high premium for property insurance through the ICRMA and should leave the group (ICRMA). Councilmember Lambert also indicated that at a previous meeting of the ICRMA it was stated that for the upcoming fiscal year the insurance premium for the city will increase by 10%.

Mr. McDowell replied that in respect to the property program, it's a group purchase. All the cities in the property program go out as a group to purchase the insurance but they're each insured separately so there is no sharing of risk. Mr. McDowell stated the insurance premium for the City of Hawthorne for the next fiscal year will remain constant or more likely reduce by 10%.

Councilmember Parsons would like to get bids to see if we can get a better deal than what we are currently getting. He is concerned that we have no quotes at this time and feels that there should be a staff report that analyzes the pros and cons of staying in with the pool or leaving the pool. And until he sees a staff report that truly shows we can get savings, he is not prepared to leave the insurance pool.

MOTION TO CONTINUE

Mayor Pro Tem Catano moved, seconded by Councilmember Parsons, that this item be continued until the next meeting.

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

Councilmember Parsons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Catano, that items 12, 13, 14 and 16 of the City Manager's consent calendar be approved.

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

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

Mayor Pro Tem Catano called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present except for Mayor Guidi who was excused.

TABLED ITEM

A.

Request by Hawthorne Airport LLC, for an Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) with the City of Hawthorne for a Proposed Airport Redevelopment Project.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council Direct the City Manager to Execute the Agreement subject to City Attorney Approval as to final form.

Councilmember Parsons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Catano, that tabled item A be removed from the table.

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

After discussion Councilmember Parsons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Catano, that tabled item A be approved.

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

Mayor Guidi excused himself from voting on this item and stated that it be put on the record that he has a conflict of interest and that he was excusing himself.

B.

Request by Hawthorne Airport LLC, for an Exclusive Negotiating Agreement (ENA) with the Community Redevelopment Agency for a Proposed Airport Redevelopment Project.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Agency Direct the Executive Director to Execute the Agreement subject to Agency counsel approval as to final form.

Councilmember Parsons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Catano, that tabled item B be removed from the table.

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

After discussion Councilmember Parsons moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Catano, that tabled item B be approved.

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

Mayor Guidi excused himself from voting on this item and stated that it be put on the record that he has a conflict of interest and that he was excusing himself.

19.

Mayor Pro Tem Catano adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Daniel D. Juarez, CMC/AAE
City Clerk