

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD JULY 16, 2013.**

Mayor Juarez called the City Council, Parking Authority and Housing Authority meetings to order jointly and concurrently at 6:06 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 4455 W. 126th Street, Hawthorne, California.

ROLL CALL-Present: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Vargas, Mayor Juarez.
Absent: Councilmember Valentine (excused).

Darlene Love gave the evening's invocation. Catherine Schubert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Juarez held a moment of silence in honor of Sgt. Leonard Luna, Jr. who was laid to rest the prior week.

Mayor Juarez held a moment of silence in honor of the 19 firefighters in Arizona that lost their lives in the line of duty.

Mayor Juarez read a statement regarding the dog incident.

1.

Under oral communications **Ronnie Manson** thanked Council for their thoughtfulness and caring regarding the Proclamation in his mother's honor. **Allen Richards** spoke in opposition of limiting oral communications to three minutes and suggested other ways of saving time. **Gabriela Leyva**, a Community Organizer with South Bay Center for Community Development, spoke on the support and participation that the Hawthorne Police Department has given to their organization. **Claudia Hernandez**, from the Neighborhood Action Council, in the name of Latinos in the community, spoke in support of the Hawthorne Police Department and specifically Sgt. Cognac who has worked closely with them. **Berenice Carillo** spoke in support of and thanked the Hawthorne Police Department and Sgt. Cognac for all the help they have given her family. **Catherine Schubert**, a 15-year resident of the community, spoke in support of the police department and praised the Coffee with a Cop program. **Darlene Love** reported on the passing of resident Mary Hardy. Thanked Public Works Director Arnie Shadbehr and the Hawthorne Police Officers for everything they do. **Jason Gromsky**, Ramona Neighborhood Association President, thanked everyone for coming to the Ramona picnic on Saturday and thanked the Mayor and Councilmembers who donated to help put on the picnic. Expressed support for the police department on behalf of the Ramona Neighborhood Association for all the services they provide. **Ruben Sanchez**, North Hawthorne Community Association, expressed dismay that a Councilmember is running for an outside office during his term with the city. Spoke in support of the police department. **Frances Stiglich** expressed concern over children who ride bicycles in the streets and drivers who speed through her neighborhood. Reported on issues with buildings on Gale Avenue. **Kyle Orleman** expressed her deep sympathy to the family of Sgt. Luna. Expressed gratitude to the police department for their proactive planning and execution regarding a fireworks incident that occurred in her neighborhood on the 4th of July. Feels it is time that the organizations who use the fireworks for fundraisers realize that they need to be responsible to the members of the community and find another way to raise money. Expressed support for a commission on veterans affairs. **Mike Talleda** expressed support for fireworks sales as it not only raises money for his veteran's organization, but it is also a time of fellowship for the group.

2.

Mayor Juarez recessed the Parking Authority and Housing Authority meetings to conduct the meeting of the City Council.

3.

Mayor Juarez moved, seconded by Councilmember Vargas, that the reading of the City Council minutes of the regular meeting of May 28, 2013 be waived and that they be approved and adopted.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Vargas, Mayor Juarez.
NOES: None. ABSENT: Councilmember Valentine.

4.

Mayor Juarez moved, seconded by Councilmember Vargas, to waive full readings of resolutions and ordinances on July 16, 2013's agenda.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Vargas, Mayor Juarez.

NOES: None. ABSENT: Councilmember Valentine.

5.

The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

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

Warrants Nos.: 111253-111562 : 436433-436774 : 21499-21530

Warrant Totals: \$662,264.60 : \$2,658,055.23 : \$26,354.72

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Michelin, Vargas, Mayor Juarez.

NOES: None. ABSENT: Councilmember Valentine.

The City Manager, Michael Goodson, presented the following agenda and requested approval of the indicated recommendation:

6.

Approve of First Repayment Plan for HOME Program in the amount of \$791,946.33, due August 1, 2013 pursuant to findings resulting from monitoring of Program Year 2009.

7.

Approve contract with Altaware Inc. to purchase Firewall protection for the City website.

Mayor Juarez moved, seconded by Councilmember Reyes English, to approve items 6 and 7 of the City Manager's consent calendar.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Reyes English, Vargas, Mayor Juarez

NOES: Councilmember Michelin ABSENT: Councilmember Valentine.

8.

Under Council Discussion/Action Items

a.- Change oral communications from 5 minutes to 3 minutes in order to conduct city business more efficiently. Enforce city council ordinance limiting elected officials' report to 10 minutes and limiting presentations/proclamations to 10 minutes. (Valentine)

This item was not discussed due to Councilmember Valentine's absence.

b.- Consider formation of Veteran's Affairs Commission (Michelin)

Councilmember Michelin spoke on how the city has always been very proactive in Veteran's affairs and feels a commission is a natural progression to help all Veterans. A commission would be a way to bring all efforts together of the various Veterans' organizations in the city. Councilmember Michelin directed that the City Attorney draw up an ordinance to create a Veteran's commission to focus specifically on Veteran's issues.

Under Elected Official Reports and Recommendations.

City Treasurer **Lubenec** spoke on the Ramona picnic, the Moose Lodge horseshoe tournament and Holly Park's Movies in the Park, all of which he attended. Is neither for or against fireworks, but personally felt that this year there were less fireworks.

City Clerk **Huber** congratulated Katrina Manning on a successful Movie in the Park event. Announced that Good Neighbors Day will be held on 126th Street in front of city hall on Saturday, July 20 from 9am to 3pm. This will be an old town/main street themed event that will have classic music, the Hawthorne High School band, a car show and other performers. The Historical Society is still taking sign-ups for the car show or you can sign up your car the day of the event.

Councilmember **Michelin** offered his prayers to the family of Sgt Luna. Thanked the Hawthorne Police department for protecting the community. Stated that we need to come together and respect each other and move forward which he feels is the message and the outcome of this tragedy.

Councilmember **Reyes English** provided her sincere condolences to the Luna family. Suggested holding a vigil down the road for the community to provide their respects and offer comfort to the Luna family. Announced that her former boss is now the new Councilman for the City of Los Angeles. She is now one of his field deputies who is learning a lot and bringing that experience to Hawthorne. Commended the Human Resources department for putting on the employee appreciation day event that was held at city hall and looks forward to more. With regards to the veteran's commission that is being suggested, thinks it's a great effort and hopes we can work hand in hand to address our seniors, our senior veterans and our veterans. Requested that the City Attorney provide to Council a definition of what is considered an Enterprise Zone

Mayor **Juarez** extended his condolences to the family of Sgt. Leonard Luna. Thanked Chief Fager and his direct command for their efforts in providing the ceremony in honor of Sgt. Luna and thanked those who attended. Spoke on reaching out to the Mayor of Hawthorne, New Jersey that, like us, was experiencing website problems and receiving many phone calls due to the dog incident and because many confused Hawthorne, NJ with Hawthorne, CA. Thanked the French Consulate for coming to our city and presenting the French Legion of Honor Medal to six individuals. They had some really neat stories and Mayor Juarez was honored to be there with these individuals who ranged from ages 85 to 96. Thanked Human Resources Manager David Roberts for employee appreciation day. Congratulated the Islamic Center for their Ramadan festivities on Saturday that were attended by over 300 people. Requested that a representative from the public works department attend the South Bay Cities Council of Governments' presentation on the new MS4 permit guidelines. Spoke on receiving a letter from Supervisor Don Knabe thanking Council for their support on the recent METRO board motions to protect and enhance the viability of the South Bay transportation projects and funding. Directed the City Manager to write a letter to Assemblyman Steven Bradford urging his awareness that AB93 contains many issues of unspecified detail and unverified financial impact eliminating the successful and productive use of state legislation. The City Council and the City of Hawthorne is interested in supporting its technology companies and opposes legislation that changes the current enterprise legislation. Directed staff to come up with ordinance language that would allow us that, under extraordinary circumstances, we would be able to conduct City Council meetings without posting the agenda to the city website.

10.

Mayor Juarez recessed the City Council meeting to conduct a **Closed Session**: Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a)) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code. Name of Case. City of Hawthorne v. Jag Pathirana, Case No. YC-068 429

Mayor Juarez called the City Council meeting back to order following recess with all Councilmembers present except for Councilmember Valentine who was excused. He announced that the **closed session** was to discuss a Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Subdivision (a)) of Section 54956.9 of the California Government Code. Name of Case. City of Hawthorne v. Jag Pathirana, Case No. YC-068 429, and announced that staff had been directed.

11.

Mayor Juarez adjourned the regular meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Norbert Huber
City Clerk