MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA HELD MARCH 26, 2013.

Mayor Pro Tempore Reyes English called the City Council meeting to order jointly and concurrently at 5:35 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the City Hall, 4455 West 126th Street, Hawthorne, California.

ROLL CALL-Present: Councilmembers Valentine, Vargas, Michelin, Mayor Pro Tem Reyes English. .

Absent: Mayor Juarez (excused)

1.

Under oral communications **Gordon Mego** stated that he feels it is very important that we have the process thoroughly open so there is never a question in anybody's mind that something was amiss and so that we have a good variety of input in order to make sound decisions. **Alex Monteiro** cautioned Council to think very carefully on how they proceed with this request for proposal and which consultant is going to get the job. **Katrina Manning** stated that she is very interested in the process because she gets a lot of complaints about the Hawthorne Mall so she would like to be informed and very involved in the process and what's going to happen with regards to this.

Mayor Pro Tem Reyes English ordered oral communications closed.

2.

Discussion/Action Item

Downtown Hawthorne Specific Plan Steering Committee.

Councilmember Vargas explained that this item is with regard to increasing the transparency and the hiring of a consultant for the downtown Hawthorne Specific Plan. This is a more focused type of plan which deals with, in this case, Hawthorne Blvd. By applying for a state grant, around \$277,000 was made available for the city to hire a consultant to assist in developing a specific plan. The city eventually issued a request for proposals for consultants, but there was also the creation of what was called a steering committee and Councilmember Vargas feels this steering committee does not appear to be transparent. He stated that the City Council did not receive information with regard to the process on which members of the steering committee were going to be selected and when the meetings were going to be held. In order for the process to be more transparency, Councilmember Vargas suggested that the new steering committee consist of our city staff only. He also proposed that each of the applicants submit a disclosure statement pursuant to what is our custom and practice and directed the City Attorney to prepare a disclosure statement for all the consultants who are applying for the grant funds for the Hawthorne Blvd. Specific Plan project.

Councilmember Vargas moved, seconded by Councilmember Valentine, to redesignate the steering committee to be our city staff as originally intended, Mr. Gregg McClain, Mr. Arnie Shadbehr and Mr. Ray Shun, with the discretion to call in another department head if necessary.

ROLL CALL-AYES: Councilmembers Valentine, Michelin, Vargas.

NOES: Councilmember Reyes English ABSENT: Mayor Juarez.

3.

Mayor Pro Tem Reyes English adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m..

Norbert Huber City Clerk