

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING - MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2020**

1. ROLL CALL

Mayor Olmos called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Angel, Delgado, and Mayor Olmos.

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Retamoza

Mayor Olmos announced Mayor Pro Tem Retamoza would not be attending tonight's meeting and was excused.

STAFF PRESENT: Anthony R. Taylor, City Attorney; Rachel Barbosa, City Manager; Donna G. Schwartz, City Clerk; Rene Salas, Public Works Director; William Fox, Interim Finance Director; Ian McAleese, Assistant Planner and Paola Lara, Deputy City Clerk (Via teleconference).

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (B) and Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20, dated March 12, 2020, and Executive Order N-29-20, dated March 17, 2020, Teleconference was provided for the Public and Zoom/Video was utilized By Councilmember Angel, Councilmember Delgado, and the City Attorney's Office.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Acosta led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION

Richard Major, Code Enforcement Officer, offered the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS: None

5. APPROVED THE AGENDA AND WAIVER OF FULL READING OF ORDINANCES.

A motion was made by Acosta seconded by Delgado and carried 4 – 0, (Retamoza – Absent), to approve the agenda.

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Angel, Delgado, and Mayor Olmos.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Retamoza

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Olmos announced and read a public comment received via email from Townsend Public Affairs in regards to Item 7.e. and their previous experience as grant writing consultants for the City and qualifications to continue to provide these services.

Mayor Olmos advised the public not to be deceived when approached by cannabis canvassers or sign anything without knowing what they are signing, requested that residents complete the Census, and extended an invitation to the public to participate in the final Census parade on Saturday September 26, 2020.

Mayor Olmos opened public comment, there being none, closed public comment.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

City Attorney Taylor read the compensation term for Item 7.d.

City Manager Barbosa requested Item 7.c. be discussed with Item 9.a. Council concurred.

a. MINUTES

Approved the Minutes for the Adjourned Regular Meeting of September 8, 2020.

b. WARRANTS

Adopted Resolution No. 20-100, authorizing payment of City expenditures for the period of September 9, 2020 through September 22, 2020 totaling \$848,673.66.

c. Approved the 2020 "Christmas Wish Toy Giveaway" Event Donation Letter, Authorization to Include the City Councilmembers' Signatures, and the Distribution of Letters to the South El Monte Business Community

d. Adopted Resolution No. 20-101, Approving the Appointment of Rene Salas as Deputy City Manager and Approval of Deputy City Manager Employment Agreement

e. Approved a Bidder's List for On-Call Grant Writing Services

f. Adopted Resolution No. 20-103, Approving Retention of Outside Council for Personnel-Related Services

A motion was made by Delgado, seconded by Acosta and carried 4 – 0, (Retamoza – Absent), to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Angel, Delgado, and Mayor Olmos.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Retamoza

Mayor Olmos reopened Public Comment.

Pam Rio, South El Monte business owner, spoke of the effect COVID-19 has had on small businesses in the City including her business, of the City's ordinance and the criteria needed in order to receive assistance, her situation and struggle for rent relief with her landlord, the construction of a back patio at her business, and inquired who can protect small businesses in the City.

Mayor Olmos closed public comment after determining there was no one else wishing to speak.

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None.

9. **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

a. **UPDATE ON THE CITY'S 2020 EVENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Recreation Coordinator Perez presented the staff report.

Council received the report, no action was taken.

b. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-102, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR FUNDING TO APPROVE PARTICIPATION IN THE LOS ANGELES URBAN COUNTY PERMANENT LOCAL HOUSING ALLOCATION PROGRAM (PLHA)**

Public Works Director Salas presented the staff report.

A motion was made by Acosta, seconded by Angel and carried 4 – 0, (Retamoza – Absent), to approve Resolution No. 20-102, authorizing City Manager to designate the funding allocation for the PLHA funds and authorizing the Mayor, or designee, to sign a contract for funding to approve participation in the Los Angeles Urban County Permanent Local Housing Allocation Program.

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Angel, Delgado, and Mayor Olmos.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Retamoza

c. **COUNCIL DIRECTION ON REQUEST RELATED TO EXISTING AGREEMENT WITH AKITOI LEARNING CENTER TO LEASE CITY PROPERTY AT 1824 CENTRAL AVENUE**

Interim Finance Director Fox and City Manager Barbosa presented the staff report.

A motion was made by Delgado, seconded by Acosta and carried 4 – 0, (Retamoza – Absent), to approve the request from Akitoi Learning Center for financial assistance in the amount of \$2,500 for outside rubberized playground flooring and \$1,000 for parts and labor to install a shade structure in the playground area in front of the Mini Center.

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Angel, Delgado, and Mayor Olmos.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Retamoza

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS.**

Councilmember Acosta reported on his participation on the Census Committee, Census Drive-Through Giveaway at Epiphany and Community Center, and Grandparent's Day.

Councilmember Angel reported on his participation in the Census Drive-Through Giveaway at Epiphany and Grandparent's Day.

Mayor Olmos reported on her participation and attendance at SEAACA meeting, SGVCOG meeting, Grandparent's Day, Census Committee meeting, and Census Drive-Through Giveaway at Epiphany.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

a. **CORRESPONDENCE BY THE EL MONTE/SOUTH EL MONTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REQUESTING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR AN "OPEN FOR BUSINESS" BANNER PROGRAM DUE TO ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19**

Ken Rausch, El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce, provided information about the "Open for Business" banner program.

Mayor Olmos requested a second quote be obtained and the banners be purchased from the vendor with the lowest cost. Council concurred.

A motion was made by Delgado, seconded by Angel and carried 4 – 0, (Retamoza – Absent), to approve the funding request from the El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce for the "Open For Business" Banner Program at the not-to-exceed amount \$1,540.00, appropriated from the Community Promotional Fund.

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Angel, Delgado, and Mayor Olmos.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Retamoza

12. **COUNCILMEMBERS' AGENDA:**

a. **COUNCILMEMBER MANUEL ACOSTA**

1. **Discussion on the “Get Out the Vote” Campaign in Order to Raise the City’s Efforts to Increase Voter Participation**

Councilmember Acosta inquired what efforts can be done to promote and encourage community members to exercise their right to vote.

City Clerk Schwartz informed the Council that the County has requested to use the Community Center as an 11 day vote center.

City Manager Barbosa stated the City is advertising voting on the website, social media and City Hall’s message board, it will be covered in the October newsletter, and additionally two mailings will be sent to resident’s with voting information before the election.

2. **Discussion/Update on the Pothole Priority and Fill-In List**

Councilmember Acosta suggested a priority list for potholes be created to efficiently track and manage the potholes in the City.

Public Works Director Salas stated potholes are maintained on a regular basis, an average of 30 – 40 potholes are filled monthly, there is a list used in addition to the GoGov requests that are submitted, and there will be an upcoming RFP for street reconstruction that will include streets that are heavily affected by potholes.

13. **CLOSED SESSION**

At 7:19 p.m. City Attorney Taylor recessed Council into closed session.

a. **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957(B)(1)**

Title: Community Development Director

At 7:53 p.m. Mayor Olmos reconvened to open session with the exception of Mayor Tem Pro Retamoza, Absent.

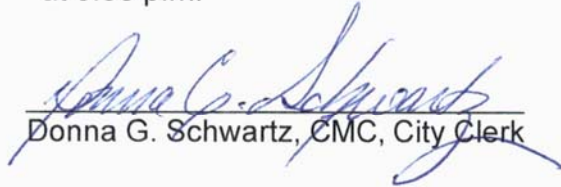
City Attorney Taylor announced Council discussed closed session Items 13.a., there was no action taken nothing to report.

At 7:54 p.m. Mayor Olmos recessed the meeting.

At 7:56 p.m. Mayor Olmos reconvened the meeting.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business coming before this body, at 7:56 p.m. Mayor Olmos adjourned to an Adjourned Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.


Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk


Gloria Olmos, Mayor