

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023 - 6:00 PM**

1. ROLL CALL

Mayor Olmos called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

PRESENT: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Bojorquez, Delgado, Mayor Pro Tem Angel
and Mayor Olmos

ABSENT: Councilmember(s): None

STAFF PRESENT: Rene Salas, City Manager; Anthony R. Taylor, City Attorney;
Donna G. Schwartz, City Clerk; Masami Higa, Interim Finance Director, Jayson
Perez, Recreation Coordinator; and Robert Molina, Recreational Leader.

STAFF ABSENT: Paola Lara, Deputy City Clerk.

Zoom was provided for the Public to participate during public comment via
teleconference.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Pro Tem Richard Angel led the Pledge of
Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION – Pastor Benjamin Garrett, Faith Dominion Church, offered the
Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.a. David Diaz, Active San Gabriel Valley, and Carlos Velasquez, KOA
Corporation, provided a PowerPoint on the South El Monte Rush Street
Sustainable Transportation Equity Project.

4.b. Jayson Perez, Recreation Coordinator, Community Services Department,
City of South El Monte presented a PowerPoint on the possibility of having
a laser show for the 4th of July celebration.

Staff was directed to conduct a community survey to gather input on the
interest of having a laser show or traditional fireworks for the 4th of July
celebration.

4.c. City Council received a report from the Sheriff's Department and
discussed matters concerning law enforcement in the City for the month of
January.

Councilmember Delgado directed staff to bring back a report at the next City Council meeting on funding options for a dedicated special assignment Sergeant.

Councilmember Bojorquez directed staff to prepare a report on the allocation of funds received from Measure ES.

- 4.d.** City Council received a report from the Code Enforcement and Public Safety Supervisor Joe Martinez on code enforcement and public safety activities for the month of January.

Councilmember Delgado directed staff to prepare a report detailing where commercial vehicles parked for over 30 minutes are being cited.

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Acosta, seconded by Councilmember Delgado to approve the agenda with noted correction. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Bojorquez, Delgado, Mayor Pro Tem Angel and Mayor Olmos

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Olmos opened public comment.

1. Larry Rodriguez and Jaqueline Rubio, Valle Lindo School District Board Members, invited City Council to sign up for Read Across America and thanked the City for working closely with the school district to help the community.
2. Edward Salcedo, South El Monte resident, requested the City's assistance with his brother's inability to evict the renters in his home due to COVID-19 renter protections.
3. Karla Del Rey, South El Monte resident, voiced concern with the Code Enforcement budget, with citations given to people living in poverty, the lack of trash cans in the city, and with funding another deputy.

There being no further comment, Mayor Olmos closed public comment.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Councilmember Acosta, seconded by Councilmember Delgado to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s): Angel, Bojorquez, Delgado, Mayor Pro Tem Acosta
and Mayor Olmos

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

7.a. Approved the Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting of February 15, 2023.

7.b. Adopted Resolution No. 23-17, authorizing payment of City expenditures for the period of February 16, 2023, through February 28, 2023, totaling \$462,314.51.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

9.a. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE 2023 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES BAND PERFORMANCES

Mayor Olmos introduced the item and Recreation Coordinator Jayson Perez presented the staff report.

Discussion ensued with City Council on the band selection for the 2023 summer concerts and the 4th of July celebration.

Staff was directed to proceed with the following band selections: Cold Duck, Soto, Ace Band, Chico, Suave, Flashbacks, Shades of LA, and have Soto also perform and the 4th of July celebration.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Bojorquez to receive and file the report. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Bojorquez, Delgado, Mayor Pro Tem Angel
and Mayor Olmos

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

9.b. next page

9.b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-18, APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF MASAMI HIGA AS DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND APPROVAL OF DIRECTOR OF FINANCE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

City Attorney Anthony R. Taylor announced the term and compensation of the Director of Finance employment agreement.

City Manager Rene Salas provided the staff report.

A motion was made by Councilmember Delgado, seconded by Councilmember Acosta to adopt Resolution No. 23-18, approving the employment agreement between the City and Masami Higa for the position of Director of Finance and authorizing the Mayor to execute the employment agreement. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Bojorquez, Delgado, Mayor Pro Tem Angel and Mayor Olmos

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

9.c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-19, APPROVING AGREEMENT WITH EL MONTE/SOUTH EL MONTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Mayor Olmos announced the item and City Manager Rene Salas presented the staff report.

Ken Rausch and Chris Knight, El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce, presented additional information to Council on their business membership fees and involvement with the business community.

Mayor Pro Tem Angel voiced concern with not knowing how the Chamber utilizes the City funds to benefit the City and requested a quarterly report be provided detailing the Chamber's accomplishments.

A motion was made by Mayor Olmos, seconded by Councilmember Delgado to Adopt Resolution No. 23-19, approving an agreement with the El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce; and authorize City Manager or designee to negotiate and execute agreement. Motion passed 4-0-1, by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

ABSTAIN: Councilmember(s): Mayor Pro Tem Angel

9.d. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-20, APPROVING SECOND AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH ADVANCE MICROCOMPUTING CONCEPTS INC. (AMC) FOR CLOUD BACKUP SERVICES

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

Finance Director Masami Higa provided additional information on the costs for the agreements in items 9.d. and 9.e. and announced that Tony Chiappetta with AMC was in attendance for any questions.

A motion was made by Councilmember Delgado, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Angel to adopt Resolution No. 23-20, approving second amendment to agreement for contract services with AMC for Cloud Backup Services for three additional years through March 28, 2026; and authorize Mayor to execute agreement. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Bojorquez, Delgado, Mayor Pro Tem Angel
and Mayor Olmos

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

9.e. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-21, APPROVING SECOND AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH ADVANCE MICROCOMPUTING CONCEPTS INC. (AMC) FOR IT SERVICES

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

A motion was made by Councilmember Delgado, seconded by Councilmember Acosta to adopt Resolution No. 23-21, approving second amendment to agreement for contract services with AMC for IT Services for three additional years through February 28, 2026; and authorize Mayor to execute agreement. Motion passed 5-0, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Bojorquez, Delgado, Mayor Pro Tem Angel
and Mayor Olmos

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS

Councilmember Acosta announced his attendance at Senator Susan Rubio's Swearing in Ceremony and invited the public to the City's first bike ride on Saturday, March 4, 2023.

Councilmember Bojorquez, nothing to report.

Councilmember Delgado, nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Angel announced his attendance at the Youth Basketball Games at the Community Center and the Basketball Banquet.

Mayor Olmos announced her attendance at the Youth Basketball Games at the Community Center, Senator Susan Rubio's Swearing in Ceremony, the City's Advancement of Women and Girls "Self-Love" event, City of Montebello's Top Golf Groundbreaking, and announced SEAACA still has pet adoption opportunities.

11. CORRESPONDENCE – None.

12. COUNCILMEMBERS' AGENDA

12.a. MAYOR GLORIA OLMOS

1. Discussion on installing an Emergency Blue Light Call Box in City Hall and City parks parking lots.

12.a.1. was discussed after 12.b.1 and 12.b.2.

Mayor Olmos stated she would like to install blue light call boxes at City Hall's parking lot, parks, and dimly lit streets for assistance during emergency situations. However, upon her research she determined they are too costly to install and maintain. She provided alternatives to the public such as free applications that can be downloaded "Panic" and "Hoot" which assist in sending emergency calls.

12.b. COUNCILMEMBER RUDY BOJORQUEZ

1. Discussion on creating a South El Monte night market at the Kruse property next to City Hall.

12.b.1. was discussed before 12.a.1.

Councilmember Bojorquez suggested opening a night market outside the Kruse property to bring in revenue, giving the residents somewhere to gather, and giving street vendors an opportunity to sell.

Councilmember Delgado and Mayor Pro Tem Angel spoke in support of the idea and Mayor Pro Tem Angel suggested opening a night market on a trial basis.

Mayor Olmos stated she and staff are currently working on having the farmers market open during the summer concerts.

City Manager Rene Salas stated staff can look into the possibility of holding a monthly night market, after the summer concerts with the farmers market, and bring back a report.

2. Discussion on creating a Social Media Sponsored Advertisement Budget for Facebook and Instagram posts.

12.b.2. was discussed before 12.a.1.

Councilmember Bojorquez recommended creating a small budget to run advertisements for City events on the City's social media and have them reach a larger audience.

City Council discussed the use of advertisements for promoting city events. Councilmember Delgado spoke in agreement of creating an advertisement budget for next fiscal year. No direction was given.

13. CLOSED SESSION

At 8:48 p.m. City Attorney Anthony R. Taylor recessed Council into closed session.

13.a. CONFERENCE WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 – Public Security

At 10:13 p.m. Mayor Olmos reconvened the meeting with all Councilmembers present.

City Attorney Anthony R. Taylor announced City Council discussed items 13.a. No action taken, nothing to report.

14. RECESS COUNCIL MEETING

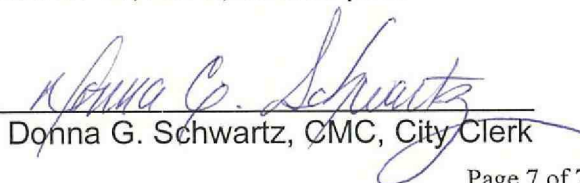
Mayor Olmos recessed the meeting at 10:13 p.m.

Mayor Olmos adjourned the Successor Agency meeting at 10:16 p.m.

Mayor Olmos Reconvened the City Council meeting at 10:16 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:16 p.m. Mayor Olmos adjourned the meeting in memory of Alexis Valencia Soto, long time South El Monte resident, to a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.


Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk


Gloria Olmos, Mayor