

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

1. ROLL CALL

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

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

ABSENT: Councilmember(s): Delgado

STAFF PRESENT: Rene Salas, City Manager; Anthony R. Taylor, City Attorney;
Donna G. Schwartz, City Clerk; Masami Higa, Interim Finance Director;
Guillermo Arreola, Planning Manager; and Paola Lara, Deputy City Clerk.

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilmember Rudy Bojorquez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION – Laura Lozano, Permit Technician, City of South El Monte, offered the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Olmos requested Item 12.a.1. be moved up for discussion and action at this time. Council concurred.

12.a. COUNCILMEMBER RUDY BOJORQUEZ

1. Discussion in Regards to the "Sacrifice & Service" Event During the Week of Memorial Day.

Item 12.a..1 was discussed in combination with item 4.a.

Larry Rodriguez, resident, Joe Leal, County Representative for Veterans, Marc Tavera, VFW Post 10218, and Heliodoro Duarte Jr., American Legion Post 16, requested City Council's support of the American Flag Project during the week of Memorial Day to be held in front of Shively School. Mr. Duarte asked if the city could provide lighting during the evening of the event.

Councilmember Bojorquez announced he has been collaborating with the presenters on this project and requested the city promote the event in the city's newsletter, on social media, and on the city hall marquee.

City council supported Councilman Bojorquez' request and directed staff to promote the event and bring back to Council a staff report with the cost for lighting.

PRESENTATIONS (CONTINUED)

4.a. Item 4.a. was discussed along with item 12.a.1. after Invocation.

4.b. City Council presented a plaque to Magdalena "Maggie" Valdivia, Community Services Liaison, Los Angeles County Fire Department on her retirement and 17 years of service.

Crystal Lopez, Representing Senator Susan Rubio's Office, presented a Certificate of Recognition to Maggie Valdivia.

At 6:26 p.m. Mayor Olmos called for a recess. At 6:38 p.m. Mayor Olmos reconvened the meeting.

4.c. Amanda Mejia, Director of Government Affairs, Athens Services, presented a PowerPoint to City Council on updates and upcoming events.

4.d. Christina Monzer, The Robert Group, presented a PowerPoint on the Puente Hills Land Fill Park.

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

4.f. City Council received a report from Code Enforcement Officer Raul Rodriguez on code enforcement and public safety activities for the month of February.

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

A motion was made by Councilmember Acosta, seconded by Councilmember Bojorquez to approve the agenda. Motion passed 4-0-1, by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

ABSENT: Councilmember(s): Delgado

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Olmos opened public comment.

1. Eduardo Saucedo, South El Monte resident, voiced his concern with individuals who rummage through resident trash cans, thanked the Sheriff's department for deterring crime and suggested having a substation for them.

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

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Acosta to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 4-0-1, by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

ABSENT: Councilmember(s): Delgado

- 7.a. Approved the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 14, 2023.
- 7.b. Adopted Resolution No. 23-24, authorizing payment of City expenditures for the period of March 15, 2023, through March 28, 2023, totaling \$600,093.43.
- 7.c. Approved an RFP for mechanical and lighting energy efficiency upgrade services for South El Monte Autonomous Building Controls Retrofit Project and authorized staff to solicit proposals.
- 7.d. Received and filed the City of South El Monte housing element annual progress report.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

9.a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-25, APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH AKITOI LEARNING CENTER, LLC

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Acosta to adopt Resolution No. 23-25, approving Amendment No. 1 entering into a three-year extension to the lease agreement with Akitoi Learning Center, LLC and authorizing the City Manager or designee to execute the lease amendment. Motion passed 4-0-1, by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

ABSENT: Councilmember(s): Delgado

9.b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-26, APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO AGREEMENT WITH WEST COAST ARBORIST FOR TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Bojorquez to adopt Resolution No. 23-26, amending the contract with West Coast Arborists for an additional three months to complete tree timing work for fiscal year 2022/23 and increase the annual budget in the amount of \$200,000. Motion passed 4-0-1, by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

ABSENT: Councilmember(s): Delgado

9.c. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-27, APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE AND MVP SOUTH EL MONTE I, LLC FOR A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 825 LEXINGTON-GALLATIN ROAD ("PROPERTY")

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Bojorquez to adopt Resolution No. 23-27, approving an MOU with MVP South El Monte I, LLC for a proposed development of property located at 825 Lexington-Gallatin Road and authorized the City Manager or designee to negotiate and execute the MOU. Motion passed 4-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Bojorquez, Mayor Pro Tem Angel
and Mayor Olmos
NAYS: Councilmember(s): None
ABSENT: Councilmember(s): Delgado

**9.d. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 23-28,
APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE COOPERATIVE
PURCHASING AGREEMENT WITH GAMETIME - PLAYCORE
WISCONSIN, INC. - FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF
NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY SURFACING AT
SHIVELY PARK**

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

A motion was made by Councilmember Acosta, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bojorquez to adopt Resolution No. 23-28, amending the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Gametime - Playcore Wisconsin, Inc. for the purchase and installation of new playground equipment Shively Park and increase compensation by \$44,196.06; and approve the use of \$44,196.06 of In-Lieu funds; and authorize the City Manager to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding with the Valle Lindo School District for a Cost Share Agreement to receive reimbursement in the amount of \$18,032.00 from the Valle Lindo School District for the project. Motion passed 4-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Bojorquez, Mayor Pro Tem Angel
and Mayor Olmos
NAYS: Councilmember(s): None
ABSENT: Councilmember(s): Delgado

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS

Councilmember Acosta announced his attendance at the Water Education for Latino Leaders Workshop, the City's "State of the City," the City's T-Ball Opening Day, and invited the public to the Community Bike Ride on Saturday, April 1st.

Councilmember Bojorquez, announced his attendance at the City's Employee All-Staff meeting, the City's "State of the City," and tour of the Valle Lindo School District.

Mayor Pro Tem Angel announced his attendance at the Senior Center's St. Patrick's Day Luncheon, the City's T-Ball Opening Day, the City's "State of the City," and announced the new Librarian of the South El Monte Library was in attendance. Ms. Sil Ruiz introduced herself.

Mayor Olmos announced her attendance at the City's "State of the City," the City's T-Ball Opening Day, the City's Employee All-Staff meeting, and the Senior Center's St. Patrick's Day Luncheon.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.a. CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING SISTER CITIES PROGRAM BETWEEN CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE AND GOMEZ PALACIO, DURANGO, MEXICO

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

City Manager Rene Salas suggested the City send Gomez Palacio, Durango, Mexico, our city profile to continue communication as a sister city. Council concurred.

11.b. CORRESPONDENCE FROM KUNSHAN, CHINA, FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE WISHING TO RECONNECT INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THROUGH FRIENDSHIP WITH THE CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Angel directed the City Manager to call Kunshan, China, Foreign Affairs Office to gather more information on what they are requesting. Council concurred.

11.c. CORRESPONDENCE FROM CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN LOS ANGELES, REQUESTING TO RENEW SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINESE CITY XIANGTAN AND SOUTH EL MONTE

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

Mayor Pro Tem Angel directed the City Manager to call People's Republic of China in Los Angeles, to gather more information on what they are requesting. Council concurred.

ITEM 12.a.1. DISCUSSED UNDER PRESENTATIONS

12. COUNCILMEMBERS' AGENDA

12.a. COUNCILMEMBER RUDY BOJORQUEZ

Discussion in Regards to the "Sacrifice & Service" Event During the Week of Memorial Day

12.a.1. was discussed after Invocation.

13. CLOSED SESSION – None.

14. RECESS COUNCIL MEETING

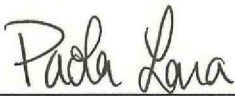
Mayor Olmos recessed the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

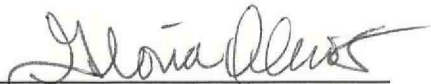
Mayor Olmos adjourned the Successor Agency meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Mayor Olmos Reconvened the City Council meeting at 7:42 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:42 p.m. Mayor Olmos adjourned the meeting to a Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.


for Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk


Gloria Olmos, Mayor