

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 17, 2020 6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
1415 N. SANTA ANITA AVENUE
SOUTH EL MONTE, CA 91733**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Olmos called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

PRESENT:Councilmembers: Acosta, Angel, Delgado, Olmos, and Retamoza.

Also Present: (City Attorney) Anthony R. Taylor, (City Manager) Rachel Barbosa, (City Clerk) Rose Juarez, and (Public Works Director) Rene Salas.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (b) and Governor Newsom's Executive Order dated March 12, 2020, the Council meeting included teleconference participation as follows: Councilmember Hector Delgado and City Attorney Anthony R. Taylor participated by teleconference.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Angel, seconded by Retamoza and carried (5 - 0) to approve the agenda.

AYES:Councilmembers: Acosta, Angel, Delgado, Olmos, and Retamoza.

NAYS:None.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Olmos opened and closed public comments after determining there was no one wishing to speak.

4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-24, A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH EL MONTE CITY COUNCIL RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

The City Manager presented the staff report.

Councilmember Delgado thanked the City Manager for preparing the resolution to address the needs of the residents and businesses with the respect to halting potential evictions and inquired whether shutting down City Hall has been considered.

The City Manager stated until the City Council makes a directive, or the Governor makes an executive order to shut down, City Hall staff will continue to report to work. However, staff over 60 years old were ordered to stay home for 30 days and staff that are sick were ordered to stay home the remainder of the week and report back on Monday. Additionally, there is a contingency plan that is almost complete if City

Hall does shut down. Councilmember Delgado requested that the contingency plan include a way to continue paying the employees in the event of a City closure and stated President Trump and Cabinet members are looking at providing stimulus checks to citizens throughout the Country which could potentially include City employees to help with the financial impact of not being able to work.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Retamoza's questions, the City Manager stated there has been close communication with the Sheriff's Department, they have been more visible patrolling the community including conducting patrol checks for the elderly and children that are home as well as spending more time near the grocery store and shopping centers.

With regard to employees working remotely, there are critical employees and disaster response employees which include the executive team and division managers who will be in constant communication if City Hall does close and the technology capability is still being inventoried as a means to share the available supplies. Also, contact information for all employees is available, there will be periodical check-ins, with the top priority being the seniors and volunteers will be called upon to help deliver senior meals.

In response to Councilmember Acosta's question, the City Attorney stated the resolution provides for the City to conduct dissemination, direction and notice to the community. Also, the Governor's State of Emergency invokes the penal code section against price gouging and provides notice to the business community to comply with all applicable rules and regulations.

The City Manager stated the Executive Order from the Department of Public Health is for restaurants and bars to close all dine-in services, however, they are able to provide take-out and delivery services and the Sheriff's Department will be enforcing the Executive Order. Additionally, the City has been sharing information for small business loans for those impacted from the closures and information from other agencies offering assistance on the City's social media and website.

In response to Councilmember Acosta's question, the City Manager stated contact information for food related businesses has been pulled from the business database and the information will be sent via a letter to all contacts, and she will report back to the City Council at the March 24th meeting.

Mayor Olmos thanked the City Manager and staff for all of the hard work they have been doing to keep the City going.

A motion was made by Angel, seconded by Delgado and carried (5 - 0) to adopt Resolution No. 20-24, Ratifying the Proclamation of a Local Emergency in Response to COVID-19.

AYES: Councilmembers: Acosta, Angel, Delgado, Olmos, and Retamoza.
NAYS: None.

The City Manager announced the March 24th City Council meeting will have limited public access capacity due to social distancing, teleconference call in will be offered again, thanked the City Council for honoring the social distancing, and the Community Services and Patriotic Commission meetings have been cancelled for March and April but the Planning Commission meeting will still be held while also

honoring social distancing.

Mayor Olmos recommended that if the situation continues until April that the Planning Commission meeting also be cancelled.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business coming before this body, Mayor Olmos adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.



Rose Juarez, City Clerk



Gloria Olmos, Mayor