

**CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, November 9, 2021 - 6:00 PM**

1. ROLL CALL

Mayor Olmos called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

PRESENT: Councilmember(s): Acosta, Delgado (via zoom), Retamoza, Mayor Pro Tem Angel, and Mayor Olmos

STAFF PRESENT: Rachel Barbosa, City Manager; Anthony R. Taylor, City Attorney; Donna G. Schwartz, City Clerk (via zoom); Rene Salas, Deputy City Manager; Colby Cataldi, Community Development Director; William Fox, Interim Finance Director; and Paola Lara, Deputy City Clerk.

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Councilmember Gracie Retamoza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVOCATION – Pastor Charlie Corum, South El Monte Community Outreach, offered the Invocation.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.a. Rosaelva Lomeli, Board President and Teresa Dreyfuss, Superintendent/President of Rio Hondo College, presented a PowerPoint on 2021 State of the College.

4.b. Interim Finance Director William Fox presented a PowerPoint on the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Audit Results and Financial Update.

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

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Acosta to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0, by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Olmos opened public comment

1. Billy Valencia, South El Monte/El Monte Jets, requested City Council waive the fees for the use of the Community Center gym for an end of season banquet, tentatively scheduled the first week of December, and invited City Council as VIP guests to the banquet.
2. Pastor Charlie Corum, South El Monte Community Outreach, thanked Council for their support of community events and requested approval of the use of the Community Center for a Thanksgiving Food Drive event on Wednesday, November 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
3. Fidel Acosta, South El Monte resident, voiced concern with cars parking illegally on Santa Anita Avenue across Whittier Narrows park, requested a pedestrian crosswalk be installed on Lexington-Gallatin Road and Santa Anita Avenue to create a safe crosswalk to the park, stated on the weekends frisbee players park on Lexington-Gallatin Road and leave their trash on the street, there is a mechanic that works on cars on weekend evenings on Andrews Street and Lexington-Gallatin Road and leaves used oil behind, and on Farmer Avenue behind South El Monte High School people drink and do drugs at night and leave empty beer bottles. Mr. Acosta requested Council and the Sheriff's Department address these issues and suggested the City collect tax revenue from the School District for the parking fees they collect for parking at the swap meet and fees collected from each vendor site.

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

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

- 7.a. Approved Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting held October 26, 2021 and Special City Council Meeting held December 22, 2020.
- 7.b. Adopted Resolution No. 21-71, approving warrants for the period of October 27, 2021 through November 9, 2021 totaling \$903,004.87.
- 7.c. Approved to solicit Request for proposals (RFP) for Auditing Services.
- 7.d. Adopted Resolution No. 21-72, proclaiming a local emergency persists and authorizing the use of alternative meeting procedures by the City's legislative bodies, such as utilizing a virtual platform (e.g. Zoom) for the period of November 9, 2021 through December 9, 2021.

- 7.e. Adopted Resolution No. 21-73, awarding a professional services agreement to Kosmont Transaction Services for financial advisory services and authorizing City Manager to execute agreement.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8.a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 21-74, ADOPTING A GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT (GPA) (NO. 21-02) TO UPDATE THE DENSITY OF THE MIXED USE CATEGORY OF THE LAND USE ELEMENT TO MATCH THE COMMERCIAL-RESIDENTIAL ZONE

Mayor Olmos announced the item and Community Development Director Colby Cataldi presented the staff report.

Mayor Olmos opened the public hearing, there being no public comment, closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilmember Acosta, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Angel to adopt Resolution No. 21-74, adopting the General Plan Amendment No. 21-02. Motion carried 5-0, by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

9.a. APPOINTMENT/RE-APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Retamoza to re-appoint Councilmember Delgado as a representative to the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board of Trustees for a two-year term. Motion carried 4-0-1 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

ABSTAIN: Councilmember(s): Delgado

9.b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT TO FUND THE CITY OF SOUTH EL MONTE'S HOMELESS PREVENTION PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZATION TO INCLUDE THE CITY COUNCILMEMBERS' SIGNATURES

Mayor Olmos announced the item, City Manager Rachel Barbosa presented the staff report and introduced Deputy City Manager Rene Salas who spoke of the services the City has provided to homeless individuals and families in need in collaboration with consultants Union Station and the Cities of Baldwin Park and El Monte.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Acosta to approve sending the letter of support to Supervisor Hilda L. Solis and Supervisor Kathryn Barger to request funding the City of South El Monte's Homeless Prevention Program for the remaining fiscal year and next fiscal year, and authorize to include City Councilmembers' signatures. Motion carried 5-0 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS, INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS

Councilmember Acosta, announced his attendance at the City's Domestic Violence Walk, Senior Center's Halloween Drive-Thru, and El Monte Union High School District Bike Ride.

Councilmember Retamoza, nothing to report.

Councilmember Delgado, announced his attendance at the El Monte Union High School District's COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic and announced that Valle Lindo School District will have a Vaccination Clinic on November 17th.

Mayor Pro Tem Angel, announced his attendance at the City's Domestic Violence Walk, Senior Center's Halloween Drive-Thru, Harvest Festival, and the South El Monte's Adult Basketball League Championship game.

Mayor Olmos, announced her attendance at the City's Domestic Violence Walk, Senior Center's Halloween Drive-Thru, Harvest Festival, and the South El Monte's Adult Basketball League Championship game.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.a. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE EL MONTE/SOUTH EL MONTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REQUESTING SPONSORSHIP FOR THEIR "100th" ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 2022

Mayor Olmos announced the item and introduced Ken Rausch, CEO, and Christine Knight, Director of Membership and Marketing of El Monte/South

El Monte Chamber of Commerce, who thanked the City Council for their support, and requested City Council sponsor their "100th" Anniversary Celebration.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Retamoza to approve a \$500 Silver sponsorship for the El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce "100th" Anniversary celebration. Motion carried 5-0 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

Mayor Olmos announced she would make a personal \$100 donation to the event.

11.b. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE SOUTH EL MONTE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (SEMEA) REQUESTING SPONSORSHIP FOR THE ANNUAL SOUTH EL MONTE EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY RECOGNITION DINNER

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Angel, seconded by Councilmember Retamoza to approve a sponsorship in the amount of \$2,000 for the Annual South El Monte Employees Holiday Recognition dinner. Motion carried 5-0 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

11.c. CORRESPONDENCE FROM SOUTH EL MONTE COMMUNITY OUTREACH (SEMCO) REQUESTING THE USE OF THE CITY'S COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT TO HOST A THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

Mayor Olmos announced the item.

A motion was made by Councilmember Retamoza, seconded by Councilmember Acosta to approve South El Monte Community Outreach's request to use the Community Center parking lot on Wednesday, November 24, 2021 to host a Thanksgiving food drive. Motion carried 5-0 by the following vote:

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

NAYS: Councilmember(s): None

12. COUNCILMEMBERS' AGENDA

12.a. Councilmember Gracie Retamoza

1. Discussion on City Banner Policy and Implementation of Fees.

Community Development Director Colbi Cataldi provided an overview on the different banner permit requirements and fees that are part of the municipal code, stated banner permit fees can also be subject to additional fees due to staff labor and equipment required to hang banners on City poles, and staff is in the process of conducting a fee study and updating the City's fee ordinance which will be brought back to Council at a later date for approval.

City Council directed staff to include in the ordinance that certain fees would be waived for non-profit organizations. Community Development Director Colby Cataldi confirmed the proposed fee ordinance will include the proper fee waiver language.

13. CLOSED SESSION

At 7:48 p.m. Mayor Olmos recessed Council into closed session.

13.a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - PENDING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9 – [One Case]

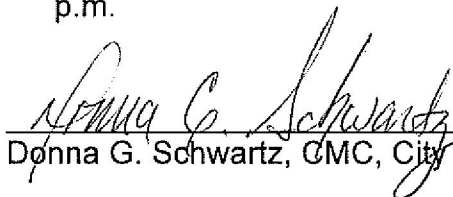
Sanjay Patel et al v. City of South El Monte
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case BC720458

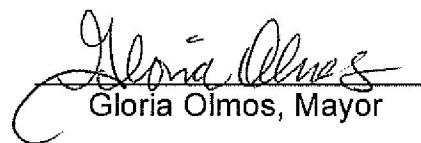
At 8:10 p.m. Mayor Olmos reconvened to open session.

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

14. ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING

There being no further business coming before this body, at 8:11 p.m. Mayor Olmos adjourned the meeting in memory of Josie Aguirre, long term South El Monte resident, to a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.


Donna G. Schwartz, CMC, City Clerk


Gloria Olmos, Mayor