

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE,
CALIFORNIA HELD JANUARY 09, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Vargas called the City Council, meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.in the City Council Chambers, 4455 W. 126th Street, Hawthorne, California.

INVOCATION

City Clerk Dayna Williams-Hunter gave the evening's invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Treasurer Marie Poindexter-Hornback led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL Present: Councilmembers Patterson, Manning, Mayor-ProTem Reyes English, Mayor Vargas.

Absent: Councilmember Monteiro

PROCLAMATIONS / CERTIFICATES / PRESENTATIONS

1. Kywana Bowie, Community Services Director introduced Gerardo Iriarte who presented regarding partnership with Dodgers Foundation.
2. Diane Forte, Ron Gails presented regarding concerns with Southern California Edison AB 205

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Vargas calls upon oral communications.

Debra Sturtevant, founder of Love beyond Autism asking for support for her upcoming Autism Walk with permit approvals, participation, donations and advertising the event.

Nat Augus, Centinela Youth Services (CYS) discussed their free services and thanked police for partnering with them to help mitigate behavioral problems.

Veteran chair, **Faye Johnson** introduced banner program for Hawthorne veterans. Brochures were distributed to council and the public. Thanked the Chief of police, City Manager and HR director.

Resident **Gordon Michael Migo** discussed the design of the new city hall that was presented the month prior. Opposes 126th being made a one-way street.

Hawthorne business owner **Rosa Ortiz** on 139th and Prairie, wanted to address small business grants. She says that the grants were for services, retaining employees and equipment. She brought handouts for council. She asked why the grants weren't advertised properly and asked that the city investigate this.

Resident **James Reddick** discussed a building going up in the LA county portion of Inglewood Avenue. He discussed the lack of transparency and no planning consulting of this project. Veteran's Commissioner

Kyle Orlemann talked about legislation pending in Congress SB414, HB 1083, she asked for council support for survivor benefits

CITY CLERK'S CONSENT CALENDAR

3. Approval of waiver of full readings of resolutions and ordinances on Tuesday, January 9, 2024's agenda.
4. The City Treasurer submitted a financial statement regarding warrants.

Warrants Nos.: 23075-23142; 23143-23440; 195892-195906; 23441-23466; 23467-23766; 195907-195919

Warrant Totals: \$2,075,568.37;

Warrant Nos.: 484390-484643;

Warrant Totals: \$5,139,041.23;

ROLL CALLAYES: Councilmembers, Patterson, Manning, Mayor Pro-tem Reyes English, Mayor Vargas.
NOES: None.

RESOLUTIONS

5. Resolution No. 8448 setting forth an exception to the 180 day waiting period to hire a CalPERS retired annuitant in accordance with Government Code sections 7522.56 and 21224.

Councilman Patterson asked for clarification regarding Resolution 8448 and why this was being asked. City Attorney asked this for a retiring employee in the attorney's office who was asked to continue as a part-time employee. MPT Reyes English asked why there hasn't been any recruitment efforts. City Attorney clarified there had been efforts to recruit. HR Director Erika Lampkin further clarified

Mayor Vargas moved, no seconded. Motion died.

BIDS: OPENING & RESULTS

6. Publicly receive, open and declare sealed bids for *Alley Improvement Project CDBG Funds(Project #24-06)*

2 Bids were received, both accompanied by bidders bonds. Martinez Landscape Company Inc- \$398,000 and Sequel Contractors, \$749,000

Councilwoman Reyes English moved, Councilman Patterson seconded.

ROLL CALLAYES: Councilmembers, Patterson, Manning, Mayor Pro-tem Reyes English, Mayor Vargas.
NOES: None.

ORDINANCES

7. ORDINANCE NO. 2247 (2nd Reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 17.29.040 (DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS) OF CHAPTERS 17.29 (CM – MIXED COMMERCIAL CLASSIFICATION) TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE HOUSING ELEMENT BY REMOVING CONSTRAINTS TO RESIDENTIAL AND MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS, AND APPROVING AN ADDENDUM TO THE HAWTHORNE GENERAL PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT.

Mayor Pro Tem Reyes English asked Planning Director Gregg McClain to explain further if this item was holding up any applications. McClain noted this is a second reading and a public hearing was held. Manning Motions, Patterson seconded.

ROLL CALLAYES: Councilmembers, Patterson, Manning, Mayor Pro-tem Reyes English, Mayor Vargas.
NOES: None.

8. ORDINANCE NO. 2248 (1st Reading) AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HAWTHORNE, CALIFORNIA ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR A MUNICIPAL MESSAGE CENTER NETWORK, AMENDING THE HAWTHORNE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE SAME, AND MAKING A FINDING OF EXEMPTION FROM CEQA IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

City Attorney said this item would be brought back February 13th, Mayor Pro-Tem Reyes English asked for clarification on what a municipal messaging center was, asked about past ordinances. City Attorney Robert Kim said a presentation would be coming.

No Vote

CITY MANAGER'S CONSENT CALENDAR

9. Progress Payment #2 in the amount of \$267,611.39 due to GRBCON, Inc. of Baldwin Park, CA for Sewer Main and Miscellaneous Storm Drain Improvement Project 2023 (Project # 23-04).
10. Annexation of Unincorporated Regions within Hawthorne—Region 2.
11. Food services agreement between the City of Hawthorne and the County of Los Angeles to provide prepared meals to feed jail inmates for the Hawthorne police department

Mayor Pro-Tem Reyes English asked if there was another entity that could provide the same service. Chief Tomatani explained they are already vetted for dietary restrictions as opposed to go to another source.

Mayor Vargas motioned, Manning seconded.

ROLL CALLAYES: Councilmembers, Patterson, Manning, Mayor Pro-tem Reyes English, Mayor Vargas.
NOES: None.

ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Treasurer **Poindexter-Hornback** talked about Congresswoman Maxine Waters and a zoom townhall meeting discussing upcoming new legislation. Student loan forgiveness. 3 Cd's rolling over later in the year. Looking forward to working with council for things coming up in the year. Asked to work with Beyond Autism. City Clerk thanks everyone thanked Beyond Autism, offered help.

Councilmember **Manning** expressed the desire to help Beyond Autism. Asked that they see her after the meeting for a personal donation. Says she would be participating. Mentioned the Dodgers presentation and expressed appreciation. Said she received an email from Holly Mitchell's office encouraging landlords to participate in the renter's relief program and that covid had an effect and this will help some landlords- the deadline January 12. Talked about the Business Expo March 14th. Asked businesses to sign up via website. Said she attended business connect mentioned Greg McClain, says she learned a lot from him. Gave directive –Create a process to update ordinances that focuses on vacant storefronts in priority areas. She talked about budget comparing other cities to ours. Asking that we can include a budget page message so that it explains the condition of our city.

Patterson, thanked everyone and said happy New Year and appreciates the public. Thanked PD. Asked for Kyle Orlemann to reach out to him regarding her ask during oral communications. Directive for City Manager for mixture development happening in Culver City and asked how we may bring that to Hawthorne Blvd. Mixed use development constructions. Recommended a discussion regarding commissioners attending a conference to understand their roles, asked for follow up on directive holding community meeting with a new charter discussion and lastly, if the council could bring back ordinances, adjusting city council compensation according to statewide policies and also for treasurer and the clerk.

Mayor ProTem **Reyes English**, thanked Jerry for Dodger presentations and others. Talked about April Autism gave directive to declare April Autism month in Hawthorne. Thanked veteran comm for reporting out and business expo. Expressed concern for Edison and their presentation. Talked about energy partnership aggregation with LA county. Investors interest in utilities, talked about Clean Power alliance. Questioned how much the rate increase would be. She assured the residents that council knows what's happening and will be further addressing this. Asked that city and community unite to keep costs down. Recommended people go to the website of SCE and speak up. Asked for another presentation from CPA. Talked about landlord/tenant clinic and rent relief. Thanked Parks/Recs/Public Works. Talked about Golf Tournament, Hawthorne guide, thanked all who sent xmas cards. Thanked everyone.

Mayor Vargas thanked Autism non-profit and veteran banners. Completed his form for his father, mentioned mayor pro tem signing others up and Manning. Asked for Council participation. Offered suggestion for placement of banners. Expressed concerns about the rates with SCE and their presentation. Expressed concern for homelessness in the city and 105 (CalTrans) Says the city need to trim bushes so there's no room for tents. Suggested meeting with state leaders to come up with a solution. Asked city

manager to coordinate. Talked about bike riders on the freeway while he's driving. Councilwoman Manning interjected she has seen the same. MPT Reyes English applauded city manager, staff and efforts. Water services program information to be passed along to schools. Barrels for rainwater

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Vargas adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 8:31 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

Passed and approved this 11th day of February 2025.

Dayna Williams-Hunter
City Clerk