



CITY OF BELL GARDENS
CITY COUNCIL/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2009, 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES

LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7100 S. GARFIELD AVENUE, BELL GARDENS, CA

CALL TO ORDER – The Mayor/Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

INVOCATION – was given by Philip Wagner, Assistant City Manager

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – was led by Pamela Yugar, Director of Recreation and Community Services.

ROLL CALL OF CITY COUNCIL/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEMBERS

PRESENT: Crespo, Beltran, Flores, Aceituno, Rodriguez
ABSENT: None.

REPORT FROM CITY ATTORNEY/AGENCY COUNSEL ON CLOSED SESSION - None

PRESENTATIONS – None

PUBLIC HEARINGS (Item No. 1)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ITEMS - None

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS

1. Community Development Block Grant Program – Fiscal Year 2009-2010

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council conduct a public hearing to solicit community input on the proposed use of Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-2010 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and approve Resolution No. 2009-01, a Resolution of the Bell Gardens City Council approving the City's Community Development Block Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Interim Director of Community Development Carmen Morales provided an overview report. She introduced the various programs which were proposed for CDBG funds.

The Mayor opened the public hearing and public comments.

Clifford Dunbar, requested that the amount proposed for Code Enforcement activities be reduced.

Robert Rubio, Chief Professional Officer of the Rio Hondo Boys and Girls Club, advocated for CDBG funding for his organization.

Susan Sundberg, Executive Director of the Human Services Association, advocated for CDBG funding for her organization.

Ron Hoyt, requested that the City allocate CDBG funds to non-profit organizations, rather than Code Enforcement activities.

Christina Calvary, requested that the City allocate more funds to the Rio Hondo Boys and Girls Club.

Daisy Calvary, expressed her appreciation for the services of the Rio Hondo Boys and Girls Club.

Robert Calvary, requested that the City allocate more funds to the Rio Hondo Boys and Girls Club.

Ronald Garcia, President of the Human Services Association, requested that the City continue to provide CDBG funds for the Human Services Association and Rio Hondo Boys and Girls Club.

Genevieve Losta, requested that the City allocate CDBG funds to the Rio Hondo Boys and Girls Club.

Guadalupe Flores, requested that the City dedicate more funding towards community service programs.

The Mayor closed the public hearing and public comments.

The Mayor thanked all the public hearing participants and noted the importance of all community programs. She requested the City Manager to review further options for increasing CDBG funding to the various programs and return at the next meeting with additional information.

The City Manager provided an overview of the CDBG allocation categories and noted that staff will analyze the distribution of the CDBG program funds. He noted that any City program that is funded through CDBG will have to be funded through the General Fund if additional CDBG funds are distributed to non-profit organizations.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Crespo, the City Manager noted that the federal government sets the categories for CDBG funding and that Code Enforcement falls under the "housing preservation and housing stock" category.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Crespo, Ms. Morales noted that the federal guidelines imposed for using the CDBG funds for housing rehabilitation would require lead paint removal, a process which is extremely costly.

Councilmember Crespo expressed a desire to reinstate funding for the Human Services Association and the Boys and Girls Club to previous year's amounts. He suggested a subcommittee be formed to address the CDBG distribution issues.

The Council provided direction to the City Manager to further research a compromise with the Human Services Association and the Rio Hondo Boys and Girls Club.

The City Manager the remarkable work done by Code Enforcement in ensuring that commercial and residential properties are following the Bell Gardens Municipal Code.

Councilmember Beltran noted his support for Code Enforcement activities and the results that the Division has achieved in providing a safe and clean City environment.

This item was continued to the next Regular Council meeting for final City Council discussion and deliberation. The public testimony portion of the meeting was closed earlier in the evening and will not be re-opened.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (Three minutes per person, subject to a total period of 30 minutes)

Ron Hoyt, appeared to speak regarding agenda item no. 14.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items No 2 – 13)

A motion was made by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Flores, and carried (5 – 0) to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 2 through 13, with the exception of item no. 7 which was pulled for separate consideration.

AYES: Crespo, Beltran, Flores, Aceituno, Rodriguez
NOES: None.

2. General Motion to read all Ordinances by title only

Recommendation: Read all Ordinances by title only and waive the reading in full.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ITEMS

3. Minutes

December 8, 2008 - Regular Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the minutes

4. Warrants

Warrant Registers dated 12/18/08 (CK#11923-11926, \$381,707.83) for a total amount of \$381,707.83.

Warrant Registers dated 12/22/08 (CK#11919-11922, \$73,023.22) and 01/12/09 (CK#11927-11938, \$15,043.50) for a total amount of \$88,066.72.

Recommendation: Approve the warrants

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS

5. Minutes

December 8, 2008 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the minutes

6. Warrants

Warrant Registers dated 12/04/08 (CK#126894-126937, \$438,253.96), Wire transfer dated 12/04/08 (CK#694 & 696, \$522,751.75), Warrant Registers dated 12/18/08 (CK#126708-126770, \$405,147.34), and Wire Transfer dated 12/18/08 (CK#697 & 699, \$787,490.08) for a total amount of \$2,153,643.13.

Warrant Registers dated 12/22/08 (CK#126938-127037, \$342,838.59), 01/12/09 (CK#127084-127210, \$333,023.50) for a total amount of \$675,862.09.

Recommendation: Approve the warrants

7. Local Appointments List

Updated list of Council appointments to City Boards and Commissions

Recommendation: Receive and file.

This item was pulled for separate consideration by Councilmember Flores.

8. Designating the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) as the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) for the City's Solid Waste Management Program

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution 2009-02, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Bell Gardens designating the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health as the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) for the Solid Waste Management Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989.

9. Records Management Program

Recommendation: It is staff's recommendation that the City Council establish the City's Records Management Program by approving Resolution No. 09-03, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Bell Gardens adopting a Records Management Program and records retention schedule, authorizing the disposition of certain City records, and rescinding all previous resolutions.

10. Audit of the Finance and Administrative Services Department

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council approve an agreement with Macias Consulting Group, certified public accountants and management consultants to conduct a comprehensive financial audit and organizational analysis of the City of Bell Gardens Finance and Administrative Services Department.

11. Ordinance No. 813 (Second Reading) articulating Zone Code Amendment #2008-082

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 813, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Bell Gardens approving an amendment to Title 9, Bell Gardens Zoning Ordinance, of the Bell Gardens Municipal Code (Zoning Code Amendment File #2008-082).

12. Award of Construction Contract for the Safe Routes to School SR2S Cycle 7 Project

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council 1) Award a construction contract to TDS Engineering in the amount of \$210,810.30 for the Safe Routes to School SR2S Cycle 7 Project and 2) authorize a 10% contingency in the amount of \$21,080.00 to be set aside for incidentals for this project.

13. AB 1234 Conference Reports

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council review and approve the brief report pertaining to the regulations under AB 1234.

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

7. Local Appointments List

Updated list of Council appointments to City Boards and Commissions
Recommendation: Receive and file.

This item was pulled for separate consideration by Councilmember Flores.

Councilmember Flores removed Jocelyn Beltran from the Traffic and Safety Commission.

Councilmember Crespo removed Albert Lopez from the Education Commission and nominated Marthaane Viurquiz as a replacement.

A motion was made by Councilmember Crespo, seconded by Councilmember Beltran, and carried (5 – 0) to approve the removal of Jocelyn Beltran from the Traffic and Safety Commission and Albert Lopez from the Education Commission and appoint Marthaane Viurquiz to the Education Commission.

AYES: Crespo, Beltran, Flores, Aceituno, Rodriguez
NOES: None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ITEMS - None

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS:

14. Contribution to Latino Diabetes Foundation (Requested by Councilmember Beltran)

Councilmember Beltran provided a brief overview of the request. He requested that \$1,000.00 be designated from the City as funding support to the Latino Diabetes Association.

A motion was made by Councilmember Crespo, seconded by Councilmember Aceituno, and carried (5 – 0) to approve a \$1,000.00 donation to the Latino Diabetes Association..

Councilmember Crespo requested that an item related to the funding support for the American Diabetes Association be placed on the next Regular Council agenda.

AYES: Crespo, Beltran, Flores, Aceituno, Rodriguez
NOES: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS UNDER THE SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (Three minutes per person, subject to a total period of 30 minutes)

Ron Hoyt, expressed concern regarding the amount of time for public comments.

CITY COUNCIL/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS:

Councilmember Crespo thanked the meeting participants for their attendance tonight and congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt for recent honors. He also noted the results of a recent jury trial and made allegations regarding the conduct of the Police Chief.

The City Attorney cautioned the Council about making any comments regarding the conduct of any City employee outside of a properly noticed Closed Session meeting.

Mayor requested the City Attorney to look into this matter and noted that if the allegations were found to be untrue, that the Police Chief should be issued a formal apology.

Councilmember Beltran thanked the meeting participants for their attendance at tonight's meeting.

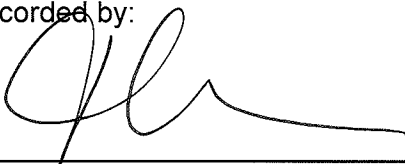
Councilmember Flores noted the difficulty in making the CDBG funding allocation decisions, as all programs are critical to the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Aceituno wished the community a happy and productive new year and looked forward to working with staff to ensure that services to the community are not adversely affected due to the current economic climate.

Mayor Rodriguez noted the difficult decisions related to the CDBG program funding allocations.

ADJOURNMENT – The Mayor/Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Recorded by:



Vida Barone, Interim City Clerk