



**MINUTES OF MAY 5, 2020  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SAN GABRIEL CITY COUNCIL**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Menchaca called the regular meeting of the San Gabriel City Council to order at 6:35 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, with all Council Members and staff participating by teleconference.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Pu.

**ROLL CALL**

**Council Members Present:** Tony Ding, John R. Harrington, Jason Pu, Vice Mayor Chin Ho Liao, and Mayor Denise Menchaca.

**Council Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Members Present:** City Manager Mark Lazzaretto, City Attorney Keith Lemieux, Assistant City Manager/Community Development Director Arminé Chaparyan, Community Services/Interim Mission Playhouse Director Rebecca Perez, Police Chief Eugene Harris, Chief City Clerk Sharon Clark, Public Works Director/City Engineer Greg de Vinck, Fire Chief Steven Wallace, Human Resources/Risk Management Director Edward Macias, Interim Finance Director Kenneth Louie, and Assistant City Clerk Marilyn Bonus.

Mayor Menchaca provided information for the public on how to view the meeting and submit comments.

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER**

Hearing no objections to the Agenda Order, Mayor Menchaca stated the Agenda Order was approved.

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. PROCLAMATION OF THE MONTH OF MAY AS NATIONAL PRESERVATION MONTH**

Presentation was made by Assistant City Manager/Community Development Director Arminé Chaparyan.

**B. COVID-19 UPDATE ON CITY OPERATIONS**

Mayor Menchaca announced that this will be an ongoing presentation on the Agenda until the COVID-19 epidemic ends to keep the public informed directly from the City's first responders and staff.

Presentations were made by Fire Chief Wallace, Police Chief Harris, Community Services/ Interim Mission Playhouse Director Perez, and City Manager Lazzaretto.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Council Member Pu pulled Item 4A(2) and 4C for separate discussion.

Regarding Item 4A(2), he requested greater clarification on the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 21, 2020, on Item 6A as to the first half of the recommendation that was approved and the second half of the recommendation that was deferred.

Regarding Item 4C, he received additional information from Community Services/Interim Mission Playhouse Director Perez relative to the layout of the playground equipment.

A motion was made by Mayor Menchaca, seconded by Vice Mayor Liao, to approve Consent Calendar Items 4A(1) and 4B – 4C as presented, and Item 4A(2) as amended.

*Motion approved Consent Calendar Items 4A(1) and 4B – 4C as presented, and Item 4A(2) as amended by a vote of 5-0 as follows:*

AYES: DING, HARRINGTON, PU, LIAO, MENCHACA  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The City Council approved the following item as presented:

1. Minutes of the City Council Regular Meeting of April 7, 2020.

The City Council approved the following item as amended:

2. Minutes of the City Council Regular Meeting of April 21, 2020.

**B. MATERIAL DEMANDS**

The City Council approved the April 10, 2020, and April 17, 2020 Registers of Demands and Warrants for the payment of City expenditures.

**C. AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR VINCENT LUGO PARK NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PROJECT, CONTRACT NO. 20-03**

The City Council:

1. Approved plans and specifications for the Vincent Lugo Park New Playground Equipment Project, Contract No. 20-03;
2. Authorized the City Manager to execute contract documents with Ortco, Incorporated for total bid amount in the amount of \$124,155;
3. Approved a Purchase Order in the amount of \$136,571 which includes a 10% construction contingency; and
4. Approved a separate Purchase Order for San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps in the amount of \$3,360 for turf removal.

5. **PUBLIC HEARING** – None.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

**A. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR TASK FORCE FOR REGIONAL AUTO THEFT PREVENTION (T.R.A.P.)**

The staff presentation was made by Police Chief Eugene Harris.

Debbie Kilgore, resident, questioned if the officer assigned to T.R.A.P. would be pulled from regular hours with the San Gabriel Police Department.

Discussion included a net savings for the City for the assigned officer's salary, benefits and vehicle cost; the City's ability to call the officer back from the task force for City duties as needed; rotation of where task force officers are based; assignment of a detective with experience in this field of law enforcement; no loss of capacity to investigate crimes in San Gabriel; greater access to regional resources; criteria for participation; regional representation; and outside funding for the task force.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Liao, seconded by Council Member Harrington, to approve the assignment of one Detective to the Taskforce for Regional Auto Theft Prevention Program and authorize the City Manager to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding.

*Motion approved New Business Item 6A as presented by a vote of 5-0 as follows:*

AYES: DING, HARRINGTON, PU, LIAO, MENCHACA  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

**B. CONSIDERATION TO REPEAL URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 668 TEMPORARILY RESTRICTING RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL EVICTIONS FOR NONPAYMENT OF RENT DUE TO COVID-19**

City Attorney Lemieux explained that there is no conflict of interest for Council Member Pu, as an owner of residential rental property, and Council Member Ding, as an owner of commercial property, to participate in this item as the action applies equally to all leases in the City and is undertaken under an emergency declaration.

The staff presentation was made by Deputy City Attorney Norma Tabares.

The following provided public comment in opposition to repealing the ordinance and requested it instead be tailored for San Gabriel: Danielle Leidner-Peretz, representing the Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles; Isaac Hung, rental property owner; and Matthew Buck, representing the California Apartment Association.

The following provided public comment in favor of repealing the ordinance: Teresa Eilers, West San Gabriel Valley Organizer for United Way's Everyone In Campaign; Eric Sunada, San Gabriel Valley Oversight Group; Sean McMorris, resident; Rev. Rae Chen Huang; and Paul Cole Padilla, resident.

The following also provided public comment: Judy Liu.

Discussion included timeframes and differences between San Gabriel's (City's) urgency ordinance and the County's similar ordinance; preference to incorporate County provisions as desired into a revised City ordinance rather than repealing the City's ordinance; preference to maintain local authority; consideration for both tenants and landlords; timeframes given in Executive Order No. 37-20 relative to the City's ordinance; pros and cons of revising San Gabriel's ordinance versus repealing it in favor of the County's ordinance; preference to repeal San Gabriel's ordinance; staff time and cost involved in serving residents relative to the City's versus the County's ordinance; the County having dedicated resources and assistance hotlines relative to this matter; whether repealing this City ordinance precludes the ability to adopt another in the future; the City having no authority with banks relative to loans; litigation concerns; federal loan protections; use of CDBG funds to subsidize rent for qualified recipients; working with non-profits and community groups to assist those in need of rent assistance; and the ability to bring back a revised City ordinance for consideration at a future time.

A motion was made by Council Member Pu, seconded by Mayor Menchaca, to repeal Urgency Ordinance No. 668 in its entirety.

*Motion failed by a vote of 2-3 as follows:*

AYES: PU, MENCHACA  
NOES: DING, HARRINGTON, LIAO  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: NONE

Following additional discussion, there was a consensus of the City Council to have the City Attorney and City Manager prepare a revised City ordinance with input from Council Members for consideration at the May 21, 2020 regular City Council meeting.

### **C. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Presentation was made by Public Works Director/City Engineer Greg de Vinck.

Council Members commended Public Works Director/City Engineer de Vinck for a job well-done and for realizing savings for the City while improving the quality of services.

There were no public comments.

### **7. PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

### **8. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Lazzaretto gave a reminder about the Special Budget Meeting to be held on May 12, 2020, at 5:30 p.m.

### **9. COUNCIL COMMENTS AND CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS**

Vice Mayor Liao reported on donations of personal protective equipment (PPE) that have been received and distributed.

Council Member Ding thanked the Fire and Police Departments for keeping the City safe, commented on donations of PPE, and reminded residents to stay home, stay healthy, and stay safe.

Council Member Harrington thanked staff for the good reports; especially, Fire Chief Wallace, Police Chief Harris, and Community Services/Interim Mission Playhouse Director Perez.

Council Member Pu thanked all the individuals and organizations who have donated PPE, and thanked staff for their work in continuing to provide City services during the COVID-19 crisis.

Mayor Menchaca reminded the community that the closest COVID-19 testing sites are at the San Gabriel Valley Airport in El Monte and East Los Angeles College; commented on community acts of kindness; and commended staff and City Manager Lazzaretto for all the work taking place even though the public doesn't see it with City facilities closed.

**10. CLOSED SESSION** – None.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Menchaca adjourned the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
SHARON F. CLARK, Chief City Clerk

Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020:

  
DENISE MENCHACA, Mayor