



**CITY OF BELL GARDENS**  
**CITY COUNCIL / SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE COMMUNITY**  
**DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**JOINT MEETING**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024, 6:00 PM**  
**MINUTES**

**LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 7100 GARFIELD AVENUE, BELL GARDENS, CA 90201**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** The members of the public may address the City Council / Agency Members on any item listed on the agenda or on matters which are not listed on the agenda but are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council / Successor Agency. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person for each designated public comment period(s). Public comments for non-agenda items will be limited to a total of 30 minutes. Public comments can be made by any of the following ways:

**IN-PERSON:** Members of the public can provide in-person comments at the podium in the Council Chamber. The Council Chambers will have seating available for members of the public to attend the meeting in person, subject to capacity limits. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes for each designated public comment period(s) per speaker, unless a different time is announced by the presiding chair. Speakers who wish to address the City Council / Agency Members should do so by submitting a "Public Comment Card" card by 5:00 p.m. for Closed Session items and by 6:00 p.m. for all other designated public comment periods as listed.

**BY TELEPHONE:** Phone Number: (669)900-9128 Webinar ID: 813 3236 4343# Passcode: 2021#  
To address the City Council press \*9 to raise your hand then \*6 to unmute yourself when instructed.

**VIRTUALLY LIVE:** Members of the public may participate via Zoom by <https://zoom.us/join> and entering the Zoom Meeting ID: 813 3236 4343 Passcode: 2021  
Comments may also be made via the Zoom app by using the "Raise Hand" feature when it is your turn to speak the host will unmute you. Comments will not be accepted in the QandA Chat function of the zoom app.

**WRITTEN COMMENTS:** Public comments may be emailed to [PublicComments@bellgardens.org](mailto:PublicComments@bellgardens.org) or mailed to: City Clerk's Office, 7100 Garfield Ave., Bell Gardens, CA 90201. To ensure distribution to the members of the City Council / Agency Members prior to consideration of the agenda, please submit comments no later than one (1) hour prior to the meeting. Those comments, as well as any comments received after, will be distributed to the members of the City Council / Successor Agency and will be part of the official public record of this meeting.

For more information, you may contact the City Clerk's office during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday at (562) 806-7704.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Public participation will be separately called for the public to provide comments at the time of each public hearing item. Speakers who wish to provide a comment should do so by submitting a "Public Comment Card" to the staff liaison, clerk, prior to the designated public comment period.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Council Members of the City of Bell Gardens City Council/Successor Agency held a Joint Regular meeting on January 8, 2024, in the Council Chambers, 7100 Garfield Avenue, Bell Gardens, CA with Mayor Jorgel Chavez presiding. Mayor Jorgel Chavez called the joint meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

## **INVOCATION**

The invocation was given by Minister Jonathan Leal.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Police Chief Paul Camacho.

## **ROLL CALL OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS / SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEMBERS**

Present:

Gabriela Gomez, Agency Member/Council Member  
Maria Pulido, Agency Member/Council Member  
Francis De Leon Sanchez, Agency Member/Council Member  
Marco Barcena, Vice Chair/Mayor Pro Tem  
Jorgel Chavez, Chair/Mayor

Absent:

None

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- **CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO THE BELL GARDENS POLICE OFFICER'S FOR THEIR COURAGEOUS AND LIFESAVING ACTION AT THE SCENE OF A HOUSE FIRE ON DECEMBER 17, 2023**

Mayor Jorgel Chavez read the certificate of recognition and presented it to the following: Officer C. Sandoval; Officer R. Peek; Officer G. Mendoza; Officer S. Diaz; Officer Valenzuela; Senior Officer M. Weinrich; Detective J. Henshaw; Sergeant A. Puente; and Sergeant C. Cano.

- **CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION - SHANA MARQUEZ WITH TOUCHPOINT CHURCH**

Mayor Jorgel Chavez read the certificate of recognition and presented it to Shana Marquez.

- **CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION - HOLIDAY HOME DECORATING CONTEST**

Mayor Jorgel Chavez read the certificate of recognition and presented it to the following: The Vera Family; The Rodriguez Family; The Vargas Family; and The Velasquez Family.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS UNDER THE SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL / SUCCESSOR AGENCY**

City Clerk Daisy Gomez announced that there were no written comments received.

Lincoln Fraga spoke in opposition to rent stabilization.

Bruce Crow spoke regarding various topics.

Rogelio Rodriguez spoke regarding various topics.

Joaquin Beltran spoke regarding running for congress.

Abraham Rios spoke in opposition to rent stabilization.

Rodolfo spoke regarding the elections.

Norma Cabral spoke in opposition to rent stabilization.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

City Clerk Daisy Gomez announced that there were no written comments received.

No public comments were provided.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Michael O'Kelly provided a brief report.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR (Item Nos. 1 - 5)**

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and can be acted on by one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the City Council / Successor Agency request specific items to be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action. Items called for separate discussion will be heard as the next order of business.

A motion was made by Councilmember Francis De Leon Sanchez seconded by Councilmember Gabriel Gomez to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1 - 5.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote for Item Nos. 1 - 5:

AYES: Gomez, Pulido, Sanchez, Barcena, Chavez

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

### **1. GENERAL MOTION TO WAIVE FULL READING AND APPROVE ORDINANCES BY TITLE ONLY PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 36934**

In order to expedite the conduct of business at City Council meetings, California State Law (California Government Code Section 36934) allows Ordinances to be read by title if a majority of the legislative body supports the motion to waive the full reading.

**Recommendation:**

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council approve a general motion to waive full reading and approve Ordinances by title only pursuant to California Government Code Section 36934.

**2. APPROVAL MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2023 CITY / SUCCESSOR AGENCY JOINT MEETING**

Approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023 City/Successor Agency Joint Meeting.

**Recommendation:**

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023 City/Successor Agency Joint Meeting.

**3. WARRANT REGISTERS AND WIRE TRANSFERS**

In approving the action of receiving and filing the warrant registers, the official minutes of the Bell Gardens City Council should state that each individual member of the City Council is not voting on, influencing the outcome of, or participating in approving, accepting, receiving or filing any warrant which bears the name of the same council member, or pays for any costs or expenses, or otherwise benefits the same named council member. Each council member will not be participating, influencing or voting on any such warrant bearing their name or which benefits the same named council member, but with that exception is voting in favor of receiving and filing all other warrants contained in this report, unless otherwise noted on the record at the time of the approval of the action required by this report.

**Recommendation:**

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council receive and file the warrant registers, wire transfers, and net payrolls dated 11/28/23, 11/30/23, 12/05/23, 12/12/23, 12/14/23 and 12/19/23.

**4. WARRANT REGISTER SUCCESSOR AGENCY**

In approving the action of receiving and filing the warrant registers, the official minutes of the Successor Agency should state that each individual member of the Successor Agency is not voting on, influencing the outcome of, or participating in approving, accepting, receiving or filing any warrant which bears the name of the same Successor Agency Member, or pays for any costs or expenses, or otherwise benefits the same named Successor Agency Member. Each Successor Agency Member will not be participating, influencing or voting on any such warrant bearing their name or which benefits the same named Successor Agency Member, but with that exception is voting in favor of receiving and filing all other warrants contained in this report, unless otherwise noted on the record at the time of the approval of the action required by this report.

**Recommendation:**

It is staff's recommendation that the Successor Agency Members receive and file the warrant register dated 12/12/23 and 12/19/23.

**5. PURCHASE OF POLICE EQUIPMENT**

The Police Department needs to purchase and replace out-of-date duty handguns and rifles used by patrol officers and the Special Operations Team (SOT). The current duty handguns are over ten years old and the rifles are over 15 years old. The industry standard is to replace this equipment every five years.

**Recommendation:**

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution approving an

agreement with Proforce Marketing, Inc. dba Proforce Law Enforcement to purchase and replace duty handgun and rifles.

Resolution No. 2024-01 was approved.

## **DISCUSSION (Items No. 6-8)**

### **6. RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF NEW POLE LED LIGHTING AT JOHN ANSON FORD PARK**

Consideration of a Resolution approving an agreement with ABM Electrical & Lighting Solutions, Inc. formerly known as ABM Industries, Inc. for the purchase and installation of new pole LED walkway lighting at John Anson Ford Park.

#### **Recommendation:**

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached Resolution approving an agreement with ABM Electrical & Lighting Solutions, Inc. formerly known as ABM Industries Inc. for the purchase and installation of new LED lighting for a total amount not to exceed \$249,909.48;
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and approve change orders that may be necessary during construction to cover any unforeseen condition in an amount not to exceed 10% of the agreement amount; and
3. Appropriate \$275,000 from the General Fund to complete this project.

Presentation was provided by Public Works Director Bernardo Iniguez.

A motion was made by Council member Sanchez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Marco Barcena to approve staff's recommendation and adopt Resolution No. 2024-02.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote:

AYES: Gomez, Pulido, Sanchez, Barcena, Chavez

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

### **7. CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT TO EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

City Council Members serve on various external boards and committees, representing the City of Bell Gardens. This report provides a listing of all the boards and committees and the names of the Council Members that serve on the boards/committees. The Council may make appointment revisions to this list at this time.

#### **Recommendation:**

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council make changes, reappointments, or appointments as necessary to the attached matrix of Council Appointments to External Regulatory and Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees.

A motion was made by Councilmember Francis de Leon Sanchez, second by Councilmember Maria Pulido to nominate Councilmember Gabriela Gomez to serve on the Independent Cities Association.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote:

AYES: Gomez, Pulido, Sanchez, Barcena, Chavez  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

A motion was made by Councilmember Francis de Leon Sanchez, second by Mayor Pro Tem Marco Barcena to nominate Councilmember Gabriela Gomez to serve on the California Contract Cities Association.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote:

AYES: Gomez, Pulido, Sanchez, Barcena, Chavez  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

A motion was made by Councilmember Francis de Leon Sanchez, second by Mayor Jorgel Chavez to nominate Councilmember Gabriela Gomez to serve on the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote:

AYES: Gomez, Pulido, Sanchez, Barcena, Chavez  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

A motion was made by Mayor Jorgel Chavez, Councilmember Gabriela Gomez to nominate Mayor Pro Tem Marco Barcena to serve on the Southern California Association of Governments.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote:

AYES: Gomez, Pulido, Sanchez, Barcena, Chavez  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

## **8. LOCAL COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENT LIST**

The Local Commissions Appointments List outlines the City of Bell Gardens Commissions and Commissioners. Per the Bell Gardens Municipal Code, City Commissions consist of Bell Gardens residents appointed by each member of the City Council. Council Members may remove commissioners during any regular City Council meeting and may appoint commissioners following 10 working days after the posting of the vacancy notice.

### **Recommendation:**

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council review the Commissions Appointments List and by motion, remove commissioners and/or make appointments to the posted vacancies.

No action was taken.

### **CITY COUNCIL / SUCCESSOR AGENCY MEMBER COMMENTS**

Members of the Council and Successor Agency made community announcements and comments.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Jorgel Chavez adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

**Daisy Gomez, City Clerk**

**Agenda posted on January 4, 2024.**