



CITY OF BELL GARDENS
CITY COUNCIL / SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
JOINT MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 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 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 February 12, 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 Daniel Anguiano.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by City Manager Michael O'Kelly.

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

Present:

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

Absent:

Maria Pulido, Agency Member/Council Member

PRESENTATIONS

• GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ENERGY ACTION AWARD

Hector De La Torre, Executive Director of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, provided a brief presentation and presented an award to the City of Bell Gardens.

• RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mayor Jorgel Chavez read the certificate of recognition.

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 comments provided.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

City Clerk Daisy Gomez announced that there were eleven (11) written comments received.

Michelle Pinion spoke in support of Item Nos. 9 and 11.

Jocelyn DelReal spoke in support of Item Nos. 9 and 11.

Mima Torres provided documentation distributed to the full Council and spoke in favor to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Melody Cuevas spoke in opposition to rent stabilization.

Margarita Revuelta spoke in support to rent stabilization as is.

Cassandra spoke in support to rent stabilization as is.

Maria Martinez spoke in support to rent stabilization as is.

Jesus Rojas spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Brook Ervin spoke in support to rent stabilization as is.

Jose Sanchez spoke in support to rent stabilization as is.

Irma Lopez spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Ciro Alvarez spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Rogelio Rodriguez spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Norma Cabral spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Lilia Chavez spoke in support of rent stabilization as is.

Abraham Rios spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Raul Nevarez spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Gladis Velazquez spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Guadalupe Medina Urias spoke in support of rent stabilization as is.

Raul Godinez spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Doris Serrano spoke in support of rent stabilization as is.

Martin Hernandez spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Nicolas Patino-Villalpando spoke in support of rent stabilization as is.

Linda Castellanos spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Omar spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Catalina spoke in support to modify Ordinance No. 925.

Jonathan Jager spoke in support of rent stabilization as is.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Michael O'Kelly provided a brief report.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Item Nos. 1 - 9)

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 Mayor Pro Tem Marco Barcena seconded by Councilmember Gabriela Gomez to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1 - 9.

The motion carried 4-0-1 with the following vote for Item Nos. 1 - 8:

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

The motion carried 3-1-1 with the following vote for Item No. 9:

AYES: Gomez, Barcena, Chavez
NOES: Sanchez
ABSENT: Pulido
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 JANUARY 22, 2024 CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION AND CITY/SUCCESSOR AGENCY JOINT MEETINGS

Approve the minutes of the January 22, 2024 City Council Closed Session and City/Successor Agency Joint Meetings.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council approve the minutes of the January 22, 2024 Closed Session and City/Successor Agency Joint Meetings.

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 01/11/2024 and 01/16/2024.

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 01/16/24.

5. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELL GARDENS, CALIFORNIA, UPDATING THE CITYWIDE CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN AND APPROVING A BUDGET APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH / AMEND STAFF POSITIONS IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RENT STABILIZATION AND TENANT EVICTION PROTECTIONS PROGRAM AS ESTABLISHED BY ORDINANCE NO. 925

Adopt the updated Citywide Classification and Compensation plan and approval of Class Specifications in the Community Development Department to properly support and implement the Bell Gardens Rent Stabilization Program as established by Ordinance No. 925.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Establish the positions of Housing Specialist II, Housing Programs Supervisor, and Housing Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer;
2. Amend the title of Director of Community Development to Deputy City Manager / Director of Community Development;
3. Update the job specification of Housing Specialist to reflect updated chain-of-command; and
4. Adopt the attached Resolution establishing the salary range of the newly established positions and reflecting recommended position title amendments.

Resolution No. 2024-06 was approved.

6. APPROVAL OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE SOIL REMEDIATION PROJECT AT THE FORMER BERK OIL SITE (CIP NO. 3927)

The plans and specifications for the Soil Remediation Project at the former Berk Oil Site have been prepared. Approval of this item will allow the City to advertise the project for bids.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council:

1. Approve plans and specifications for the Soil Remediation Project at the former Berk Oil Site; and
2. Authorize staff to solicit competitive bids and publish the Notice Inviting Sealed Bids.

7. AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

Consideration of a Resolution to approve a Professional Services Agreement with Bowman Infrastructure Engineers Ltd. for Municipal Engineering Services.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached Resolution; and
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Bowman Infrastructure Engineers Ltd. (Bowman Infrastructure) for ongoing as-needed Municipal Engineering Services, subject to City Attorney approval as to form.

Resolution No. 2024-07 was approved.

8. CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES ALLOTMENT APPROVAL

The California 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Branch awarded the Bell Gardens Police Department an allotment of funds from the Governor's Office, which oversees the California Office of Emergency Services (CAL OES). The funds are to be used to complete state mandated upgrades to the Police Department's Dispatch center.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution accepting funds from the California Office of Emergency Services (CAL OES) and appropriate these funds for use by the Bell Gardens Police Department.

Resolution No. 2024-08 was approved.

9. A RESOLUTION DECLARING A CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND ENDORCING THE CALL FOR A GLOBAL FOSSIL FUEL NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY

Approval of a Resolution declaring a climate emergency and endorsing the call for a global fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty.

Recommendation:

It is the staff's recommendation that the City Council adopt a Resolution declaring a climate emergency and endorsing the call for a global fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty.

Resolution No. 2024-09 was approved.

DISCUSSION (Item Nos. 10 - 11)

Mayor Jorgel Chavez recessed the meeting at 7:54 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

10. 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.

11. UPDATE ON CITY RENT STABILIZATION AND TENANT EVICTION PROTECTIONS ORDINANCE (BGM C CHAPTERS 5.62 AND 5.63)

Update on the City's Rent Stabilization and Tenant Eviction Protections Ordinance No. 925 pertaining to BGMC Chapters 5.62 and 5.63.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council discuss and consider one of the following actions:

1. Receive and file this report and take no further action; or
2. Direct staff to further analyze BGMC Chapters 5.62 and 5.63 and bring back recommended amendments at a noticed public hearing.

Gustavo Romo, Director of Community Development, provided a presentation.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Marco Barcena, seconded by Councilmember Gabriela Gomez to receive and file this item.

The motion carried 3-1-1 with the following vote:

AYES: Gomez, Barcena, Chavez

NOES: Sanchez

ABSENT: Pulido

ABSTAIN: None

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 8:40 p.m.

Daisy Gomez, City Clerk



Agenda posted on February 8, 2024.