



CITY OF BELL GARDENS
CITY COUNCIL / SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
JOINT MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 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 26, 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 6:06 p.m.

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Minister Daniel Anguiano.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief of Police 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

• WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Councilmember Gabriela Gomez read the certificate of recognition.

• CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION - NMS WAFFLE AND GRILL

Mayor Jorgel Chavez read the certificate of recognition and presented it to Jessica Lee.

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 ten (10) written comments provided.

Nicole Lopez spoke in support of rent control.

Jose Sanchez spoke in support of rent control.

Irma Lopez spoke in opposition to rent control.

Melodie Cuevas spoke in support of rent control.

Martha Carrasco spoke in opposition to rent control.

Lincoln Fraga spoke in opposition to rent control.

Carmen Rodriguez spoke regarding rent control.

Rogelio Rodriguez spoke in opposition of retail cannabis.

Bruce Crow spoke regarding various topics.

Joaquin Beltran spoke in support of rent control.

Edgar Leon requested for speed bumps on Ira and Jaboneria.

Antonio Villanueva requested for speed bumps on Ira, Gephart, and Jaboneria.

Rodolfo Cortez spoke in support of rent control.

Lucia Veloz spoke in support of rent control.

Martha Pineda spoke in support of rent control.

Jasmine spoke in support of rent control.

Jorge Rivera spoke in support of rent control.

Jamila Cervantes spoke in support of rent control.

Mayra Rodriguez spoke in support of rent control.

Juan Martinez spoke in support of rent control.

Jocelyn spoke in support of rent control.

Leticia Guzman spoke in support of rent control.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

Bruce Crow spoke regarding Item Nos. 8 and 10.

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 Francis De Leon Sanchez to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1 - 9.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote for Item Nos. 1 - 9:

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 FEBRUARY 12, 2024 CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION AND CITY/SUCCESSOR AGENCY JOINT MEETINGS

Approve the minutes of the February 12, 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 February 12, 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 01/23/2024, 01/25/2024, 01/30/2024 and 02/06/2024.

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 02/06/24.

5. **JANUARY 2024 TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report is a list of cash, investment portfolio and restricted bond cash held by the City.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council receive, approve, and file the January 2024 Treasurer's Report.

6. **AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR AS-NEEDED BUILDING INSPECTION AND PLAN CHECK SERVICES**

Award of professional services agreement for as-needed building inspection and plan check services.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached Resolution;
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with BPR Consulting Group, LLC to provide as-needed building inspection and plan check services, subject to City Attorney approval as to form; and
3. Appropriate \$100,000.00 to fund as-needed services through Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Resolution No. 2024-10 was approved.

7. **APPROVAL OF SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL PROGRAM FUNDING AGREEMENT**

Consideration of a Resolution approving a Safe Streets and Roads for All Program Funding Agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached Resolution approving the Safe Streets and Roads for All Program Funding Agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority;
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Safe Streets and Roads for All Program Funding Agreement; and
3. Appropriate \$50,132.25 of Gas Tax funds as the City's local match.

Resolution No. 2024-11 was approved.

8. INSTALLATION OF SPEED HUMPS ON IRA AVENUE BETWEEN CLARA STREET AND GOTHAM STREET

Consideration of the installation of speed humps on Ira Avenue between Clara Street and Gotham Street.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council authorize the installation of two speed humps on Ira Avenue between Clara Street and Gotham Street.

9. ACCEPTANCE OF VARIOUS ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT (CIP NO. 3930) AS COMPLETE

Consideration of acceptance of the Various Alley Improvements Project as complete.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council:

1. Accept the Various Alley Improvements Project (CIP No. 3930) as complete; and
2. Authorize staff to file the Notice of Completion.

DISCUSSION (Item Nos. 10 - 12)

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.

There was no action taken.

11. NATIONAL BIKE DAY EVENT AND BICYCLE MARKING IMPROVEMENTS

Review of event logistics and details for the National Bike Day Event and Bicycle Marking Improvements.

Recommendation:

It is staff's recommendation that the City Council receive and file this report.

Elizabeth Nava, Director of Recreation and Community Services, provided a presentation.

A motion was made by Councilmember Gabriela Gomez, seconded by Councilmember Francis de Leon Sanchez to receive and file this item.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote:

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

ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

12. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF CITY MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH CITY FOR CONTINUED APPOINTMENT OF EMPLOYEE AS CITY MANAGER

Pending Closed Session Discussion and Deliberation City Council will consider and possibly approve the City Manager Employment Agreement with the City.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council approve an employment agreement with City Manager, Michael B. O'Kelly for continued City Manager employment to be made available to the public before consideration of this agenda item. The salient terms of the employment agreement will be disclosed to the public before approval of this item, as required by Government Code Section 54953(c)(3).

Stephanie Vasquez, City Attorney, orally reported the recommended summary on the salary and term of contract, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(c)(3).

A motion was made by Councilmember Maria Pulido, seconded by Councilmember Gabriela Gomez to approve this item.

The motion carried 5-0 with the following vote:

AYES: Gomez, Pulido, Sanchez, Barcena, Chavez
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
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 8:07 p.m. and Closed Session was reopened and recessed at 8:07 p.m.



Daisy Gomez, City Clerk

Agenda posted on February 22, 2024.