

MINUTES
CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS
REGULAR MEETING
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 20, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Hawaiian Gardens Public Safety Commission was held on Wednesday, November 20, 2019, and began at 6:00pm, at the Public Safety Center, 11940 Carson Street, 2nd Floor, Hawaiian Gardens, California 90716.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chair Laughlin.

ROLL CALL	CHAIRMEMBER	BARBARA LAUGHLIN	PRESENT
	VICE CHAIRMEMBER	LIZET MENDOZA	PRESENT
	COMMISSIONER	PEDRO AMARO	PRESENT
	COMMISSIONER	MARIO RICO	PRESENT
	COMMISSIONER	BERTHA MERAZ	PRESENT

A quorum was announced.

Also, in attendance, Administrative Technician: Ramie Torres, Sr. Administrative Analyst: Linda Suniga, Senior Community Relations Officer: Fred Licon, Recording Secretary: Mishaun Watkins, Staff Assistant I: Barbara Garcia and, with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department: Sergeant Maese along with Deputies Martinez and Portillo.

PRESENTATIONS

Staff presented video presentation on Vector Control.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Frances Rodriguez, resident, asked if people can come to the Public Safety Center to report a crime or if a Sheriff's Deputy comes in from the field to write the report. She also asked what type of reports do Public Safety Officers take? Her concern is that victims of domestic violence should have an advocate either at the station or at the Public Safety Center. She would like to know if the Public Safety Officers can hand out pamphlets about Domestic Violence to those who need them.

Mike Laughlin, resident, said the flashing cross walk signs do not seem to be effective. Drivers do not care if there are pedestrians trying to cross the street. He suggested that there be a streetlight that flashes red when it is time for pedestrians to cross the street. He also had a concern about the traffic at the Teen Center. There have been times where kids have almost been hit while trying to cross the street. He suggested that a fence be put up.

PUBLIC HEARINGS
NONE

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. PRESENTATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2019.

COMMISSION ACTION: *Approve as Presented.*

2. LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT MONTHLY CRIMES REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2019.

COMMISSION ACTION: *Receive and File.*

3. LOS ANGELES COUNTY ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2019.

COMMISSION ACTION: *Receive and File.*

Commissioner Pedro Amaro made a motion to receive and file the Consent Calendar in its entirety. Commissioner Mario Rico 2nd the motion, all in favor. Motion passed.

STAFF REPORTS
NONE

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. UPCOMING EVENTS

- NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY MEETING TUESDAY DECEMBER 3, 2019 @3:00PM-5:00PM C. ROBERT LEE, SENIOR PATIO. CO-SPONSORED BY SENIOR ADVIORY BOARD.
- TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED FROM HG APTS, HG TERRACE AND LAKEWOOD MOBILE ESTATES.
- CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 @5:00PM-8:00PM. C. ROBERT LEE ACTIVITY CENTER.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Amaro request an update on the City Ordinance on illegal dumping and bulky items.

ORAL STAFF REPORTS

Ramie Torres, Administrative Technician from Public Works reported on the following:

- Code Red, a reverse 911 system is coming back. This app will be rebranded and given a new name, Alert Hawaiian Gardens. There will be an option to receive emergency alerts via text messages, emails or phone calls. Those who sign up for this app will receive updates on emergency services that the community should be informed of and other things that can affect the daily lives of residents, such as the trash company. This system is also used by LA County. Once the app is downloaded the subscriber can get alerts from whatever area they are in about what is going on in that area.
- As of November 19, 2019, Commercial Waste is no longer the trash hauler for the City. The new trash hauler, Waste Resources, is already in place in the City, they are still trying to learn the route. Their main concern is to ensure that all trash is picked up. Contact information for Waste Resources is attached to the handouts given to the Commission. Please bear with us as we try to make this transition as smooth as possible. The Commercial Waste phone number has been rerouted to Waste Resources. Feel free to call them if there are any questions. Commercial Waste will export all resident data to Waste Resources so they will know the status of billing for the residents. Feel free to contact Public Works or Fred Licon if there are any other concerns.
- Public Works luncheon is on December 12, 2019 @12PM.

Linda Suniga, Sr. Administrative Analyst, reported the City Council approved placing a sales tax measure on the ballot for the residents to vote on. If approved, the sales tax would increase from 9.5% to 10.25%, an increase of .75%. The measure would generate new revenue in lieu to the potential changes with the casino revenue that the City receives. Also, this would protect local revenue. If we do not impose the tax, then the County will collect it. Although the monies are not designated, it would be to close a budget shortfall if there is a cut in the city's casino revenue.

Commissioner Rico asked Ms. Suniga if a vote was needed to approve the County to increase taxes. Ms. Suniga responded, yes and if the local measure does not pass in March, then LA County can put their measure on the ballot in November. There is more information about this on the City website.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Questions regarding Mrs. Torres' reports:

- Commissioner Amaro asked if the new trash hauler will replace the containers? Mrs. Torres answered: Eventually, the goal is to switch out the containers. As of now they will not implement that yet, but if anyone has a defective container please call the new trash hauler and they will fix it.

- Vice Chairmember Mendoza asked if the prices will change. Mrs. Torres answered: No, it is a reassignment of the contract so the contract that was with Commercial Waste is the same. We (Public Works) have a meeting with the new trash hauler next week to iron out more concerns.
- Commissioner Rico asked how long is the contract. Mrs. Torres answered: The contract is 7 years with an option of 2, 1-year extensions. With any contract any side could offer a proposal to amend. But at this point they accepted the contract as is.

Questions regarding the trash to Mr. Fred Licon:

- Chairmember Laughlin asked, if warnings will continue to go out to the residents about the trash cans being out too early or too late. She also stated that something needs to be incorporated to deter residents from leaving bulky items on the street. Fred Licon responded: Things will be business as usual. Today alone there have been about 7 warnings issued. One of the main problem areas is bulky items. We have a meeting with them next week with the new trash haulers and we will let them know our expectations. Eventually residents will be cited. The first citation for leaving out bulky items is \$100.
- Vice Chairmember Mendoza asked if there has been any citation given as of now? Fred Licon answered, no there haven't been any citations given.
- Chairmember Laughlin asked when are the Public Safety Officers going to begin writing tickets for the trash cans? Fred Licon responded that he is waiting on instruction from the City Manager and that he is planning to send out a flyer warning the residents about the trash cans.
- Commissioner Rico asked Mr. Licon when will these flyers be sent out. He stated that it has been months with these residents putting trash cans out too early and no one has gotten anything informing them out what not to do.

Linda Suniga responded to this by informing the Commission that most of the problem is with the trash being put out too early. Residents were not sure when the trash haulers would pick up their trash. We hope that this problem will be resolved with the new trash company.

Commissioner Rico- would like to thank all of those who participated in changing the trash company.

Commissioner Amaro- Residents, children included, are jaywalking. He would like to know what staff is doing to protect the children. He reported that on October 13, 2019, a biker was struck by a car and killed. He would like to suggest that a survey be done on 226th Street all the way to Carson Street so that the speed limit can be changed. He thanked Public Safety staff, the Sheriff's Deputies and Code Enforcement for doing a great job. He also thanked the Public Works Department for keeping our city clean. He addressed the Commissioners and said: to all Commissioners we only meet once a month, but we do our best keep our city safe. Last, he thanked the residents for coming and taking interest in the Commission.

Commissioner Bertha Meraz- thanked the members of the public for coming to the meeting. She enjoyed listening to their input. She thanked Ramie Torres for keeping the Commission updated and is glad that the trash company has changed. At the last Public Safety Commission Meeting the Commission brought up drivers doing donuts in the street. She thinks that this is heartbreaking to see and hopes that this will stop. She thanked the staff for the holiday dinner and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Vice Chairmember Mendoza- reported that she is disappointed that we have a new trash company. She did not see anything wrong with initial company, Republic Services.

She reported that the speed radars that are put out by Public Safety Officers startle drivers. They flash blue and red lights even when the driver is not close to reaching the speed limit. She thinks this is not safe.

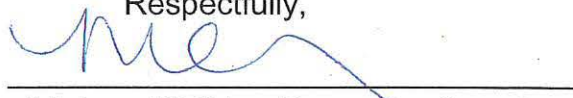
She thanked the Public Safety Staff for the holiday dinner and she always looks forward to the Thanksgiving Meeting so that everyone can socialize before the meeting begins. She thanked all staff in attendance for all that they do.

Chairmember Laughlin: reported that the last Neighborhood Safety Meeting was very successful. We had more than 50 people in attendance. She thanked the Commissioners that attended the meeting. She shared that Deputy Martinez did a presentation on scams and fraud.

Chairmember Laughlin thanked all of the staff, Sheriff's Deputies and the residents for being at the meeting. She told the residents that she hopes they can disburse the information that they received at the meeting and invite others to come. Last, she thanked the Commissioners.

ADJOURNMENT to the next Regular Public Safety Commission Meeting on December 18, 2019.

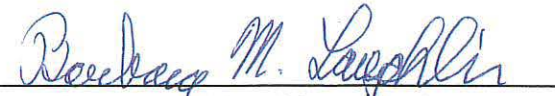
Respectfully,



Mishaun Watkins, Recording Secretary
December 11, 2019

Approved:

Attest:


Mishaun Watkins, Recording Secretary

Barbara Laughlin, Chairmember