

MINUTES

JOINT CITY COUNCIL/CITY COUNCIL AS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO DISSOLVED REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/HOUSING AUTHORITY/COMMUNITY FACILITIES FINANCING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF DUARTE REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 8, 2020

NOTE: Due to the state and local State of Emergency resulting from the threat of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), Governor Newsom has issued Executive Order N-29-20 in which Section 3 supersedes Paragraph 11 of Executive Order N-25-20 (issued on March 12, 2020) addressing Brown Act regulations. This new order states that the City does not need to make a physical location available for members of the public to observe a public meeting and offer public comment. The Order allows the City to hold City Council meetings via teleconferencing and allows for members of the public to observe and address the meeting electronically.

To follow the new Order issued by the Governor, the City Council meeting was closed to the public. Members of the public were able to participate on Zoom, and view/listen to the live City Council meeting broadcast on the City's website. Public comments were submitted electronically by emailing duarteinfo@accessduarte.com before or during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment. Emailed public comments were read into the record.

CALL TO ORDER

The City Council/City Council as Successor Agency to Dissolved Redevelopment Agency/Housing Authority/Community Facilities Financing Authority of the City of Duarte met in a regular meeting by teleconference in the Council Chambers, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, California. Mayor Kang called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

RECORDATION OF ATTENDANCE

The following were in attendance:

PRESENT: Fasana, Finlay, Lewis, Paras-Caracci, Urias, Kang

ABSENT: Reilly

COUNCILMEMBERS-ELECT: Schulz, Truong

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: City Manager

Jordan, City Attorney Cosgrove

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Finlay moved, Lewis seconded to adopt the Agenda, as amended to adjourn in memory of Chuck Yeager, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Lewis, Finlay, Fasana, Urias, Kang

NOES: None

ABSENT: Reilly

SPECIAL ITEMS

Council Bill 20-R-36

Results of 11/3/20 Election

Mayor Kang read by title Council Bill 20-R-36:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUARTE, CALIFORNIA, RECITING THE FACTS OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020, AND DECLARING THE RESULTS AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS PROVIDED BY LAW

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RESOLUTION NO. 20-36

Fasana moved, Kang seconded to adopt Resolution No. 20-36, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Lewis, Finlay, Fasana, Urias, Kang

NOES: None

ABSENT: Reilly

Oath of Office

Supervisor Kathryn Barger administered the Oath of Office to new City Councilmembers Toney Lewis, Judy Schulz, and Vinh Truong, stated she is excited to work with all City Councilmembers, and thanked Mr. Fasana and Mrs. Reilly for serving on the City Council on behalf of the residents of Duarte.

Welcome and Farewell

Fasana thanked the Mayor for the fantastic job he has done this past year.

Truong thanked outgoing Councilmembers Reilly and Fasana for their support and all they have done for Duarte, stated he looks forward to working with staff, and thanked his family.

Schulz stated she is humbled and honored to be elected, thanked Councilmembers Reilly and Fasana for their years of service, she looks forward to serving the citizens and working with City Councilmembers and staff, and stated she is grateful to her family and supporters.

Lewis stated he will miss Councilmembers Reilly and Fasana, it was a pleasure working with them, thanked them for their knowledge and guidance, and congratulated his new colleagues.

Senator Portantino congratulated the incoming City Councilmembers, expressed his appreciation to Councilmembers Fasana and Reilly, and thanked them for their service as outstanding public servants.

Giselle Sorial, Senator Susan Rubio's office, acknowledged the legacy and transportation projects of Councilmember Fasana, thanked Councilmember Reilly for her work with the parks, seniors, and the ramp-up project, and welcomed incoming Councilmembers Lewis, Schulz, and Truong.

Veronica Lopez, Assemblymember Blanca Rubio's office, congratulated Councilmembers Truong, Schulz, and Lewis, offered the assistance of the Assemblymember, and thanked Councilmembers Fasana and Reilly for their many years of service.

City Councilmembers expressed their appreciation to Mrs. Reilly and Mr. Fasana, wished them the best, and congratulated Councilmembers Lewis, Schulz, and Truong.

City Manager Jordan displayed the plaques presented to outgoing City Councilmembers Fasana and Reilly, thanked them for their service on behalf of the City and staff, and thanked Mayor Kang for his distinguished tenure as Mayor.

Reorganization
Election of Mayor/Chairperson

City Manager Jordan assumed the Chair, and announced that nominations were open for Mayor/Chairperson.

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Mayor Bryan Urias

Finlay moved to nominate Bryan Urias for Mayor. Finlay moved, Paras-Caracci seconded to close nominations, and to elect Bryan Urias as Mayor, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Lewis, Finlay, Truong, Urias, Kang

NOES: None

Election of Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chairperson

Mayor Urias assumed the Chair, and announced that nominations were open for Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chairperson.

Mayor Pro Tem Margaret Finlay

Paras-Caracci moved to nominate Margaret Finlay for Mayor Pro Tem. Paras-Caracci moved, Kang seconded to close nominations, and to elect Margaret Finlay as Mayor Pro Tem, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Lewis, Finlay, Truong, Urias, Kang

NOES: None

Mayor Urias thanked all for their vote of confidence, stated it is an honor to be Mayor and he is looking forward to serving, and thanked his family, friends, and Mayor Kang.

Item Added – Discussion
COVID-19 impact

Mayor Urias asked that an emergency item be added to the Agenda to discuss options pertaining to assisting residents and businesses due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Cosgrove provided direction about the Brown Act.

Finlay moved, Paras-Caracci seconded to make the finding that due to the recent shut-down order issued, the need to take action on this item arose after the posting of the Agenda, and to add an item under Business Items to discuss and consider a form of emergency aid with respect to the current upswing in COVID-19 cases and the stay-at-home order, and the impact to residents and businesses, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Lewis, Finlay, Truong, Urias, Kang

NOES: None

Mr. Fasana congratulated Mayor Urias and newly-elected Councilmembers, discussed his years of service, City's accomplishments, past and current Councilmembers, and Mrs. Reilly's work with seniors and the Mountains and Rivers Conservancy, encouraged all to do what they can to help people, asked that everyone be safe, and stated it has been his honor to serve.

Manuel Enriquez announced upcoming community and holiday events.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following spoke on items not on the Agenda.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Sheryl Lefmann – Upcoming Chamber events, congratulations to incoming/outgoing Councilmembers.

Victor Benavides – Congratulations to new, current, and outgoing City Councilmembers.

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Kyle Kwasnick – Communication technology, fires.
Brian Villalobos – Rotary Club plaque for Mr. Fasana.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Paras-Caracci moved, Lewis seconded to adopt the Consent Calendar, as follows, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

Approve Items A, B, C, D, G.

Receive and File Items E, F.

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Lewis, Kang, Truong, Finlay, Urias

NOES: None

BUSINESS ITEMS

City Council Appointments to
Intergovernmental Organizations
(Continued)

Finlay moved, Paras-Caracci seconded to continue this item to the next meeting, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Lewis, Kang, Truong, Finlay, Urias

NOES: None

Item Added – Discussion about
emergency aid for residents and
businesses – COVID-19 impact

There was City Council discussion about the needs of residents and small businesses, potential funding sources, possible use of reserves, short-term action, rental assistance, working with the Chamber, pension obligations, need for reserves in the event of an emergency, need to know our exact financial situation, possibility of engaging Foothill Unity Center, purchasing gift cards from local small businesses, PPE donations, small business loan information, food drive, and the possibility of reaching out to corporates.

Finlay moved, Schulz seconded to direct staff to research possible resources both within and out of the City for relieving the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, concentrating on the economic effects in the short-term, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Lewis, Kang, Truong, Finlay, Urias

NOES: None

ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCIL/ CITY MANAGER

COSGROVE: Stated the City has submitted comments to the Regional Board, there was an appellate hearing last month, the ruling should be within 90 days, extended congratulations to Councilmembers Lewis, Schulz, and Truong, stated he will always be grateful for Mrs. Reilly's work and energy in supporting storm water efforts, thanked Mr. Fasana for his professionalism, stated he is a paragon of public service, and stated he will have meetings with the new Councilmembers about ongoing items and the Brown Act.

JORDAN: Wished a warm welcome to the new City Councilmembers, and stated orientation materials will be provided to them.

KANG: Thanked his colleagues for the opportunity to serve as Mayor, he hopes 2021 will be a better year, congratulated the new Councilmembers, thanked Mrs. Reilly for her service, and stated she was a great mentor.

PARAS-CARACCI: Congratulated the new Councilmembers, she is proud to serve alongside all City Council, and thanked them for their commitment to the City and the residents.

LEWIS: Congratulated Mayor Urias and Mayor Pro Tem Finlay, thanked Mrs. Reilly for her service to the community and for her good advice, stated he learned a lot from Mr. Fasana, welcomed Councilmembers Truong and Schulz, and wished his brother and friend a happy birthday.

SCHULZ: Congratulated the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, Truong, and Lewis, thanked Kang for serving as Mayor, stated she is grateful to Mrs. Reilly for her service, she is looking forward to serving, and thanked her family.

TRUONG: Thanked Mr. Fasana for helping him along the way, thanked his family, stated he will do his best, he is looking forward to the briefing, stated we can work collectively to help residents, and congratulated Schulz and Lewis.

FINLAY: Stated she has received calls about construction being done in the City, asked if we can have signs put up at locations where there is construction being done so people know what is being built, stated the park is very busy at Encanto Parkway by the bridge, asked if we could look into a partnership with Azusa about some sort of crosswalk or flashing sign, stated there is a hill where drivers may not see people crossing or riding bikes, asked that we also take a look at that, suggested it could be considered by either the Public Safety or Parks and Recreation Commission, attended SCAG Economic Conference about the need to form partnerships, and wished all happy holidays.

URIAS: Thanked all for their vote of confidence and support, congratulated City Councilmembers, stated they are like family, and wished all happy holidays

ADJOURNMENT

Finlay moved, Paras-Caracci seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m., in memory of Rafer Johnson, Chuck Yeager, and Sarah Flores, and carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Lewis, Kang, Truong, Finlay, Urias

NOES: None

Mayor Bryan Urias

City Clerk

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