

CITY OF DUARTE

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL,
THE DUARTE HOUSING AUTHORITY, AND THE DUARTE COMMUNITY
FACILITIES FINANCING AUTHORITY**

**TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2024
6:30 PM – Closed Session
7:00 PM – Regular Session**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Truong called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers Present: Finlay, Lewis, Schulz, Martin del Campo, Garcia, Truong
Councilmembers Absent: Kang, Schulz
Staff Present: Brian Villalobos, City Manager
Katy Suttorp, Outside Legal Counsel
Kristen Petersen, Assistant City Manager / Director of
Administrative Services
Annette Juarez, City Clerk

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councilmember Finlay, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and carried by the following vote of the Council to adopt the agenda.

AYES: FINLAY, LEWIS, GARCIA, TRUONG
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: KANG, SCHULZ, MARTIN DEL CAMPO

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

None.

4. CLOSED SESSION

The City Council recessed into closed session at 6:44 p.m. to discuss the following:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL AND LABOR NEGOTIATOR - The Closed Session is authorized by the Government Code Sec. 54957.6.

AGENCY NEGOTIATOR: Kristen Petersen, Assistant City Manager and Director of Administrative Services; Katy Suttorp, Burke Williams & Sorensen, LLP, Outside Legal Counsel.

EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION: SEIU Local 721 Management and Professional Employees and General Employee Units.

REGULAR SESSION

5. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Truong called the open session to order at 7:14 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers Present: Finlay, Lewis, Garcia, Truong
Councilmembers Absent: Kang, Schulz, Martin Del Campo
Staff Present: Brian Villalobos, City Manager
Thai Viet Phan, City Attorney
Craig Hensley, Director of Community Development
Larry Breceda, Director of Public Safety Services
Manuel Enriquez, Director of Parks and Recreation

Annette Juarez, City Clerk
Angela Chiaromonte, Financial Services Manager
Andres Rangel, Assistant to the City Manager
Albert Nunez, Management Aide
Salina, Bautista, Permit Technician

6. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The flag salute was led by Liz Reilly.

7. CITY ATTORNEY CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney Phan announced that no reportable action was taken.

8. SPECIAL ITEMS

A. Mayor's Youth Council Update

President Hope Peoples and Vice President Diya Patel gave an update on recent and upcoming Mayor's Youth Council events.

The City Council thanked both representatives for their collaborative efforts with DART and CSArts students; congratulated Vice President Patel for graduating as valedictorian and wished her luck on her future endeavors.

B. Public Safety Department Update

Director of Public Safety Breceda provided a department update on part 1 crimes; gave information on catalytic converter thefts, detailed the work being done by the Homeless Outreach Team; summarized the latest news in regards to the Neighborhood Watch program; shared success stories as a result of homeless outreach coordination efforts; and highlighted the recent staff bike training.

Discussion ensued regarding the neighborhood watch block captains and national night out event details.

There was conversation regarding residential safety and staying vigilant. Director Breceda was thanked for his excellent work.

The City Council stated that per an inquiry made during public comment at the May 14, 2024 council meeting, it was confirmed that California American Water representatives were not reaching out to residents in regards to contaminated water. Discussion was had regarding safety measures that can be taken by residents.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Joanna Gee, Duarte Library, announced upcoming library events.

City Clerk Juarez announced upcoming city events.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia announced the upcoming annual Duarte Boxing Golf Fundraiser.

10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Lisa Brault, representative from the office of Senator Anthony Portantino introduced herself to the City Council.

11. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Motion to read all Resolutions and ordinances presented for consideration by Title only and waive further reading. (CC/HA/FA).
- B. Approval of absence(s) of City Councilmember(s) from the City Council meeting.

- C. Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2024. (CC/HA/FA)
- D. Approval of Warrants – May 28, 2024. (CC/HA/FA)
- E. Receive and file the Monthly Financial Update.
- F. Receive and file the Public Safety Department Update.
- G. Adopt by title only, Resolution 24-05, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Duarte, California Establishing an Appropriations Limit Pursuant to the Provisions of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

Moved by Councilmember Finlay seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and carried by the following vote of the Council to approve Items 11A-11G of the Consent Calendar.

AYES: FINLAY, LEWIS, GARCIA, TRUONG
 NOES: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE
 ABSENT: KANG, SCHULZ, MARTIN DEL CAMPO

12. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION

None.

13. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

14. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Request from Duarte Historical Society & Museum for the City of Duarte to co-sponsor Route 66 Room Exhibit Dedication Ceremony

Director of Parks and Recreation Enriquez introduced Liz Reilly, President of the Duarte Historical Society who presented a co-sponsorship request on behalf of the Board of Director. Reilly provided a brief history of the organization and the museum itself; highlighted the renovations made to the Route 66 room; and detailed her proposal requests.

In response to a question posed by the City Council, clarification was made on the specific renovation area and the sponsorship amount.

Moved by Councilmember Finlay seconded by Councilmember Lewis, and carried by the following vote of the Council to co-sponsor the Route 66 Exhibit Dedication Ceremony.

AYES: FINLAY, LEWIS, GARCIA, TRUONG
 NOES: NONE
 ABSTAIN: NONE
 ABSENT: KANG, SCHULZ, MARTIN DEL CAMPO

B. Presentation of Draft Construction Plans for Huntington Drive median upgrade project

Director of Community Development Hensley provided an overview of the next steps of the project and introduced Ana Armstrong and Richard Walker.

Armstrong and Walker shared the design concepts; summarized the goals of the project; identified the final plant selections; reviewed the construction plans; and identified the scope of work.

Discussion occurred between the City Council and Armstrong and Walker regarding landscape requests, plant specifications, and suggested timeline.

Moved by Councilmember Finlay seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and carried by the following vote of the Council to authorize staff to move forward with the formal construction bid process.

AYES: FINLAY, LEWIS, GARCIA, TRUONG
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: KANG, SCHULZ, MARTIN DEL CAMPO,

C. Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and Tax Ballot Measure

City Attorney Phan provided a report on two options for discussion relating to a potential cannabis ballot measure.

Public Comment

Damian Martin expressed support for staff's recommended options and commended City staff for their hard work.

In response to questions raised by the City Council, City Attorney Phan clarified the ballot language; described the ordinance and regulatory process that could occur if voters approve the measure and further distinguished between the two options.

Clarification was made by City Attorney Phan stating that discretion always lies with the City Council if it is approved by the voters. Discussion ensued regarding the amount of taxing that can be done, possible timeline for future elections and clarification on what next steps are.

The City Council expressed concern with making a decision with the lack of attendance by their fellow Councilmembers and concurred that tabling the item would be best.

Moved by Councilmember Finlay seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Garcia, and carried by the following vote of the Council to bring back the presentation and staff report for discussion to the next City Council meeting.

AYES: FINLAY, LEWIS, GARCIA, TRUONG
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: KANG, SCHULZ, MARTIN DEL CAMPO,

15. CONTINUATION OF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

16. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCIL/HOUSING AUTHORITY/FINANCING AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 53232.3

Director of Public Safety Breceda reported he attended the California Contract Cities Conference for the first time.

City Manager Villalobos also reported he attended the California Contract Cities Conference.

Councilmember Finlay reported she attended the California Contract Cities Conference as well and congratulated the graduating high school class of 2024 for their scholarship achievements.

Councilmember Lewis shared he recently attended a veteran's memorial and thanked U.S.A. Track and Field for an invitation to the Olympic qualifiers.

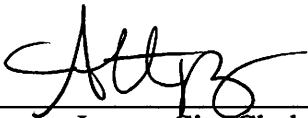
Councilmember Finlay left the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Garcia thanked everyone who donated to scholarships; shared about his graduation from the W.E.L.L. program; congratulated Mayor Truong for a great speech at the MIT graduation ceremony; and also congratulated the graduating class of 2024.

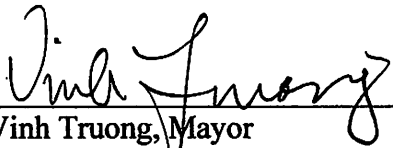
Mayor Truong shared a snippet of his speech given at MIT graduation; reported he along with Director Hensley attended the ICSC conference; thanked everyone for attending; and adjourned the meeting in honor of Councilmember Del Campo's friend, Greg Prodigalidad.

17. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:55 p.m., the City Council adjourned the meeting in honor of Greg Prodigalidad.



Annette Juarez, City Clerk



Vinh Truong, Mayor