

**MINUTES OF THE CLOSED SESSION AND REGULAR MEETINGS
NORWALK CITY COUNCIL
NORWALK, CALIFORNIA
JANUARY 21, 2025**

CLOSED SESSION MEETING

Mayor Ayala called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, California. Responding to roll call were Councilmember Ramirez, Vice Mayor Perez, and Mayor Ayala. Councilmembers Rios and Valencia arrived after roll call. Also present were Jesus M. Gomez, City Manager; Arnold M. Alvarez-Glasman, City Attorney; and Theresa Devoy, City Clerk.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR CLOSED SESSION MATTERS

There were no persons wishing to address City Council on the matters to be discussed in closed session.

CLOSED SESSION

City Council immediately convened to closed session for discussion on the following matters:

- I. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.9(d)(1) – State of California vs. City of Norwalk, Case No. 24STCP03551.
- II. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.8: Property: Assessor Parcel Number 8045-008-902 (California Youth Authority); Negotiating Parties: Jesus M. Gomez, City Manager, on behalf of the City and State of California; Under Negotiation; Price and Terms of Payment.
- III. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.8, Assessor Parcel Numbers 8047-006-924 and 8047-006-925 (The Walk Project); Negotiating on behalf of the City: Jesus M. Gomez, City Manager; Negotiating Party: Primestor; Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment.
- IV. PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE §54957.6; CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR. Negotiating on behalf of the City: Jesus M. Gomez, City Manager; regarding negotiations with the Norwalk City Employees Association.

RECESS

City Council recessed at 6:04 p.m. pending the commencement of the regular meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Ayala called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Norwalk City Hall, 12700 Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, California. City Council was present in its entirety with Councilmembers Ramirez, Rios, and Valencia, Vice Mayor Perez, and Mayor Ayala responding to roll call. Also present were Jesus M. Gomez, City Manager; Arnold M. Alvarez, City Attorney; and Theresa Devoy, City Clerk.

The invocation was delivered by Arthur McKibben, La Mirada Church of the Nazarene; followed by the flag salute, led by Isabella Villegas, Foundation Christian School.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Ramirez requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of Pastor Reggie Bowie. Councilmember Rios thanked first responders and the community for supporting the wildfire victims; reported on her attendance at the Las Posadas event where they also conducted a Toy Giveaway and thanked Ken Cook, Norwalk High School Race Team, Dream Big Project, McKinney-Vento Program, Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District (NLMUSD), Motivated Landscape, Rios Family, and So Cal Barbers; congratulated the 605 All-Star Band on their participation in the Tournament of Roses Parade; reported on her attendance at the City of Norwalk's First Responders Toy Giveaway; toured the Veterans Villas with Senator Bob Archuleta, and visited the Senior Center. Councilmember Valencia reported on her attendance at a Norwalk Lions Club International event, McKinney-Vento Toy Giveaway, the 605 All-Star Band practice, the Las Posadas event, and met with a resident regarding community concerns; shared that the Shree Pashupatinath Foundation donated many essential items for wildfire victims and thanked Rameshor Bhandari for aiding in the assistance; recognized members of the Norwalk Community Emergency Response Team for also assisting in the wildfire disaster; and announced Norwalk is partnering with Norwalk Lions Club International for a Food Distribution event being held January 25 at the Los Angeles County Recorder's parking lot. Vice Mayor Perez reported on her attendance at the United Parents Club Dance, City of Norwalk's First Responders Toy Giveaway; thanked all who participated in the Santa Sleigh program; and attended the California Contract Cities Association Legislative Tour in Sacramento to discuss Proposition 36, other various topics were discussed such as housing policies and homeless encampments.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

The City Attorney indicated there was no reportable action taken on the matters discussed in closed session.

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SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

City Council recognized the Los Angeles County Norwalk and Alondra Libraries' Bookmark Contest Winners.

City Council recognized the Holiday Window Painting Participants.

City Council recognized the 12U Youth Football Norwalk Vikings team for winning the AAU League Super Bowl.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Gomez thanked first responders, volunteers, and his brother Jose Gomez, Battalion Chief for Los Angeles County Fire Department, for helping with the fires in Los Angeles, and shared that the City's Emergency Operations Center was deployed to assist the City of Malibu. He shared that during the California Contract Cities League Legislative Tour legislation was proposed to effect change, and thanked all staff and cities involved.

Mr. Gomez introduced Dr. Natasha Baker, the new Superintendent of the Norwalk La-Mirada Unified School District.

Ozzie Ramos, Deputy City Manager, provided an update on street takeovers. Richard Newton, Interim Public Safety Director, provided an update to the theft of public art.

Videos were shared highlighting the Holidays in Norwalk, Las Posadas Recap, and the "Bi-Weekly Review."

CONSENT CALENDAR

Consent calendar items are considered routine matters which may be enacted by one motion and roll call vote. The City Attorney indicated Item No. 9 be approved as amended* and Item No. 15 be removed from the consent calendar. Councilmember Valencia moved and Councilmember Ramirez seconded to approve the remainder of the consent calendar as recommended. **MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Councilmembers Ramirez, Rios, and Valencia, Vice Mayor Perez, and Mayor Ayala
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

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WAIVE READING IN FULL OF ALL ORDINANCES ON THE AGENDA

City Council waived reading in full of all ordinances on the agenda and declared that said titles which appear on the public agenda shall be determined to have been read by title and further reading waived.

MEETING MINUTES

City Council approved the minutes of the meeting of December 17, 2024.

825-04

**PAYROLL FOR THE PERIODS NOVEMBER 24, 2024 - DECEMBER 7, 2024 AND
DECEMBER 8, 2024 - DECEMBER 21, 2024**

City Council approved:

- a. gross payroll in the amount of \$1,284,324.92; the payroll check numbers 38292 – 38299 and the voucher numbers 339630 – 340124 in the total net amount of \$936,167.48 for the pay period November 24, 2024 – December 7, 2024; and
- b. gross payroll in the amount of \$1,229,791.47; the payroll check numbers 38300 – 38303 and the voucher numbers 340125 – 340626 in the total net amount of \$906,488.67 for the pay period December 8, 2024 – December 21, 2024.

630

COMMERCIAL DEMANDS

City Council approved the warrant registers for the periods December 10, 2024 – January 6, 2025, in the amount of \$7,618,680.70; and January 7 - January 13, 2025, in the total amount of \$3,416,271.08.

640

PLANNING COMMISSION SYNOPSIS - JANUARY 8, 2025

No action required.

320

**ORDINANCE NO. 24-1754 - ZONE TEXT AMENDMENT NO. 2022-02 (2024-02)
ESTABLISHING SPECIFIC PLAN AREA NO. 17, THE "NORWALK TRANSIT
VILLAGE SPECIFIC PLAN"**

City Council adopted Ordinance No. 24-1754, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK ADOPTING ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT NO. 2022-02 (2024-04) ESTABLISHING SPECIFIC PLAN AREA NO. 17, THE "NORWALK TRANSIT VILLAGE SPECIFIC PLAN".

320-05-2022-02(2024-04)

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RESOLUTION NO. 25-01 - FACSIMILE SIGNATURES

City Council adopted Resolution No. 25-01, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN BANKS TO HONOR ALL CHECKS, DRAFTS, AND WARRANTS WHEN BEARING CERTAIN SIGNATURES AND FACSIMILE SIGNATURES OF CITY OFFICIALS AS DESIGNATED AND RESCINDING ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS. 602

RESOLUTION NOS. 25-02 AND 25-03 – APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE/EASTERN REGION AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NOS. 2 AND 18

City Council adopted:

- a. Resolution No. 25-02, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK DESIGNATING MAYOR TONY AYALA AS THE CITY'S REPRESENTATIVE AND VICE MAYOR JENNIFER PEREZ AND COUNCILMEMBERS RICK RAMIREZ, MARGARITA L. RIOS, AND ANA VALENCIA AS ALTERNATES FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CITY SELECTION COMMITTEE/EASTERN REGION; and
- b. Resolution No. 25-03, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK APPOINTING COUNCILMEMBER RICK RAMIREZ AS THE CITY'S ALTERNATE TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NOS. 2 AND 18. 825-09

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO VARIOUS AGENCIES AND ADVISORY BODIES

California Contract Cities Association - Delegate: Vice Mayor Perez, Alternate: Councilmember Rios; **California Joint Powers Insurance Authority** - Delegate: Vice Mayor Perez, Alternate: Councilmember Ramirez; ***Gateway Cities Council of Governments** - Delegate: Councilmember Rios, Alternate: Vice Mayor Perez; **I-5 Consortium Cities** - Boardmember: Councilmember Ramirez, Alternate: Vice Mayor Perez; **League of California Cities-Voting Delegate** - Director: Mayor Ayala, Alternate: Vice Mayor Perez; **Southeast Area Animal Control Authority** - Director: Mayor Ayala, Alternate: Councilmember Ramirez; **Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board** - Boardmember: Mayor Ayala, Alternate: Councilmember Ramirez; **Southeast Water Coalition** - Boardmember: Councilmember Valencia, Alternate: Councilmember Rios; **Southern California Association of Governments** - Representative: Mayor Ayala, Alternate: Vice Mayor Perez; **State Route 91/I605/405 Corridor JPA** - Representative: Mayor Ayala, Alternate: Councilmember Ramirez. 825-09

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**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – SENATE BILL 125 ZERO EMISSION
TRANSIT CAPITAL PROGRAM (ZETCP) – PROPOSITION C 40% DISCRETIONARY
FUNDS**

City Council approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the use of Proposition C 40% Discretionary Funds, in the amount of \$1,209,474 for Fiscal Year 2024/2025; and authorized the City Manager to execute the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of City, in a form approved by the City Attorney.

1105-03

AGREEMENT AMENDMENT FOR ELECTRICAL WORK

City Council approved an amendment to the agreement with HC Electric for electrical work in the amount of \$4,000; and authorized the City Manager to execute the amendment, on behalf of the City, in a form approved by the City Attorney.

APPROVAL OF CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLAN SERVICES

City Council approved an agreement with Constant Associates to provide Continuity of Operations Plan services in the amount of \$99,979.20; and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement and any amendments provided there is funding in the budget and it is within the City Manager's signing authority, on behalf of the City, in a form approved by the City Attorney.

APPROVAL OF DOOR MAINTENANCE SERVICES AGREEMENT

City Council approved a maintenance agreement with Door 1 Systems, Inc. to provide door maintenance services in the amount of \$43,700; and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement and any amendments provided there is funding in the budget and it is within the City Manager's signing authority, on behalf of the City, in a form approved by the City Attorney.

**RESOLUTION NO. 25-05, RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 24-49 - BUDGET
AMENDMENT AND INCLUDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR
GRANT AWARD**

City Council adopted Resolution No. 25-05, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 24-49 AND REPLACING IT IN ITS ENTIRETY AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2024/25 ADOPTED BUDGET TO ADD CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM SUPPORT GRANT AWARD, in the amount of \$22,150.

610

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ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM, HOME AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN AND NORWALK HOUSING AUTHORITY.

BIDDING EXEMPTION FOR AWARD OF PURCHASING AGREEMENTS FOR 2024-2026 TRAFFIC SIGNAGE AND RELATED MATERIALS

City Council authorized the City Manager to approve the purchase of Traffic Signage and Related Materials on a best-value basis from any of the three pre-qualified vendors up to an aggregate amount of \$283,000 pursuant to the exemption provided under Norwalk Municipal Code §3.16.070(D).

CONFIRM EMERGENCY WORK AT GROUNDWATER WELL NO. 10

City Council confirmed emergency service repair work at groundwater Well 10, completed by General Pump Company Inc., in the amount of \$66,794.40.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-04 – APPROVING FIRST AMENDMENT TO GROUND LEASE FOR THE WALK PROJECT

City Council:

- a. adopted Resolution No. 25-04 OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORWALK ADOPTING THE ADDENDUM TO THE NORWALK ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT – CIVIC CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN AND APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO A GROUND LEASE BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORWALK AND PRIMESTOR NORWALK ENTERTAINMENT, LLC.; and
- b. authorized the City Manager to execute the First Amendment to Ground Lease, any documents required under the terms of the Ground Lease and such other ancillary documents, in a form authorized by the City Attorney; and
- c. adopted an Addendum to the Specific Plan Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No. 2022020128).

APPOINTMENTS

ADVISORY BODY APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Ayala moved and Councilmember Perez seconded to appoint Sylvia Flores to the International Friendship Commission; Victor Juan and Briana Martinez to the Parks & Recreation Commission; Ray Fernandez-Silva and Richard LeGaspi to the Public Safety

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Commission; Angela Tasker to the Senior Citizens Commission; Elfega Arely Reyes-Castro and Angela Tasker to the Social Services Commission.

Vice Mayor Perez moved and Councilmember Rios seconded to appoint Gina Corona to the Historical Heritage Commission; Analisa Solis to the International Friendship Commission; Francisco Berberabe and David King to the Parks and Recreation Commission; Kim Apodaca and Dr. Stephanie Rodriguez to the Public Safety Commission; Esperanza Serrano to the Senior Citizens Commission; Phyllis Barth and Marcelle Greenidge to the Social Services Commission; Kim Apodaca to the Art in Public Places Committee.

Councilmember Ramirez moved and Vice Mayor Perez seconded to appoint Armida Leon to Community Promotion Commission; Alex Hernandez to the Historical Heritage Commission; Elmer Brizuela and Petra Peña to the Public Safety Commission; Martha Mesa to the Senior Citizens Commission; Scherise Acosta and Millie Casillas to the Social Services Commission.

Councilmember Rios moved and Vice Mayor Perez seconded to appoint Michael Rosoff to the Public Safety Commission.

Councilmember Valencia moved and Vice Mayor Perez seconded to appoint David Ang to the Community Promotion Commission; Marcelle Greenidge and Claudia Carolina Pavon to the Historical Heritage Commission; Maria Carbajal and Don Valenzuela to the Parks and Recreation Commission; Marcelle Greenidge and Patricia Hoskins to the Public Safety Commission; Laura Valenzuela to the Senior Citizens Commission; Richard LeGaspi to the Social Services Commission; Pilar Solis to the Art in Public Places Committee. **MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Councilmembers Ramirez, Rios, and Valencia, Vice Mayor Perez, and Mayor Ayala

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

200

PLANNING COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT

Councilmember Valencia moved and Vice Mayor Perez seconded to appoint Chris Macias to serve as a Planning Commissioner for a four-year term. **MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

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AYES: Councilmembers Ramirez, Rios, and Valencia, Vice Mayor Perez, and Mayor Ayala
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

260-01

ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 25-1751 - AMENDING NORWALK MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 17.03.170 – EXEMPT SIGNS

Following a report provided by Ms. Devoy, Vice Mayor Perez moved and Councilmember Rios seconded to accept for first reading, Ordinance No. 25-1751, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORWALK AMENDING NORWALK MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 17.03.170(G)(4) REGARDING EXEMPT SIGNS, and waived further reading. **MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Councilmembers Ramirez, Rios, and Valencia, Vice Mayor Perez, and Mayor Ayala
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

REPORTS

REQUEST TO WAIVE FEES FOR FOOD DISTRIBUTION EVENT

Following a brief report provided by Patricia Santana, Recreation Coordinator, Councilmember Valencia moved and Vice Mayor Perez seconded to approve waiving the \$160.00 application fee for the Norwalk Lions Club Community Food Distribution event scheduled to take place on January 25, 2025. **MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:**

AYES: Councilmembers Ramirez, Rios, and Valencia, Vice Mayor Perez, and Mayor Ayala
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Addressing City Council were Jessica Gladney, Brian Tindall, Jack Cornejo, Jose Gutierrez, and Paki.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before City Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m., in memory of Pastor Reginald “Reggie” Bowie.

**THERESA DEVOY, CMC
CITY CLERK**

ATTEST:

**TONY AYALA
MAYOR**