



**CITY OF BELL GARDENS
CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017, 6:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7100 GARFIELD AVENUE, BELL GARDENS, CA

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with a disability who require a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, may request such modification or accommodation from the City Clerk at (562) 806-7704. Notification 48 business hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Mendoza called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

INVOCATION – was led by Pastor Reynaldo Leal.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – was led by Anthony Funes.

ROLL CALL OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Present: Aceituno, Pulido, Flores, Mendoza

Absent: Rodriguez

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

(Three minutes per person, subject to a total period of 30 minutes)

Jose Rojas congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Flores and Mayor Mendoza and shared anecdotes about each.

Anthony Funes shared an anecdote about joining Mayor Mendoza's dance team and congratulated Mayor Mendoza and Mayor Pro Tem Flores.

Joshua Acosta congratulated Mayor Mendoza and Mayor Pro Tem Flores and commended Mayor Mendoza on his leadership.

Luis and Gloria Acosta congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Flores and Mayor Mendoza and shared a personal anecdote about how Mayor Mendoza has helped their son Joshua.

Jonathon Gudino congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Flores and Mayor Mendoza, and commended the rest of the City Council for choosing Mayor Pro Tem Flores and Mayor Mendoza to lead the City.

Lincoln Guerrero expressed his happiness for Mayor Pro Tem Flores and Mayor Mendoza and commented on their contributions to the school and to their students. He thanked Mayor Mendoza for changing his life and congratulated Mayor Mendoza for achieving the position of Mayor.

Rosario Luna congratulated Mayor Mendoza and shared her personal experience having Mayor Mendoza as a positive influence in her child's life. Her child personally thanked Mayor Mendoza for being a father figure for her.

Armando Arriola shared an anecdote about voting for Mayor Mendoza for the first time. He commented on all the support that the Mayor has from staff and residents and he congratulated Mayor Mendoza.

Mayor Mendoza closed public comments and before moving on to the next part of the agenda, he recognized the following dignitaries in attendance:

- Congresswoman Roybal-Allard's Representative Cynthia Morales
- Senator Lara's Representative Jonathan Flores
- Assembly Member Garcia's Representative Edgar Estrada
- Supervisor Solis's Representative Kimberly Ortega
- Montebello Unified School District President Dr. Lani Cupchoy
- Cesar Chavez Elementary Principal Norma Velsasco-Aceves
- Bell Gardens Intermediate Principal Jose Cuevas
- Bell Gardens Intermediate Assistant Principal Julieta Hernandez
- Montebello Unified School District Assistant Superintendent Dr. Angel Gallardo
- Montebello Unified School District Director of Administrative Services Ricardo Mendez
- Garfield Elementary Principal David Hernandez
- City of Bell Gardens Princess Court

PRESENTATIONS

United States 40th District Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard's Representative Cynthia Morales presented a Congressional Certificate of Appreciation to former Mayor Pedro Aceituno.

California 33rd District State Senator Ricardo Lara's Representative Jonathan Flores and Volunteer Coordinator Veronica Cruz congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Flores and Mayor Mendoza and presented a Certificate of Appreciation to former Mayor Pedro Aceituno.

California 58th District Assembly Member Cristina Garcia's Representative Edgar Estrada congratulated Mayor Mendoza and Mayor Pro Tem Flores and presented a Certificate of Recognition to former Mayor Pedro Aceituno.

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors District 1 Supervisor Hilda Solis's Representative Kimberly Ortega and District Director Antonio Chapa congratulated Mayor Mendoza and Mayor Pro Tem Flores and presented a Certificate of Recognition to former Mayor Pedro Aceituno.

Montebello Unified School District Board President Dr. Lani Cupchoy thanked the Council for their partnership and continued support. She presented certificates to former Mayor Aceituno, Mayor Pro Tem Flores and Mayor Mendoza.

At this point, Mayor Mendoza took a moment to recognize additional dignitaries in the audience:

- Bell Gardens Elementary School Principal James Sams
- Gina Andulo

CITY COUNCIL SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Mayor Mendoza presented outgoing Mayor Aceituno with a plaque for his service as Mayor.

Mayor Pro Tem Flores presented Mayor Mendoza with a plaque for his service as Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Mendoza called Garfield Elementary Principal David Hernandez up to the podium to begin the swearing-in ceremony.

Mr. David Hernandez administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Jose J. Mendoza. Mayor Mendoza thanked Mr. David Hernandez and presented him with a token of appreciation for his service to the community.

City Manager Phil Wagner then administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Pro Tem Priscilla Flores. Mayor Pro Tem Flores thanked City Manager Wagner.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Pulido congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Flores and Mayor Mendoza. She commented on the impact the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem are having on the community and she expressed her support for their continued success.

Mayor Pro Tem Flores congratulated Mayor Mendoza and commented on his impact on student lives in the community. She offered her support to Mayor Mendoza and thanked City staff, including City Manager Phil Wagner and Assistant City Manager John Oropeza for their great leadership. She thanked the students for attending and encouraged them to continue succeeding. She thanked her family, her husband, the residents and the community for their continued support.

Mayor Mendoza commented on growing up in Bell Garden, attending Bell Gardens schools, being guided and encouraged by teachers and mentors. He commented on starting the dance team at Bell Gardens Intermediate and building it into an award winning program and meeting amazing people. He thanked his niece Daisy, his Godfather, his aunt, his brother, his generations of students, his friends, his family, everyone in attendance, and his mother. Lastly, he dedicated the meeting to his friend who passed away in March, Bell Gardens Intermediate teacher Marilyn Thompson.

ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Mendoza adjourned the Special City Council meeting at 6:56 p.m. in memory of Marilyn Thompson and invited the audience to join him and the Council for a small reception in the Courtyard.



Kristina Santana
City Clerk

