

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK  
HELD DECEMBER 10, 2024

Vol. 54 Pg. 155

1. GENERAL

The City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber of the Civic Center, 6650 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park, California, Mayor Sonne presiding.

1A. CALL TO ORDER

1B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Brown, Traut, Ahn, Sonne  
ABSENT: None

Also present were: Aaron France, City Manager; Chris Cardinale, City Attorney; and Adria M. Jimenez, MMC, Director of Government and Community Relations/City Clerk.

1C. INVOCATION

The Invocation was led by Reverend Dr. Joel Van Soelen of Anaheim Christian Reformed Church.

1D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Aaron France, City Manager.

1E. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager France reported the following:

- Annual Candy Caneland and Crafts Fair, Saturday, December 14, 2024. 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Ehlers Event Center. The event will consist of craft booths, snow slides, food and entertainment. Additionally, a free shuttle will be available at Peak Park Pool starting at 10:00 a.m.
- City Hall Holiday Closure, December 23, 2024 – January 3, 2025. Normal business hours will resume on Monday, January 6, 2025.
- Wished Buena Park residents a Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

2A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Sonne announced the public may at this time address the members of the City Council on any matters within the jurisdiction of the City Council.

Gilbert Granado, Buena Park resident, spoke regarding the closure of the handball courts at Boisseranc Park and requested the courts be reopened.

Ramona Lopez, Buena Park resident, thanked the City Council, especially Council Member Brown for his dedicated service, Buena Park Police Department, and Orange County Fire Authority for serving the Buena Park youth. Ms. Lopez also requested that the new City Council consider more resources and more programs for the Latino community.

Ginger Cruz, Buena Park resident, thanked Council Member Brown, Mayor Sonne and the rest of the City Council for their hard work and dedication to the community. Ms. Cruz requested establishing Buena Park as a sanctuary city.

There being no additional requests to speak, Mayor Sonne closed oral communications.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS (3A – 3J)

#### Elections 74

#### 3A. RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE RESULTS OF THE NOVEMBER 5, 2024, GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt a resolution reciting the facts of the General Municipal Election consolidated with the Statewide General Election and declaring the results and other such matters as provided by law.

MOTION: Brown  
SECOND: Traut  
AYES: Brown, Traut, Ahn, Sonne  
NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED to approve the recommended action and ADOPTED the following titled resolution:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 14923

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, RECITING THE FACT OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD IN THE CITY OF BUENA PARK ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024, DECLARING THE RESULT AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS PROVIDED BY THE PROVISIONS OF LAW

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1744

AN ORDINANCE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ADDING CHAPTER 3.56 TO TITLE 3 OF THE BUENA PARK MUNICIPAL CODE TO ENACT A ONE PERCENT (1.0%) GENERAL TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX (SALES TAX) TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TAX AND FEE ADMINISTRATION

#### 3B. COMMENDATIONS TO RETIRING COUNCIL MEMBER ARTHUR C. BROWN

City of Artesia Mayor Ali Taj, Senator Tom Umberg, SCAG CEO Darin Chidsey, NOCC President and CEO Andrew Gregson, and legislative representatives, on behalf of federal, state, county, and local legislators, presented commendations to retiring Council Member Brown.

City Manager France, on behalf of all City staff, thanked retiring Council Member Brown for his service and wished him the best in his future endeavors.

Council Member Traut, Vice Mayor Ahn, and Mayor Sonne expressed gratitude and highlighted retiring Council Member Brown's accomplishments throughout his many years of service.

Retiring Council Member Brown spoke in reflection of his 32 years of service as a Council Member and eight terms as Mayor, and thanked his fellow Council Members, City staff, and residents for the support through the years.

The City Council presented a personalized street sign to retiring Council Member Brown in appreciation of his service.

#### 3C. OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBER CARLOS FRANCO, COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 2

City Clerk Jimenez administered the Oath of Office to newly-elected District 2 Council Member Carlos Franco.

#### 3D. OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBER SUSAN SONNE, COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 3

City Clerk Jimenez administered the Oath of Office to re-elected District 3 Council Member Susan Sonne.

3E. OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY-ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBER LAMIYA HOQUE,  
COUNCIL MEMBER, DISTRICT 4

City Clerk Jimenez administered the Oath of Office to newly-elected District 4 Council Member Lamiya Hoque.

3F. COMMENDATIONS TO OUTGOING MAYOR SUSAN SONNE

Vice Mayor Ahn thanked outgoing Mayor Sonne for her service, leadership, and dedication as Mayor and presented her with a Mayor's plaque.

City of Artesia Mayor Ali Taj, NOCC President and CEO Andrew Gregson, and legislative representatives, on behalf of federal, state, county, and local legislators, presented commendations to outgoing Mayor Sonne.

3G. COMMENTS BY OUTGOING MAYOR SUSAN SONNE

Outgoing Mayor Sonne spoke in reflection of her service as Mayor and thanked her husband Paul Sonne, daughter Angelika Sonne, fellow Council Members, City staff, and residents for their support.

Director of Government and Community Relations/City Clerk Jimenez thanked outgoing Mayor Sonne for a successful mayoral year and thanked her for her love and dedication to the Buena Park community.

3H. SELECTION OF MAYOR

Director of Government and Community Relations/City Clerk Jimenez explained the process for the selection of Mayor and opened nominations.

Council Member Sonne nominated Vice Mayor Ahn for the position of Mayor. There being no further nominations, Vice Mayor Ahn was appointed as Mayor.

Director Jimenez turned over the meeting to Mayor Ahn.

Mayor Ahn thanked the City Council for their trust, and the community for their support. Mayor Ahn also spoke about her goals for the Buena Park community in the upcoming year, and wished everyone a Happy Holidays and a Prosperous 2025.

3I. SELECTION OF VICE MAYOR

Mayor Ahn opened nominations for the position of Vice Mayor.

Mayor Ahn nominated Council Member Traut for the position of Vice Mayor. There being no further nominations, Council Member Traut was appointed as Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Traut expressed gratitude to former and current Council Members and the community's support, and looks forward to 2025 under Mayor Ahn's mayoral leadership.

**Contracts 70 C-3578 Public Works Proj. 125 PW-973**

3J. RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND APPROVAL OF  
CONTRACT WITH NOR-CAL PUMP & DRILLING, INC. FOR THE PEAK PARK WATER  
WELL DRILLING PROJECT

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt a resolution approving the plans and specifications for the Peak Park Water Well Drilling Project; 2) Award a contract to Nor-Cal Pump & Well Drilling, Inc. in the amount of \$2,323,982; 3) Authorize contingency funds in the amount of \$400,000; 4) Authorize construction engineering funds in the amount of \$50,000; 5) Authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make any necessary, non-monetary changes to the contract; and, 6) Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the contract.

Assistant Engineer Tran provided a report regarding approving plans and specifications, and awarding of contract to Nor-Cal Pump and Drilling, Inc. for the Peak Park Water Well Drilling Project. The City currently has eight (8) water supply wells within City limits and has determined a need for one (1) additional water well to meet peak water demands. Richard Brady and Associates, Inc. prepared a feasibility and site-specific study, and deemed William Peak Park to be the ideal location to construct the new water well. The scope of work for this project includes drilling the well to conduct water quality tests and confirm groundwater quality; and, construction of the well building facility. The project was advertised for competitive bids on October 17, 2024, and six (6) bids were received and publicly opened on November 7, 2024. The lowest, responsible bid was submitted by Nor-Cal Pump & Well Drilling Inc. of Yuba City, CA, in the amount of \$2,323,982. It was recommended that the City Council award the contract to Nor-Cal Pump & Well Drilling, Inc., in the amount of \$2,323,982, approving contingency funds in the amount of \$400,000, and authorizing construction engineering funds in the amount of \$50,000. Construction is anticipated to begin in March 2025 and completed by August 2025.

MOTION: Sonne  
SECOND: Franco  
AYES: Sonne, Franco, Hoque, Traut, Ahn  
NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED to approve the recommended action and ADOPTED the following titled resolution:

**RESOLUTION NO. 14924**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR PEAK PARK WATER WELL DRILLING PROJECT IN SAID CITY

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR (4A – 4O)**

Mayor Ahn announced that Consent Calendar Item Nos. 4A through 4O would be acted upon by one motion affirming the actions as recommended on the agenda and agenda bills submitted and inquired if anyone present desired to have any item removed for separate consideration. There being no requests for separate consideration, the following action was taken on Item Nos. 4A – 4O:

MOTION: Sonne  
SECOND: Hoque  
AYES: Sonne, Hoque, Franco, Traut, Ahn  
NOES: None

MOTION CARRIED that all actions recommended on Consent Calendar Item Nos. 4A – 4O be approved.

**Minutes**

**4A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Recommended Action: Approve the Minutes of the Special and Regular City Council Meetings of November 12, 2024.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Finance 75**

**4B. RESOLUTIONS APPROVING CLAIMS AND DEMANDS**

Recommended Action: Adopt Resolutions approving Claims and Demands.

ADOPTED the following titled resolutions:

**RESOLUTION NO. 14925**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS IN THE SUM OF \$1,767,214.62 DEMAND NOS. 427603 THROUGH 427802

**RESOLUTION NO. 14926**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS IN THE SUM OF \$2,795,344.45 DEMAND NOS. 427803 THROUGH 428060 CANCELLED NOS. 427357 AND 427737

**RESOLUTION NO. 14927**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS IN THE SUM OF \$20,559.26 COVERING RETIREE PAYROLL ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2024

**RESOLUTION NO. 14928**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS IN THE SUM OF \$1,051,895.76 COVERING REGULAR PAYROLL ENDING NOVEMBER 8, 2024

**RESOLUTION NO. 14929**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS IN THE SUM OF \$1,048,986.67 COVERING REGULAR PAYROLL ENDING NOVEMBER 22, 2024

**Reports & Studies 129****4C. TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2024**

Recommended Action: Receive and file the reports.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3536 Public Works Proj. 125 PW-956****4D. FINAL PAYMENT TO BRAVO SIGN & DESIGN, INC. FOR THE CITY PARK MONUMENT SIGNS INSTALLATION PROJECT**

Recommended Action: 1) Accept the project as complete and approve a final payment to Bravo Sign & Design, Inc. in the amount of \$6,824.50; and 2) Direct the Public Works Department to file a Notice of Completion.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3548 Public Works Proj. 125 PW-960****4E. FINAL PAYMENT TO AGUILAR & CALDERON CORPORATION FOR THE FRIENDSHIP PARK (FORMERLY SMITH-MURPHY PARK) AND CARL BRENNER PARK ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Recommended Action: 1) Accept the project as complete and approve a final payment to Aguilar & Calderon Corporation in the amount of \$ 262,873.58; and, 2) Direct the Public Works Department to file a Notice of Completion.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3579****4F. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WILLDAN ENGINEERING FOR THE DALE STREET FROM CRESCENT AVENUE TO SR-91 REHABILITATION PROJECT**

Recommended Action: 1) Approve a Professional Services Agreement with Willdan Engineering in the amount of \$157,790 for the design services for the Dale Street from Crescent Avenue to SR-91 Rehabilitation Project; 2) Authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make any necessary, non-monetary changes to the agreement; and, 3) Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the agreement.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3562 Public Works Proj. 125 PW-966****4G. FINAL PAYMENT TO HARDY & HARPER, INC. FOR THE LOS COYOTES DRIVE STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Recommended Action: 1) Accept the project as complete and approve a final payment to Hardy & Harper, Inc., in the amount of \$652,189.78 (less 5% retention); and, 2) Direct the Public Works Department to file a Notice of Completion.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3344 C-2511 Budgets 47****4H. AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MERCHANTS FOR CITYWIDE LANDSCAPING SERVICES**

Recommended Action: 1) Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with Merchants Landscaping Services, Inc., (Merchants) for landscaping services from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025; 2) Authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make any necessary, non-monetary changes to the amendment; 3) Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the amendment; and 4) Approve a budget amendment for \$20,000 from the general fund for additional weekly landscaping services at Whitaker Park, Phase 2 of the Silverado Trail, and Rick Gomez Park.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3428****4I. AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ALLIED UNIVERSAL FOR JANITORIAL SERVICES**

Recommended Action: 1) Approve Amendment No. 2 to Professional Services Agreement with Allied Universal ('Allied') of Santa Ana, California, to provide janitorial services at City facilities for calendar year 2025 in the amount of \$370,342.92; 2) Authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make any necessary, non-monetary changes to the amendment; and, 3) Authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the amendment.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Purchasing 127 Police Dept. 117 Budgets 47****4J. PURCHASE OF FORD EXPLORER POLICE PURSUIT VEHICLE FROM NATIONAL AUTO FLEET GROUP AND APPROVAL OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT**

Recommended Action: 1) Ratify the purchase of one 2024 Ford Police Interceptor Utility in the approximate amount of \$55,904.21 from National Auto Fleet Group; 2) Determine that dispensing with the competitive bidding pursuant to Municipal Code Section 3.28.080(E) was in the best interest of the City because it resulted in a lower purchase price for this vehicle; and, 3) Approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$55,904.21 from the undesignated Vehicle Replacement Fund balance for this purchase.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Contracts 70 C-3580 Elections 74 Budgets 47 Taxation 144****4K. RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING AGREEMENTS WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TAX AND FEE ADMINISTRATION (CDTFA) FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A LOCAL TRANSACTION AND USE TAX AND AUTHORIZING THE EXAMINATION OF TRANSACTIONS (SALES) AND USE TAX RECORDS, AND ACTIONS RELATED THERETO AND APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH HDL FOR SALES, USE, AND TRANSACTION TAX AUDIT AND INFORMATION SERVICES RELATED TO MEASURE R**

The City Council will consider taking actions needed to implement the local transactions and use tax enacted by Measure R, which was approved by voters at the general election held on November 5, 2024.

Recommended Action: 1) Adopt the Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute agreements with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) for implementation of a local transactions and use tax; 2) Adopt the Resolution authorizing the examination of the sales, use, and transactions tax records for the City; 3) Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement with Hinderliter de Llamas and Associates (HdL) for sales, use, and transactions tax audit and information services and make any non-monetary changes; and, 4) Appropriate \$178,600 of Measure R revenue for the preparatory costs incurred by the CDTFA necessary to administer the City's transactions and use tax and the contract costs for HdL sales, use, and transactions tax audit and information services.

APPROVED the recommended action and ADOPTED the following titled resolutions:

RESOLUTION NO. 14930

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TAX AND FEE ADMINISTRATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A LOCAL TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX

RESOLUTION NO. 14931

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING EXAMINATION OF SALES OR TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX RECORDS

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- 4L. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN BANKS TO HONOR ALL CHECKS, DRAFTS, AND WARRANTS WHEN BEARING CERTAIN SIGNATURES AND FACSIMILE SIGNATURES OF CITY OFFICIALS AND RESCINDING ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS

Recommended Action: Adopt resolution.

APPROVED the recommended action and ADOPTED the following titled resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 14932

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN BANKS TO HONOR ALL CHECKS, DRAFTS, AND WARRANTS WHEN BEARING CERTAIN SIGNATURES AND FACSIMILE SIGNATURES OF CITY OFFICIALS AND RESCINDING ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS

**Parcel Maps 14.3**

- 4M. APPROVAL OF PARCEL MAP NO. 2023-144 FOR 7232, 7236, 7242 ARTESIA BOULEVARD AND 6011 BOTRYOIDES AVENUE

Recommended Action: 1) Approve Parcel Map No. 2023-144 for 7232, 7236, and 7242 Artesia Boulevard and 6011 Botryoides Avenue; and 2) Authorize the City Engineer and City Clerk to execute the parcel map.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Finance Dept. 76**

- 4N. WATER BILL INSERT ADVERTISING THE 2025 MYRNA HOLMQUIST SCHOLARSHIP

Recommended Action: 1) Approve a water bill insert advertising the 2025 Myrna Holmquist Scholarship.

APPROVED the recommended action.

**Finance Dept. 76 Econ. Dev. 191 Environmental Program 180**

- 4O. WATER BILL INSERT ADVERTISING CLIMATE ACTION AND ADAPTATION PLAN COMMUNITY MEETING

Recommended Action: 1) Approve a water bill insert advertising the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) Community Meeting.

APPROVED the recommended action.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

No Public Hearing items.

## 6. MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL REPORTS AND CALENDAR

### 6A. REPORT

Council Member Sonne reported the following:

- November 13 A Slice of Pie with CSI
- November 13 Supervisor Doug Chaffee's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Kindness Awards
- November 14 City Selection Committee Meeting
- November 21 Buena Park Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
- November 21 Thanksgiving Pie Party
- November 25 OCPA Board Meeting
- December 3 Meals on Wheels Christmas Dinner
- December 4 BPCEA Christmas Taco Lunch
- December 4 CP&A Christmas Party
- December 5 Employee Christmas Reception
- December 6 Special OCPA Board Meeting
- December 6 Buena Park Christmas Tree Lighting
- December 8 Soroptimist Holiday Tea
- December 9 Annual Cookie Social

Council Member Sonne thanked the attendees of the 2024 Buena Park Mayor's Prayer Breakfast and all those involved in making the event a success.

Council Member Hoque calendared the following items: joint calendar with Council Member Franco to establish a new and improved Youth in Government Day with a focus on sixth graders; joint calendar with Vice Mayor Traut regarding revitalizing John Beat Park; joint calendar with Mayor Ahn for the discussion about flood control channels in Districts 1 and 4; and, joint calendar with Council Member Sonne regarding accelerating the implementation of the Urban Master Plan.

Council Member Franco had nothing to report or calendar.

Vice Mayor Traut calendared to rename the Metrolink station after Retired Council Member Arthur C. Brown.

Mayor Ahn reported the following:

- December 4 BPCEA Christmas Taco Lunch
- December 4 OC San Operations Committee Meeting
- December 5 Employee Christmas Reception
- December 6 Buena Park Christmas Tree Lighting
- December 9 Annual Cookie Social

## 7. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager France congratulated newly appointed Mayor Ahn and Vice Mayor Traut.

City Manager France reported about the following:

- Coffee with a Cop, Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., Chick-Fil-A at 8161 La Palma Avenue, Buena Park.
- All Employee Christmas Luncheon, Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Buena Park Community Center Ballroom.

## 8. COMMISSION & COMMITTEE UPDATES

Director of Government and Community Relations/City Clerk Jimenez congratulated newly appointed Mayor Ahn and Vice Mayor Traut, and advised newly elected Council Members Franco, Hoque, and Sonne regarding their appointment of new Commissioners. Residents interested in applying to serve as Commissioners may directly contact their respective Council Member.



9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Sonne adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk