

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
EL MONTE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
OF JANUARY 5, 2021

MEETING JOINTLY AND REGULARLY WITH THE EL MONTE HOUSING AUTHORITY; EL MONTE PUBLIC FINANCING AUTHORITY; EL MONTE WATER AUTHORITY; EL MONTE PARKING AUTHORITY; SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE FORMER EL MONTE COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY; HOUSING SUCCESSOR AGENCY; AND, FROM TIME TO TIME, SUCH OTHER BODIES OF THE CITY WHOSE MEMBERSHIP IS COMPOSED EXCLUSIVELY OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE CITY COUNCIL

1. CALL TO ORDER: **6:04 p.m.**

2. ROLL CALL FOR CITY COUNCIL AND AUTHORITY BODIES:

Jessica Ancona, Mayor/Chair – **present**
Maria Morales, Mayor Pro Tem/Authority Member – **present**
Victoria Martinez Muela, Councilmember/Authority Member – **present**
Alma D. Puente, Councilmember/Authority Member – **present**

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

m) Mayor Ancona
s) Councilmember Martinez Muela **4-0**

4. CLOSED SESSION:

The City Council and the various Authority Bodies whose membership is composed exclusively of the membership of the City Council (collectively, the “Council”) will attempt to address and complete all Closed Session business between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. If the Council completes all Closed Session business prior to 7:00 p.m., the Council will take a short recess and commence all Open Session proceedings promptly at 7:00 p.m. In the event the City Council is unable to address or complete all agenda items by 7:00 p.m., the Council will hear all such remaining items toward the end of the meeting, immediately following Council Communications. Should any member of the public wish to address the Council on any *agenda* Closed Session matter, the Council shall allow such person to address the Council on such matter prior to going into Closed Session, provided that all persons wishing to address the Council on an agenda Closed Session matter shall fill out a speaker card and be subject to a speaker’s time limit of 3 minutes per speaker and further provided that the Council shall be under no obligation to respond to or deliberate upon any specific questions or comments posed by a speaker or take action on any issue raised by a speaker beyond such action as the City Council may be lawfully authorized to take on an agenda Closed Session matter pursuant to the Brown Act (Govt. Code Section 54950 et seq.).

Mayor Ancona invited members of the public to address the City Council on Closed Session Items 4.1 through 4.7.

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

Mayor Ancona and the City Council recessed into Closed Session at approximately 6:07 p.m. Mayor Ancona and the City Council reconvened from Closed Session at approximately 7:23 p.m.

Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla reported out of Closed Session with respect to Items 4.1 through 4.7.

- 4.1 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) and (e)(3) – Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Significant Exposure of Litigation: One (1) potential case.

City Council received a briefing form the City Attorney’s Office, feedback was provided but no final action was taken.

- 4.2 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) – Conference with Legal Counsel--Existing Litigation Regarding the Following Related Matter: FEAH, LLC v. City of El Monte, LASC Case No. 20STCP03720.

City Council received a briefing form the City Attorney’s Office, feedback was provided but no final action was taken.

- 4.3 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) – Conference with Legal Counsel--Existing Litigation Regarding the Following Related Matter: NeroCanna v. City of El Monte, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCP02545.

City Council received a briefing form the City Attorney’s Office, feedback was provided but no final action was taken.

- 4.4 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel--Existing Litigation Regarding the Following Related Matter: Calimed Baldwin, LLC v. City of El Monte, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCP03134.

City Council received a briefing form the City Attorney’s Office, feedback was provided but no final action was taken.

- 4.5 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) – Conference with Legal Counsel--Existing Litigation Regarding the Following Related Matter: Nibble This – El Monte, LLC v. City of El Monte, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCP04044.

City Council received a briefing form the City Attorney’s Office, feedback was provided but no final action was taken.

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

- 4.6 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) and (e)(1) – Significant Exposure of Litigation: One (1) Potential Case.

City Council received a briefing form the City Attorney’s Office, feedback was provided but no final action was taken.

- 4.7 Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) and (e)(3) – Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Significant Exposure to Litigation – One (1) Potential Case.

City Council received a briefing form the City Attorney’s Office, unanimous direction was given but no final action was taken tonight in closed session.

OPEN SESSION PROCEEDINGS

(Commencing at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the City Council reconvene from Closed Session/Short Recess)

5. INVOCATION: **Councilmember Martinez Muela**
6. FLAG SALUTE: **Chief of Police, David Reynoso. Present**
7. RECOGNITIONS, HONORS AND COMMUNITY INTEREST PRESENTATIONS: **No material submitted.**
8. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING NON-AGENDIZED MATTERS:

This time has been set aside for persons in the audience to make comments or inquiries on matters within the general subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council, the Housing Authority, the Financing Authority and/or the Water Authority (collectively, the “Council”) that **are not listed on this agenda**. Although no person is required to provide their name and address as a condition to attending a Council meeting, persons who wish to address the Council are asked to state their name and address. Each speaker will be limited to three (3) continuous minutes. Speakers may not lend any portion of their speaking time to other persons or borrow additional time from other persons.

Except as otherwise provided under the Brown Act (Gov. Code Section 54950 et seq.), the Council may not deliberate or take action upon any matter not listed on this posted agenda but may order that any such matter be placed on the agenda for a subsequent meeting. The Council may also direct staff to investigate certain matters for consideration at a future meeting.

All comments or queries presented by a speaker shall be addressed to the Council as a body and not to any specific member thereof. No questions shall be posed to any member of the Council except through the presiding official of the meeting, the Mayor and/or Chair. Members of the Council are under no obligation to respond to questions posed by speakers but may provide brief clarifying responses to any comment made or

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

questions posed. The Council may not engage in any sort of prolonged discussion or deliberation with any speaker or group of speakers on matters that are not listed on this agenda.

Enforcement of Decorum: The Chief of Police, or such member, or members of the Police Department as the Chief of Police may designate, shall serve as the Sergeant-at-Arms of any Council meeting. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall carry out all orders and instructions given by the presiding official for the purpose of maintaining order and decorum at the meeting. While members of the public are free to level criticism of City policies and the action(s) or proposed action(s) of the Council or its members, members of the public may not engage in behavior that is disruptive to the orderly conduct of the proceedings, including, but not limited to, conduct that prevents other members of the public from being heard when it is their opportunity to speak or which prevents members of the audience from hearing or seeing the proceedings. Members of the public may not threaten any person with physical harm or act in a manner that may reasonably be interpreted as an imminent threat of physical harm. All persons attending the meeting must adhere to the City's policy barring harassment based upon a person's race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, gender, sexual orientation or age.

Roberto Rios – My name is Roberto Rios , I'm a long time Resident and property owner in the city of El Monte, I came to this city over 50 years ago with my family of 12 Siblings, 7 sisters and 5 Brothers we all went to school here, this city was a very beautiful place with lots of work low crime mid box stores, Etc. but something went wrong I seen mayors come and go including our fire department was trade for some votes to be elected for city mayor, I'm tired of seen our city Appointees not do what they promises, and use the position for their own gain, I'm glad we finally got rid of mayor Quintero and his partner in crime Velasco. I'm writing this letter to ask the city council and elected Mayor Jessica to please make a good decision, and not go with a special election and save the tax payers \$300.000 dollars, we can use the money for some good things for our city, like patching potholes in residential areas, or fix some sidewalks witch they are potential liability to our city , I'm a father of a special needs child who gets around on a wheelchair, with this stay at home order we do more walking around our block, every time we come to this broken sidewalks we have to go in to the street putting our self in danger. please use the other option and appoint a city council we have a good Candidate winch could easily fill this position, her name is Irma Zamorano a long time resident of El Monte a person who really cares about our city and children, I have seen her all over our city helping in different events for the benefit of our residents, she's a strong and intelligent woman, who always has the best interest of our people and not of corporate, I'm endorsing Irma Zamorano and with this letter I'm casting my vote for her. Thank you.

Kevin Fonseca – The language that the man at First Works Baptist Church is speaking is hateful, offensive and is sparking fear in people. People and children should not have to walk around in fear of judgement, harassment or harm because of the hate someone is speaking and stirring up in our city. Although they have not done any damage or harm yet, the repercussions and the damage this kind of hatred and evil can have on our city and its residents is far too great to not take any action. We need to start attracting people who are going to add to our community, taking care of the residents who live here and have grown up here for generations and people who are trying to create a better life for themselves and their families. This institute is the opposite of all those things and will attract more of this negativity to our communities that we do not need. This is an issue. It needs to be addressed. It cannot be swept under the rug. It's not

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

going anywhere, the LGBTQIA community is not going anywhere, but this church needs to go somewhere other than our city of El Monte.

Julianne Quezada – First Works Baptist Church located at 2600 Tyler Ave. El Monte, CA 91733 does not adhere to Los Angeles County COVID-19 guidelines and the current stay at home order. As you all know, El Monte has a disproportionate amount of COVID-19 cases compared to other surrounding cities. This establishment can cause increased community spread of the virus, which is the exact opposite of what we need. Our community is filled with essential workers who already are at a higher risk for contracting the virus. We do not need a place that openly hosts super spreader events that can be detrimental to the city. The church gathers 3-5 times a week with large crowds, and there are typically no masks and social distancing. This can be seen on their Instagram page, which is @fwbc_la, and on their pastor's Instagram page, @wild_olive_tree. The lack of masks and social distancing can also be found on their YouTube page, where they live stream and post their weekly sermons. I will link this YouTube page below for you to view. Additionally, I will link the Southern Law Poverty Center's recognition of the First Works Baptist Church as a hate group, so you can truly see how dangerous their rhetoric and ideologies are. Their rhetoric about inciting violence on queer people and the false narrative they perpetuate about queer people is extremely concerning for our community. They make people in our community feel unsafe, and I don't believe that is okay. If you would like, I can provide you supplemental information about this church's hateful, vile, and dangerous rhetoric that poses a threat to our city. I am in contact with organizers in the area who are all in communication about our research of the church. On Instagram, you can contact @keepelmontefriendly for any needed information or further action. My phone number is below if you have any other questions or concerns. Thank you for taking the time to read this. I hope you all consider the voices of your constituents who have these urgent concerns that need immediate attention.

Dulce Santana – I am here because I am part of the El Monte Community. I have been part of the El Monte Community for approximately 30 years. Recently I heard word about a church in El Monte

Stephanie Ramos – I want to know what is going to be done about First Works Baptist Church in El Monte and the hate speech and discrimination because of the no homo allowed signs you name it is out there. I saw a comment you saying that you stand in solidarity with the community but we want to know what are going to be done.

Camila Camaleón – My name is Camila Camaleón and I am the current President of the San Gabriel Valley LGBTQ+ Center. We are a nonprofit that advocates for people of all orientations and gender identities. With the spotlight on El Monte recently we send this statement to your City Council in hopes of it being read at tonight's public comment. We highlight that our center does not stand for any hate and look forward to any potential steps we can be involved with. With the above stated, our organization will begin doing introductions at various City Council's starting February and I'd love to hear how we could do a brief presentation at El Monte's to discuss the nature of our work. I thank you for your time and am looking forward to speaking with you all soon.

Ayble Juarez – I am a spokesperson for the Instagram account "Keep El Monte Friendly". I am a transgender male and I feel my life is being threatened by the First Works Baptist Church. I would like to thank Mayor Ancona for speaking out and acknowledging the issue but I do not believe it is enough. Members of this 'church' have been threatening us. They have been sending death threats and telling me that they

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

want me to burn in hell. We are facing constant harassment and I do not feel safe with these people in our city. I am asking you to take further action. Thank you.

Cindy Nguyen – As you all may well know, First Works Baptist Church on Tyler Ave. poses a real threat to not only the LGBTQ+ community but also the working class people of El Monte. Not only have they been spewing hate online (i.e. telling the f-word to burn in hell or to die), they have also been congregating without any masks or social distancing. We are dealing with both a moral and health issue here. If you city officials truly cared for the El Monte people, act like it and please denounce them as a hate group. They will only be so much more fueled by hate if nothing were to be ever done to them. Every one of their actions needs to be met with serious consequences. Also, why are we waiting for a person to die before taking any action? Hasn't 2020 already shown us that we have to become a better society and care for another? With that being said, again, please listen to the individuals who are outraged and who are speaking out against this man and his 'church'. Thank you.

Cosme Jimenez – I have a question about the expenses for marijuana the \$90,000 we are paying the City Attorney \$16,000. I want to know when this is going to stop.

Alyssa Acosta – First Works Baptist Church, located at 2600 Tyler Ave, El Monte, CA 91733, is a ministry led by Bruce Mejia. Mejia twists God's word and actively discriminates against the LGBTQIA+ community. He also encouraged, to his entire congregation, that he wants to give more business to a local El Monte barbershop that hatefully & purposely cut a gay man's hair up. I am worried that Mejia and members of his church will enact actions of violence against the many LGBTQ+ people living in or visiting El Monte. We are asking you to recognize FWBC as a hate group (as Maywood has) and help take them out of the city. As someone who values El Monte, it's residents, and is a proud ally of the LGBTQ+ community, I am saddened to see that you are allowing this type of bigotry to freely exist in the neighborhood, a city I grew up in and continue to spend time in. We need to let Bruce Mejia and his following know that they are not welcome here. The city of El Monte and its constituents do not condone this "church" and want their members to know that they cannot congregate here. In addition to their hateful ways, they are going against COVID-19 guidelines by having several households gather indoors with no masks, proven by social media posts that he has posted. (Videos and photos) Mejia's personal Instagram is @wild_olive_tree and his church Instagram is @fwbc_la, just so you're able to see for yourself. El Monte has historically been a refuge and should continue to serve as a safe space for all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. And the people agree, there is a petition that has gathered over 9,000 signatures and still counting. Let us come together and show that love trumps hate. In 2021, I hope that we can move forward to spread love and acceptance to future generations instead of digressing to hateful ways. We must come together to shut FWBC down.

Samatha Villa – I have lived in El Monte my whole life and it's a city I loved to be raised in. A city that I know can have such beautiful community and unity. However, a new terror has entered El Monte and has brought a toxic environment to stain our beautiful home. First Works Baptist Church located on Tyler Ave is an immediate threat to the safety of the people in our city- the people that the City Council is obliged to protect and voted in to protect. The church's pastor Bruce Mejia preaches hate, intolerance, anti-semitism and threatens harm to those who are LGBTQ and who are against his hate sermons. I'm afraid for those I love and I'm afraid that if we don't stop them now, they will only bring violence to Friendly El Monte. Please consider finding a way to expel this

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

hate group from our city and by doing so keeping the 'Friendly' in our city motto. Thank you for your time.

Wendy Warren – I have lived in El Monte for over 50 years. I support Irma Zamorano to be appointed to the City Council she would do a great job for the people of El Monte.

9. CITY TREASURER'S REPORT: **No material submitted.**

10. DEMAND RESOLUTION NO. D-634

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL MONTE, CALIFORNIA, ALLOWING CERTAIN CLAIMS AND DEMANDS AND SPECIFYING THE FUNDS OUT OF WHICH THE SAME ARE TO BE PAID.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL MONTE, CALIFORNIA, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS: SECTION 1. That the attached list of claims, demands, and payroll totaling \$20,270,236.15 have been examined by the City Treasurer and that warrant numbers 1095528 through 1095706, and the payroll period November 16, 2020 through December 15, 2020, inclusive are hereby allowed in the amounts and ordered paid out of the respective funds as set forth.

m) Mayor Ancona
s) Councilmember Puente **4-0**

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting Minutes of December 15, 2020.

m) Mayor Pro Tem Morales
s) Councilmember Puente **4-0**

12. CONSENT CALENDAR:

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine in nature and may be enacted by one motion approving the recommendation listed on the Agenda. One or more items may be removed from the Consent Calendar so that they may be discussed, considered and voted upon individually by the Council. A matter may be removed from the Consent Calendar and taken up separately by way of a seconded motion of any member of the Council with the approval of a majority of the Council quorum.

12.1 Waiver of Full Reading of Ordinance(s).

RECOMMENDATION OF BUSINESS ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

1. Approval to waive full reading (except title) of all ordinances appearing on the City Council agenda as authorized under Government Code Section 36934, unless otherwise directed by the City Council.

Total Cost: N/A

Account No: N/A

Is the cost of this item budgeted? N/A

m) Mayor Ancona

s) Mayor Pro Tem Morales

4-0

- 12.2 Approval of a Housing Authority Resolution and a Corresponding City Council Resolution Approving a Subordination Agreement Subordinating Certain El Monte Housing Authority Loans in Favor of Permanent California Department of Housing and Community Development Financing of the Mercy Housing Baldwin Rose Project.

This staff report has been prepared for the joint consideration and action of the City Council and the El Monte Housing Authority.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUSINESS ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE EL MONTE HOUSING AUTHORITY:

1. Consider and adopt an El Monte Housing Authority Resolution approving a subordination agreement subordinating certain El Monte Housing Authority loans in favor of permanent California Department of Housing and Community Development financing of the Mercy Housing Baldwin Rose Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY OF EL MONTE CITY COUNCIL:

1. Consider and adopt a City Council Resolution approving the action by the El Monte Housing Authority with respect to proposed subordination agreement subordinating certain El Monte Housing Authority loans in favor of permanent California Department of Housing and Community Development financing of the Mercy Housing Baldwin Rose Project.

Total Cost: N/A

Account No: N/A

Is the cost of this item budgeted? N/A

Housing Authority Resolution No. 23
Resolution No. 10221

m) Mayor Ancona

s) Mayor Pro Tem Morales

4-0

- 12.3 Approval of a City Council Resolution Approving a Subordination Agreement Subordinating a City Maintenance Agreement in Favor of Permanent California Department of Housing and Community Development Financing of the Mercy Housing Baldwin Rose Project.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUSINESS ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Consider and adopt a City Council resolution approving a Subordination Agreement subordinating a City Maintenance Agreement in favor of Permanent California Department of Housing and Community Development financing of the Mercy Housing Baldwin Rose Project.

Total Cost: N/A

Account No: N/A

Is the cost of this item budgeted? N/A

Resolution No. 10222

m) Mayor Ancona

s) Mayor Pro Tem Morales

4-0

13. PUBLIC HEARINGS: **No material submitted.**

14. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 14.1 Continued Discussion Regarding Council Vacancy Appointment Process and, if necessary, further direction and action regarding approval of a final draft of the vacancy application and other general direction.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUSINESS ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

If necessary or desired, it is recommended that the City Council:

1. Avail itself of this placeholder agenda item to continue any discussions or complete any uncompleted action from the Special Meeting of January 4, 2021 on the same subject.

Total Cost: N/A

Account No: N/A

Is the cost of this item budgeted? N/A

No action needed.

- 14.2 Consideration and Approval of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of El Monte Designating the Member of the City Council who Shall Hold the Title of Mayor Pro Tempore.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUSINESS ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Solicit nominations from among the membership for the post of Mayor Pro Tempore;
2. Vote to determine which of the nominees shall be selected as Mayor Pro Tempore; and

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

3. Approve the attached Resolution designating the Councilmember who has been selected to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore.

Total Cost: N/A

Account No: N/A

Is the cost of this item budgeted? N/A

Resolution No. 10223

m) Mayor Ancona

s) Councilmember Martinez Muela

To Appoint Councilmember Martinez Muela

2-2 (Mayor Pro Tem and Councilmember Puente No)

- 14.3 Discussion, Consideration and Approval of City Liaisons to Outside Boards, Agencies and Districts.

RECOMMENDATION OF BUSINESS ITEM UNDER CONSIDERATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Appoint a Delegate and an Alternate to the Independent Cities Association.
2. Appoint a Delegate and an Alternate to the Independent Cities Risk Management Association.
3. Appoint a Delegate to the League of California Cities.
4. Appoint a Delegate and an Alternate to the Sanitation District #15.
5. Appoint a Delegate and an Alternate to the Disaster Council.
6. Appoint a Delegate to the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District.
7. Appoint a Delegate and an Alternate to the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments.
8. Appoint a Delegate and an Alternate to the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership of Commerce and Cities.
9. Appoint a Delegate to the Foothill Transit Zone.
10. Appoint a Delegate and an Alternate to METRO.
11. Appoint a Delegate and an Alternate to Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

Total Cost: N/A

Account No: N/A

Is the cost of this item budgeted? N/A

**1. Councilmember Martinez Muela
Mayor Ancona**

**2. John Nguyen
Councilmember Puente**

3. Councilmember Martinez Muela

**4. Mayor Ancona
Councilmember Martinez Muela**

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

m) Mayor Ancona
s) Councilmember Martinez Muela 4-0
To remove the 5 minute time limitation

18B. Mayor Pro Tem Morales

18B.1 Update Regarding the Citywide Broadbands Accessibility.

I wanted to reiterate that working in collaboration with staff as I mentioned in the past this pandemic has definitely demonstrated where structurally where we as a community have some places where we can improve and that would be the broadband accessibility. With respect to assuring that our community particularly our students who are experiencing distance learning one more semester that they have some degree of connectivity.

18B.2 Update Regarding Citywide Street Repairs and the Three (3) Year CIP Progress Report.

We have been going through some infrastructure development throughout the City particular on our streets some of the areas out on the Mountain View area have been finalized and I have heard from the community nothing but positive comments with respect to the work. Moving forward others are wondering when the repairs to your streets are coming.

18B.3 Update Regarding the Park Master Plan, Maclaren Park and Lambert Park-Phase 1.

I have been part of the conversations in regards of Maclaren Park with Supervisor Hilda Solis these efforts and create green spaces. I know that Lambert Park is going through Phase 1 so we are really happy that we are moving forward on this. Staff is working on grants to continue to move the Park Master Plan forward.

18B.4 Update Regarding Crime Stats and Special Training from the El Monte Police Department.

Our young community leaders are asking Council that we be open minded with respect to their concerns around policing. I know that our chief has been very proactive and very progressive in his contact in regards to training. Our youth community is looking forward to us being more progressive.

18C. Councilwoman Martinez Muela

18C.1 Discussion Regarding Mid-Year Budget Considerations:

- Business License Payment Plan;
- Chamber of Commerce Contract;

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

- Succession Planning for Administrative Positions.

Is there an opportunity to get these dates calendared for the Mid-Year Budget considerations so that we can prepare ourselves for this conversation.

At the last meeting I brought the idea about the business license payment plan and I wanted to see if there were any updates with that regard. I think I wanted something more concrete like an educational plan that is sent out supported by the Council.

Chamber of Commerce Contract and I submit that they have been instrumental in a couple of things one just like Councilmember Puente the small business loans they have ensured that the small businesses are aware of this. I would like to see their contract be reconsidered at the mid-year budget. Should there be a need for a presentation I think that would be the perfect time to see it.

The El Monte/South El Monte Resources Association I am hoping that they are getting their funding in a timely matter.

Next on my list and the reason why I put this is we have been experiencing a lot of businesses closing down because their employees have gotten sick due to covid. If something were to happen do you have a secondary person. If there is an opportunity if there is a hierarchy planed out that would be great.

18C.2 Update on Retail Cannabis Licenses and Store Openings.

I received a message from a resident about a property that was on Peck Road south of Garvey that states that they are open already. Are there stores open already and what is the status of this.

18D. Councilwoman Puente

18D.1 Discussion Regarding the El Monte Weekly Food Pantry.

The Wednesday Food Pantry being held by the City at the Mountain View Family Center is being extended through the month of January.

18D.2 Update on DACA and the Non-Profits Available to Help.

I want to encourage community members who think they might be eligible to at least reach out for a consultation. I am going to ask staff to put websites of nonprofits who are offering free consultations out there.

18D.3 Update on Street Vendors Best Practices.

I would like staff members to continue to work on getting a presentation on best practices for street vendors I look forward to receiving guidance from staff because this is something big for our community.

City Council Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2021

18D.4 Discussion Regarding Support for Small Businesses in the Downtown Area.

I also want to inform the community about the opening of the California State Small Business Covid-19 Relief Grant which offers between \$5,000 to \$25,000 in Covid-19 Relief for small businesses.

18D.5 Update on the DEMBA Christmas Event.

I want to make mention of the successful toy drive that was put on by Northgate and I want to thank the Northgate family for their sponsorship in collaboration with DEMBA and the school district.

19. ADJOURNMENT:

Without objection the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

The next Regular Meeting of the City Council will be held on **January 19, 2021** at 6:00 p.m. This Agenda will be posted on the City's website, www.ci.el-monte.ca.us, and physically posted no less than 72 hours prior to the start of the subject regular meeting. Although it is the City's practice and desire to electronically post a copy of this Agenda along with supporting material as part of its website posting, the size or formatting of certain supporting materials may render their website posting infeasible. Nevertheless, all supporting materials related to any item on this Agenda, that is made available to the members of the council may be inspected by members of the public at the City Clerk's Office located at 11333 Valley Boulevard, El Monte, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 am – 5:30 pm. For more information, please call the City Clerk's Office at 626-580-2016.

All public meetings and events sponsored or conducted by the City of El Monte are held in sites accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for accommodations may be made by calling the office of the City Clerk at (626) 580-2016 at least three (3) working days prior to the event, if possible. This Agenda and copies of documents distributed at the meeting are available in alternative formats upon request.

Catherine A. Eredia, City Clerk
City of El Monte

APPROVED:

Jessica Ancona, Mayor
City of El Monte