Minutes of
Bell City Council
Bell Community Redevelopment Agency
Bell Community Housing Authority
Bell Public Finance Authority
Bell Solid Waste Authority

June 7, 2011
6:00 P.M. Closed Session
7:00 P.M. Open Session

Bell Community Center
6250 Pine Avenue

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Saleh at 6:13:06 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Steve Finkelstein, Police Captain.

Roll call of City Council in their capacities as Councilmembers, Community Redevelopment Agency Members, Community Housing Authority Commissioners, Public Finance Authority Trustees, and Solid Waste Authority Commissioners.

6:13:06 PM

Present:	Mayor Saleh, Vice Mayor Harber, Councilwoman Alvarez and Councilwoman Quintana
Absent:	None
Also Present:	Interim Chief Administrative Officer Carrillo, Interim City Attorney Casso, City Clerk Valdez, City Engineer Alvarado and Captain Miranda

Communications From The Public

None.

Closed Session

City Council recessed to Closed Session at 6:15:26 PM.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
(Government Code Section 54957(b)(1))
Title: City Attorney

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
(Government Code Section 54957(b)(1))
Title: Chief Administrative Officer

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
(Government Code Section 54957)
Title: Interim Chief Administrative Officer

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation
(Government Code Section 54956.9(c))
(One (1) potential case)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation
(Government Code Section 54956.9(b))
(Three (3) potential cases)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(a))
Name of Case: *Gormley v. City of Bell, et al*
Case No.: Los Angeles Superior Court BS130380

The City Council reconvened to open session at 7:38:22 PM.

Interim City Attorney Casso reported the following from closed session:

There was no reportable action on items 3.01, 3.02 and 3.03.

7:38:49 PM Councilman Valencia joined the closed session at 6:57 PM.

7:38:37 PM Agenda item 3.03 may be discussed again after item 13 on the agenda. Items 3.04, 3.05, 3.06 will be discussed after item 13 on the agenda in closed session.

Communications From The Public on Agenda Items, only

7:41:16 PM Donna Gannon, no address stated, asked why the city council was not attacking the largest part of the budget. Ms. Gannon expressed her concern that the Bell Police Department was too expensive.

7:43:22 PM Baldomero Marquez, no address stated, asked a question regarding a non-agenda item and whether there was a copy of the full agenda in the library.

7:46:11 PM Mayor Saleh responded that indeed there is a full copy of the agenda in the library.

7:46:29 PM Sandy Orozco, 4108 54th Street, Maywood, stated that respect is needed and urged the residents of Bell to respect our Council Members. Ms. Orozco asked if there have been any bids for the position of Chief Administrative Officer.

7:49:17 PM Mayor Saleh responded that this wasn't on the current agenda.

Council Business

7:50:36 PM It was moved by Vice Mayor Harber, Seconded by Councilman Valencia to approve Bell City Council Minutes, Bell Community Redevelopment Minutes, Bell Community Housing Authority Minutes, Bell Public Finance Authority Minutes and Bell Solid Waste Authority Minutes dated May 11, 2011 and Bell City Council Minutes dated May 18, 2011, with the amendment to state the use of city letterhead, in regards to Councilman Valencia's request.

7:52:14 PM

Vote:	5-0
Yes:	Mayor Saleh, Vice Mayor Harber, Councilwoman Alvarez, Councilwoman Quintana and Councilman Valencia.
No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Motion Unanimously Passed.

7:53:05 PM Councilman Valencia asked for details on check #47786 concerning Iceburg Construction's project at 4874 Gage Avenue.

7:54:01 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded to Councilman Valencia's concerns with Iceburg Construction's project.

7:54:07 PM Councilman Valencia asked about a charge to the city.

7:54:31 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded that the charge was levied against the city where the sheriff department issued a report that the city's own police department could not provide sufficient protection to the residents.

7:58:32 PM Mayor Saleh asked if the current construction on Alamo Avenue was approved by this council or a previous one.

7:58:44 PM City Engineer Alvarado stated this construction was approved by the city but is funded with federal money.

7:59:25 PM Mayor Saleh expressed concerns regarding looking into other bids for the new contracts.

8:00:47 PM Interim CAO Carillo assured Mayor Saleh every current contract will be reviewed and other bids will be sought.

8:01:35 PM Mayor Saleh stated it may be a good idea to have a binder with invoices ready on hand for City Hall meetings.

8:02:54 PM Councilman Valencia stated his support to have the binder for City Council meetings in the public.

8:05:21 PM Vice Mayor Harber expressed concerns that Medina Construction also does landscape much like Azteca Lanscape does.

8:06:02 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded to Vice Mayor Harber's concern.

8:06:12 PM It was moved by Mayor Saleh, Seconded by Councilwoman Quintana to approve the warrants through May 18-31, 2011 and June 1-7 and Reconsideration of warrant no. 47717 with the exception of both of the Old-Timers Foundation.

8:06:38 PM

Vote:	5-0
Yes:	Mayor Saleh, Vice Mayor Harber, Councilwoman Alvarez, Councilwoman Quintana and Councilman Valencia.
No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Motion Unanimously Passed.

8:09:57 PM Councilwoman Quintana asked about the working arrangement since there is no agreement.

8:10:32 PM Interim CAO Carillo assured Councilwoman Quintana that there will be an RFP process for every agreement and explained the process by which new contracts will be formulated.

8:13:28 PM Mayor Saleh asked City Engineer Alvarado if he has employees as well or if he is the only one with RSCC.

8:13:57 PM City Engineer Alvarado responded to Mayor Saleh that he is not the only one with RSCC.

8:15:13 PM Vice Mayor Harber expressed his concerns with the proposed project.

8:16:16 PM City Engineer responded to Vice Mayor Harber's concerns.

8:19:13 PM Mayor Saleh referred back to Sandy Orozco's questions about bidding out the project.

8:19:38 PM City Engineer Alvarado stated his firm needs to draw up the plans first.

8:20:49 PM Councilwoman Quintana asked to have a staff report that will explain the normal procedure for these projects.

8:21:46 PM It was moved by Councilman Valencia, seconded by Vice Mayor Harber to motion to authorize the implementation of the Street Rehabilitation (Florence Avenue) to be funded under STPL funds (Surface Transportation Project – Local) and further authorize City Engineer's office to complete Plans and Specifications at a cost not to exceed per attached proposal.

8:22:24 PM

Vote	3-0-2
Yes:	Mayor Saleh, Councilwoman Alvarez and Councilman Valencia
No:	None
Abstained	Vice Mayor Harbor and Councilwoman Quintana
Absent	None

Motion Unanimously Passed.

8:23:32 PM City Engineer Alvarado gave a staff report on agenda item 5.04

8:25:44 PM Councilwoman Alvarez asked if this work had already been done.

8:26:14 PM City Engineer Alvarado responded to Councilwoman Alvarez's inquiry.

8:27:47 PM It was moved by Councilwoman Quintana, seconded by Vice Mayor Harber to approve and accept all road rehabilitation work performed under this contract with Shawnan and file the Notice of Completion.

8:27:56 PM

Vote:	5-0
Yes:	Mayor Saleh, Vice Mayor Harber, Councilwoman Alvarez, Councilwoman Quintana

No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Motion Unanimously Passed.

8:28:29 PM Interim CAO Carillo Provided a staff report on agenda item 5.05.

8:29:59 PM Councilwoman Quintana asked about the difference of terms in the termination notice

8:30:42 PM Interim City Attorney Casso responded to Councilwoman Quintana's question.

8:33:00 PM Vice Mayor Harber asked why this agreement has taken so long in getting to the agenda if it is dated in January.

8:33:51 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded to Vice Mayor Harber's inquiry and assured him the agreement has only recently been made priority.

8:34:18 PM It was moved by Councilwoman Quintana, seconded by Vice Mayor Harber to approve the Renewal of General Services Agreement with the County of Los Angeles and authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement.

8:34:29 PM

Vote:	5-0
Yes:	Mayor Saleh, Vice Mayor Harber, Councilwoman Alvarez, Councilwoman Quintana
No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Community Redevelopment Agency

Bell Community Redevelopment Agency Minutes dated May 11, 2011. *(Item was approved under City Council Business item 5.01, therefore no action was required)*

8:35:40 PM Councilmember Valencia asked if the Chamber of Commerce draws on two accounts.

8:35:55 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded to Councilmember Valencia's question and clarified that the two are distinct from each other.

8:36:50 PM Consideration of Warrants through May 18-31, 2011 and June 1-7, 2011 were continued to the next meeting.

8:36:58 PM No items were identified for the next Community Redevelopment Agency meeting.

Community Housing Authority

Bell Community Housing Authority Minutes dated May 11, 2011. *(Item was approved under City Council Business item 5.01, therefore no action was required)*

8:37:34 PM Councilmember Valencia asked if the warrants through May 18-31, 2011 and June 1-7, 2011 go through the mobile home parks.

8:38:11 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded to Councilmember Valencia's question.

8:38:28 PM It was moved by Mayor Saleh, seconded by Vice Mayor Harber, to approve the warrants through May 18-31, 2011 and June 1-7 2011.

8:39:11 PM Vice Mayor Harber requested clarification on a JCR service.

8:39:14 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded to Vice Mayor Harber's question.

8:40:27 PM Mayor Saleh asked why doesn't Azteca Landscape cover the lawn service for the mobile home parks.

8:40:35 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded to Mayor Saleh that Azteca Landscape's contract does not define the services for the mobile home parks.

8:40:42 PM Councilman Valencia asked why the city is reimbursing a cell phone billing,

8:41:07 PM Interim CAO Carillo responded that he would look it up to better understand the reasons for it.

8:41:28 PM Councilwoman Alvarez inquired as to the status of the employment offering at the Bell Mobile Home Park.

8:42:19 PM Magdalena Prado, Senior Management Analyst, responded to Councilwoman Alvarez's request.

8:43:53 PM

Vote:	5-0
Yes:	Mayor Saleh, Vice Mayor Harber, Councilwoman Alvarez, Councilwoman Quintana

No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

8:44:21 PM Vice Mayor Harber requested an update on the employment openings.

8:44:44 PM Interim CAO Carrillo reminded the council he will bring a series of items that were referenced and discussed related to housing.

Public Finance Authority

Bell Public Finance Authority Minutes dated May 11, 2011. *(Item was approved under City Council Business item 5.01, therefore no action was required)*

8:45:35 PM Councilwoman Quintana provided a directive to follow up on the woman who came and gave a presentation on public law finance.

Solid Waste Authority

Bell Solid Waste Authority Minutes dated May 11, 2011. *(Item was approved under City Council Business item 5.01, therefore no action was required)*

No items were identified for the next Solid Waste Authority meeting.

X. Communications From The Public

8:47:14 PM Mayor Saleh stated he has received an email from Stephen Rogers regarding agenda items 5.01, 5.02, 5.03, and 5.04. Mayor Saleh provided a directive to the City Clerk to include the email as part of the minutes.

8:48:00 PM Nick Loannidis, no address stated, expressed his desire for the city council to nominate for a national immigrant day. Mr. Loannidis cited 800 cities in 49 states have already adopted this date.

8:51:16 PM Juliana Sanchez, 6920 Woodward Avenue, expressed her concern that residents may have been disrespected at the previous City Council meetings.

8:52:39 PM Carmen Bella, 6332 Palm Avenue, expressed that not only the BASTA group but the Police Department were involved in the recall process. Ms. Bella expressed her concern that the city was divided.

8:56:32 PM Irene Muro, 3355 East Gage Avenue, new Chief Executive Officer to the Old-Timers Foundation, commended their employees and Laura Miranda for the services they have provided to the senior citizens of Bell during the last few months.

9:00:50 PM Gisela Estrada, 6621 Chanslor Avenue, expressed her concern that the Old-Timers Foundation was at risk of being removed.

9:01:44 PM Mayor Saleh responded to Ms. Estrada's concern for the Old Timers Foundation and assured her that the services were not going to be removed.

9:02:10 PM Jose Magallon, 6227 Vinevale Avenue, expressed his concern with the selection of Aleshire & Wynder and his concern that the city was still divided.

9:03:48 PM Councilwoman Alvarez responded to Mr. Magallon's concerns of transparency.

9:05:37 PM Interim CAO Carrillo, responded to Mr. Magallon's concern over Aleshire & Wynder's use of the city logo during their presentation.

9:07:03 PM Sandy Orozco, 4108 East 54th Maywood, stated she researched and contacted the superior court regarding the Aleshire & Wynder conflict of interest issue and found no conflict of interest.

9:10:24 PM Griselda Garcia, 4020 Beck Avenue, expressed her concern with the economic state of the city and the current City Council.

9:12:37 PM Alfred Areyan, 7008 Vinevale Avenue, apologized if he had offended anyone at the last meeting and expressed his concern of the division of the community since the recall process.

9:15:19 PM Nora Saenz, 6602 Vinevale Avenue, requested to know the status on the commissions and expressed her concern of disrespect at City Council meetings.

9:19:53 PM Hassan Mourad, 6710 Flora Avenue, asked Councilwoman Quintana if she had done any pro-bono cases before and her motives for taking the case.

9:20:34 PM Councilwoman Quintana responded to Mr. Mourad's inquiry.

Interim Chief Administrative Officer's Report

9:22:19 PM Interim CAO Carrillo reported he will follow the directive to include a status report in writing from now on.

Mayor and City Council Communications

9:22:54 PM Councilwoman Alvarez reported she has been in contact with LAUSD and they would like to do a fair and presentation for the community.

9:23:44 PM Councilman Valencia reported he attended a ceremony on Memorial Day.

9:25:15 PM Mayor Saleh reported he has been in contact with Assembly Member Ricardo Lara regarding the audit and over 10 firms have applied to carry out this task so far.

Identification of Items for Next City Council Meeting.

9:26:04 PM Councilwoman Alvarez asked if she could add National Immigration Day onto the agenda.

9:26:37 PM Councilman Valenica expressed his recommendation to schedule National Immigration Day on 10/28/11 and requested staff to look into a fourth of July BBQ. Councilman Valencia asked if the city would be able to provide permits to groups who would like to sell fireworks. Councilman Valencia then spoke about issues of respect, differing opinions, and the selection of Aleshire & Wynder.

The City Council recessed to closed session at 9:32:09 PM.

The City Council reconvened to open session at 11:14:10 PM.

Interim City Attorney Casso reported the following from closed session:

11:14:13 PM As to item 3.03 and 3.04 there was no reportable action.

11:14:28 PM As to item 3.05 only two matters were discussed and there was a 4-0-1 vote with regards to direction to the Interim CAO and Interim City Attorney, the one abstention was Councilman Valencia.

11:14:54 PM As to item 3.06 there was direction given to the Interim City Attorney; the vote was 5-0.

Adjournment

City Council Meeting adjourned at 11:15:08 PM.

APPROVED THIS 27th DAY OF JULY 2011.

Ali Saleh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca Valdez, CMC, City Clerk

I, Rebecca Valdez, City Clerk of the City of Bell, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes were approved by the City Council of the City of Bell at a regular meeting held on this 27th day of July 2011 by the following vote.

AYES: Councilmember Alvarez, Quintana, Valencia, Vice Mayor Harber and Mayor Saleh

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Rebecca Valdez, CMC
City Clerk