Minutes of
Bell City Council
Bell Community Redevelopment Agency
Bell Community Housing Authority
Planning Commission

August 24, 2011
7:00 PM

Bell Community Center
6250 Pine Avenue

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Saleh at 7:05:26 PM.

7:05:32 PM Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Valencia.

7:08:34 PM Roll call of City Council in their capacities as Councilmembers, Community Redevelopment Agency Members, Community Housing Authority Commissioners and Planning Commissioners.

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

Presentations

Certificates of Appreciation to the League of California Cities, the International City & County Management Association and the California City Management Foundation for outstanding and generous support to the City of Bell.

Presentation of the CHP "10851" awards to Bell Police Officers John Walker, Jesse Garcia, and Chris Donahue for their Efforts in Auto Theft Investigations and Apprehensions.

Communications From The Public on Agenda Items Only

7:20:59 PM Jose Vasquez, Bell Business Association, thanked Ken Hampian for his work in the City of Bell and presented a plaque and welcomed Arne Croce.

7:26:45 PM Richard Espiritu, no address stated, expressed concern about the RFP and raised issues on the starting time.

7:30:13 PM Alfred Areyan, 7008 Vinevale Avenue, expressed concern about the RFP and past administration.

7:33:19 PM Efrain Solis, 6507 Heliotrope Avenue, expressed regarding the increase in water rates.

Council Business

7:37:01 PM It was moved by Councilman Valencia, seconded by Councilwoman Alvarez, to approve the Interim Chief Administrative Officer Agreement with Arne Croce and authorized the Mayor to execute.

7:37:33 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.

It was moved by Councilwoman Quintana, seconded by Vice Mayor Harber, to approve Resolution No. 2011-34 and adopt the Annual Appropriations Limit for the Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

7:42:07 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.

7:54:58 PM Discussion ensued among the City Council regarding the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget.

8:17:43 PM It was moved by Councilman Valencia, seconded by Councilwoman Alvarez, to adopt Resolution No. 2011-37 and adopt the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget.

8:16:15 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.

8:16:26 PM Discussion ensued among the City Council, Interim CAO Hampian and City Attorney Aleshire regarding the City Levy Bonds and Bond and Note Debt Review.

8:49:29 PM Miguel Angel Contreras, no address stated, expressed concern about the taxes.

8:53:07 PM Donna Gannon, 6601 Prospect Avenue, expressed concern about the taxes being raised, the high salaries, and the pension benefits.

8:55:29 PM Jose Magallon, 6227 Vinevale Avenue, expressed concern about implementing taxes.

8:57:45 PM Juliana Chico, 6920 Woodward Avenue, expressed concern about the taxes.

8:59:34 PM Rosario Aguiniga, 6316 Corona Avenue, expressed concern about the salaries at city hall and expressed concern about the services being provided.

9:02:40 PM Maria Arezmendin, 4630 Weik Avenue, expressed concern about the taxes and the full time employees getting paid high salaries. Requested the Council to do something good for the community and make a change.

9:05:48 PM Nelida Sanchez, no address stated, expressed concern about the city's situation.

9:07:14 PM Carmen Bella, 6332 Palm Avenue, welcomed the new ICAO. She expressed concern about the past administration and projects proposed.

9:10:55 PM Sonia Manzanilla, 5111 Southhall Lane, expressed concern about the situation the city is currently in.

9:14:19 PM Nora Saenz, no address stated, expressed concern about the taxes being proposed, is requesting for all city employees to have a salary reduction and requested the Council to forfeit their benefits.

9:18:41 PM Heliodoro Delgadillo, 7014 Vinevale Avenue, expressed concern about the taxes.

9:20:39 PM Richard Espiritu, no address stated, expressed concern resolution 2011-38.

9:24:45 PM Lorenzo Martinez, 6319 Loma Vista Avenue, welcomed Dave Aleshire and Mr. Arne Croce. Expressed concern about the taxes and stated that there are other issues that need to be address like the salaries.

9:28:04 PM Coco Ceja, 6936 Prospect Avenue, expressed concern about the bonds and recommended the Council to consider the idea of bankruptcy. She recommended to work out an agreement with the bond holders.

9:32:34 PM Ignacio Marquez, 7027 Crafton Avenue, expressed concern about the taxes and the salaries.

9:34:06 PM Alma Rico, 6207 Wilcox Avenue, thanked Mr. Hampian and welcomed Mr. Croce. She expressed concern about the budgeted amount in the skate park, and the services that were cut to the community.

9:38:12 PM Mayor Saleh requested Mr. Croce to look into the services that were cut.

9:38:36 PM Ismael Morales, no address stated, expressed concern about the property taxes, salaries and pensions.

9:42:12 PM City council recessed

9:53:41 PM City Council reconvened to open session.

9:53:57 PM Mr. Croce introduced himself to the community.

9:58:28 PM Jose Moreno, no address stated, welcomed Mr. Croce and expressed concern about the bonds, salaries, expenses and benefits.

10:04:22 PM Alfred Areyan, 7008 Vinevale Avenue, welcomed Mr. Alershire and Mr. Croce, expressed concern about the taxes, bonds and the money spent by the past administration.

10:06:54 PM Poly Rico, no address stated, expressed concern about the taxes, bonds and salaries. He requested the Council to consider filing for bankruptcy.

10:10:38 PM Mario Rivas, no address stated, expressed concern about the taxes. Requested the Council to come up with a plan in lowering taxes as the City of Maywood did and expressed concern about the city going into bankruptcy.

10:14:00 PM Arturo Lopez, 6800 Pala Avenue, thanked the City Council, expressed concern about the taxes.

10:16:40 PM Nora Saenz, no address stated, expressed concern about the recession and bonds.

10:18:38 PM Discussion ensued among the City Council.

10:45:47 PM It was moved by Councilman Valencia, seconded by Councilwoman Quintana, to approve the workout plan on the City Levy Bonds and Bond Note Debt Review.

10:46:06 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.

10:48:04 PM It was moved by Vice Mayor Harber, seconded by Councilwoman Alvarez, to adopt resolution no. 2011-38 setting the annual property tax levy rate for the Pension Revenue Obligations.

10:49:43 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.

10:54:33 PM It was moved by Councilwoman Alvarez, seconded by Vice Mayor Harber, to approve the Amendment to Professional Services Agreement for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Asbestos and Lead Contractor.

10:55:17 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.

It was moved by Councilwoman Quintana, seconded by Vice Mayor Harber, to adopt Resolution No. 2011-35 approving the One-Time Waiver of the Orangeline Development Authority (OLDA) Membership Dues for Fiscal Year 2011-2012.

10:57:40 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.

10:58:33 PM It was moved by Councilman Valencia, seconded by Councilwoman Quintana, to approve the Notice of Completion for the Resurfacing Improvement Project at Veterans Memorial Park.

10:59:25 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.

11:04:45 PM It was moved by Councilman Valencia, seconded by Mayor Saleh, to approve the Bell City Council, Bell Redevelopment Agency, Bell Community Housing Authority and Planning Commission Minutes dated July 13, 2011.

11:05:16 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.

11:11:47 PM It was moved by Councilman Valencia, seconded by Vice Mayor Harber, to approve Resolution No. 2011-36 Setting the Dates and Times of the City Council's Regular Meetings for September 2011.

11:12:26 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.

11:12:33 PM Discussion ensued among the City Council regarding the warrants.

11:24:46 PM It was moved by Mayor Saleh, seconded by Councilman Valencia, to approve the Warrants dated August 10-24, 2011 and pulled warrant no. 48300 made payable to Gateway Cities with the directive to send out a letter to Gateway Cities requesting them to waive the fees.

11:25:24 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.

11:29:18 PM It was moved by Councilwoman Quintana, seconded by Councilman Valencia, to approve to terminate the current para-transit and public works RFPs that are in circulation. Directed the Interim CAO to prepare improved RFPs for para-transit and public works services for distribution to a larger list of potential providers, after review and approval by the City Council, and extend the submittal deadline for the RFP for city engineering services to Friday, September 30, 2011.

11:30:07 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.

Community Redevelopment Agency

11:31:22 PM The Bell Community Redevelopment Agency convened to conduct their business meeting.

11:35:04 PM It was moved by Councilwoman Quintana, seconded by Councilman Valencia, to approve and authorize the Executive Director to Approve and Submit Enforceable Obligation Payment Schedule on Behalf of the Agency.

Vote:	5-0
Yes:	Chair Saleh, Vice Chair Harber, Agency Member Alvarez, Agency Member Quintana and Agency Member Valencia
No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Motion Unanimously Passed.

No items were identified for the next Community Redevelopment meeting.

Community Housing Authority

11:36:19 PM The Bell Community Housing Authority convened to conduct their business meeting.

It was moved by Councilwoman Quintana, seconded by Councilman Valencia, to approve the Warrants dated August 10-24, 2011.

Vote:	5-0
Yes:	Chair Saleh, Vice Chair Harber, Commissioner Alvarez, Commissioner Quintana and Commissioner Valencia
No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Motion Unanimously Passed.

No items were identified for the next Community Housing Authority.

Planning Commission

11:37:44 PM The Bell Planning Commission convened to conduct their business meeting.

11:37:47 PM Commissioner Valencia requested the Planning Commission to have community members be the Planning Commission.

11:38:30 PM Mr. Croce address Commissioner Valencia's request.

11:39:01 PM Commissioner Quintana, stated that the charter states the City Council serves as the Planning Commission.

Closed Session

11:40:01 PM The City Council and the related Authorities and Agencies recessed to a closed session to confer with legal counsel regarding the following matters:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Bell v. Best Best & Krieger;* LASC BC466436

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *McSweeney v. Bell*; LASC BC406337

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Corcoran v. Bell*; LASC BC442280

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Mann and Cook v. Hernandez*; LASC BC454053

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Mango v. City of Maywood*; USDC CV11-5641 GW (FFMx)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Ramirez v. County of Los Angeles*; USDC 11-CV-04057-JHN-MAN

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Camargo v. City of Bell*; LASC 11C00168

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Granite State Insurance Co. v. City of Bell*; LASC 10C02353

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Montebello USD v. County of Los Angeles, et al.*; LASC BS127286

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Los Angeles Community College District v. County of Los Angeles, et al.*; LASC BS130308

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Gormley v. City of Bell*; LASC BS130380

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Community Housing Authority v. Lahti*; LASC HP09U01500

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION
(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9);
Name of case: *Community Housing Authority v. Gonzalez;* LASC 10U01242

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9: (12 (including 10 unlawful detainer cases))

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9: (5)

City Council reconvened to open session at 12:53:26 AM.

12:53:34 AM City Attorney Aleshire provided a report from closed session items: staff reports were given on each item, no reportable actions taken.

Communications From The Public

None.

Identification of Items for Next City Council Meeting.

12:54:58 AM Councilman Valencia reminded the Council and residents of declaring 10/28/11 as National Immigrants Day.

12:55:24 AM Councilwoman Quintana informed the Councils and residents that Mayor Ali Saleh and Christina Garcia were honored as democrats of the year.

Mayor and City Council Communications

Vice Mayor Harber informed the Council that he will not be in at the next meeting.

Adjournment

City Council meeting adjourned at 12:56:34 AM.

APPROVED THIS 26th DAY OF OCTOBER 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 26th day of October 2011 by the following vote.

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

NAES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Rebecca Valdez, CMC, City Clerk