



**MINUTES OF MENDOTA  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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**Special Meeting**

**May 31, 2016**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Silva at 3:01 p.m.

Roll Call

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Robert Silva, Councilors Joseph Amador, Rolando Castro, and Joseph Riofrio (at 3:14 p.m.).

**Council Members Absent:** Mayor Pro Tem Valdez.

Flag salute led by Mayor Silva.

**FINALIZE THE AGENDA**

1. Adjustments to Agenda.
2. Adoption of final Agenda.

A motion was made by Councilor Amador to adopt the agenda, seconded by Councilor Castro; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Riofrio and Valdez).

**CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS**

None offered.

**BUSINESS**

1. Introduction of **Ordinance No. 16-06**: An Ordinance Authorizing a Contract between the City Council of the City of Mendota and the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System, and Give First Reading, by Title only, with Second Reading waived.

Mayor Silva introduced the item and Director of Administrative Services Johnson summarized the report including researching additional information pertaining to the

annual trend for Public Employee Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) Miscellaneous employers' contribution rate for cities of similar size; marginal increases that neighboring cities are experiencing; trends fluctuating on an annual basis; the benefits of being a small city and participating in California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS); and the various cities that are currently participating in CalPERS.

Discussion was held on the majority of employees being in favor of participating in CalPERS; the trends that other cities experience in regards to contribution rates; the uncertainty on what the employer contribution rate will be each year; the insecurity of contributing to a 401(K) plan; how the implementation of CalPERS will affect the city's budget; the causes for high retirement costs for public safety employees; police safety employees union members voting unanimously to decline participating in CalPERS; whether the City can afford CALPERS (3:14 p.m. Councilor Riofrio entered the Council Chambers and Councilor Castro left the Council Chambers); staff's recommendation to move forward with the item and adopt the CalPERS plan for employees' (3:16 p.m. Councilor Castro returned to the Council Chambers); the possibility of tabling the item in order for staff to conduct further research; the time sensitivity of the item; the difference in demographics between Mendota and the cities of Kerman and Firebaugh; and the uncertainty of what the City's actual contributions will be.

A motion was made to continue the item to the June 7<sup>th</sup> Special City Council meeting in order for staff to do additional research by Councilor Amador, seconded by Councilor Castro; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Valdez).

Discussion was held on whether part-time employees would also participate in CalPERS and staff researching what the League of California Cities' opinion is on CalPERS, the amount of cities in Fresno County that are CalPERS members, and why cities are leaving CalPERS (whether it was before or after the adoption of PEPRA).

2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 16- 36**, approving a contract between the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees' Retirement System and the City of Mendota.

A motion was made to continue the item to the June 7<sup>th</sup> Special City Council meeting by Councilor Amador, seconded by Councilor Castro; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Valdez).

3. Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Budget Workshop.

Mayor Silva introduced the item and City Manager DiMaggio summarized the report including the change of format for the budget workshops; the various Enterprise Funds that the City maintains (3:32 p.m. Councilor Castro left the Council Chambers); the City needing to focus its attention on the Sewer Operation and Water Operation Funds since they rely on customer rate revenues; the percentage that each fund contributes to salaries; the improvement that the fund balance in the Water Operations Fund has made due to the increase in water rates; funding projects in the Capital Improvement

Plan; the status of submitting the insurance claim for the B&B Bridge; and various water fund projects in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Discussion was held on the status of the insurance claim regarding the B&B Bridge; the projects in the CIP; the well contract between the City and farmers; and the improvement that the water operations fund has made as a result of increasing the water rates.

City Manager DiMaggio reported on the proposed budget for the Sewer Operations Fund including the current fund conditions not allowing for loan-type financing; funds currently covering daily operations and existing debt; the fund improving as a result of the sewer rate increase; projects that have been allocated funding; and consolidating the Public Works and Public Utilities departments.

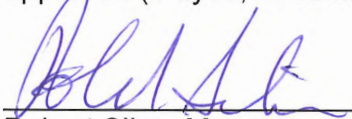
Discussion was held on the personnel levels within the Public Utilities and Public Works departments; the possibility of having an in-house Chief Plant Operator; current employees that can acquire the necessary certification to qualify for the Chief Plant Operator position; the possibility of hiring an Assistant Public Works Director; whether the revenue that will be generated from the proposed homes at the Las Palmas subdivision has been included in the budget; the increase in demand for homes within the City; the possibility of seeking other developers who might be interested in developing homes in the City; the status of the tertiary treatment facility; and improving the conditions of Pool Park.

City Manager DiMaggio reported on the Measure C LTF, and Gas Tax funds including various street projects that are included in the budget; and the amount of funding that has been allocated for street projects.

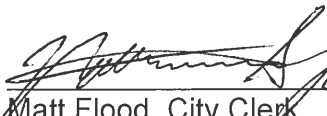
Discussion was held on reconstructing a section of Marie Street; the timeline of the 7<sup>th</sup> Street realignment; the total amount of funds that are being allocated for street projects; acquiring grant funding for additional street projects; acquiring a new grant consultant; the Air Rally Event that was held recently; the possibility of selling aviation fuel at the Mendota Airport; the demand for aviation fuel; the City applying for Measure C New Technology Funds in order to fund an aviation project; and Council provided direction to staff to research the costs of selling aviation fuel, the costs of reconstructing a section of Marie Street, and issues related to the CalPERS item.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 4:48 p.m. by Councilor Amador, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Valdez).

  
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Robert Silva, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Matt Flood, City Clerk

