



MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

March 12, 2024

Meeting called to order by Mayor Martinez at 6:02 PM

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Victor Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem Libertad “Liberty” Lopez, Council Members Jose Alonso and Joseph Riofrio

Council Members Absent: Council Member Oscar Rosales

Flag salute led by Albert Escobedo

Invocation led by Police Chaplain Ophelia Lugo

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

A motion was made by Council Member Alonso to adopt the agenda, seconded by Council Member Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

PRESENTATIONS

1. Chief of Police Smith to introduce Police Officer Brady Crenshaw and Police Officer Sylvia Vasquez.

Chief of Police Smith introduced Police Officer Sylvia Vasquez and shared her background.

Officer Vasquez thanked the City Council and community for the opportunity to serve and introduced her family.

The City Council congratulated Officer Vasquez and welcomed her to the community.

Chief of Police Smith introduced Police Officer Brady Crenshaw and shared his background.

Officer Crenshaw thanked the City Council and community for the opportunity to serve.

The City Council congratulated Officer Crenshaw and welcomed him to the community.

2. Keith Bergthold with Regenerate California Innovation, Inc. to provide information on the proposed non-profit organization: Community Energy Fresno.

Keith Bergthold with Regenerate California Innovation, Inc. provided information on the development of solar projects in the Central Valley and the possibility of establishing Community Energy Fresno (dba Comunidades de Energia, Fresno) a multi-community nonprofit that will work to represent communities and work towards securing community benefit agreements with energy developers.

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Martha Cabrera shared her concerns about the residents of a home on Lolita Street.

Discussion was held on the concerns shared by Ms. Cabrera.

Raymond Aquino shared his concerns about the residents of a home on Lolita Street.

Discussion was held on the concerns shared by Mr. Aquino.

Kevin Romero provided an update on youth sports.

Gabriel Morales and Norben Alba stated that they represent Ministerio Jehova Jireh and that the church is in search for property to purchase.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Mr. Morales and Mr. Alba.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of February 27, 2024
2. Notice of waiving of the reading of all resolutions and/or ordinances introduced and/or adopted under this agenda.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and will be considered separately.

1. FEBRUARY 14, 2024 THROUGH FEBRUARY 29, 2024
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 54521 THROUGH 54580
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$682,009.34
2. Proposed ratification of a letter of support for Organización Las Panchas.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-12**, authorizing the City Manager to release the final payment of retention to Doug Ross, Inc. dba Central Valley Asphalt, the general contractor of the Fleming Avenue & McCabe Avenue Street Reconstruction Project.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-13**, conditionally approving Exclusive Facility Use Permit Applications submitted by organizations for the exclusive use of City of Mendota facilities for 2024.
5. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-14**, approving a one-year contract extension with NetXperts for IT managed services and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.

A request was made to pull item 4 for discussion.

A motion was made by Council Member Riofrio to approve items 1, 2, 3, and 5, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-13**, conditionally approving Exclusive Facility Use Permit Applications submitted by organizations for the exclusive use of City of Mendota facilities for 2024.

Discussion was held on conditionally approving all of the applications with the exception of the applications requesting use of the Danny Trejo Soccer Field until the City is able to consider and adopt a facility use policy.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez to adopt Resolution No. 24-13, with the modification that Facility Use Application numbers 24-06 and 24-08 be denied since they would result in unusual expense to the City and will unreasonably interfere with or detract from the promotion of public health, welfare, safety, or recreational activities in the City by damaging City facilities, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. City Engineer
 - a) Update

City Engineer Osborn provided an update on City projects including the status of the streetlight mapping project, and the pedestrian walkway that the California Department of Transportation is currently constructing on State Highway 33.

Discussion was held on the status of the federal funding that was championed by Congressman Duarte for street reconstruction projects in the City; the Pool Park Rehabilitation Project; and upcoming street projects.

2. City Attorney

Nothing to report.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez thanked the residents that attended the meeting to voice their concerns; commented on the Recreation Commission discussing and considering a facility use policy, and the City Council considering the item in the near future; inquired as to whether the Council would like to hold a goal setting meeting on March 14th; reported on the upcoming federal advocacy trip; and on the City Council's budget request priorities.

Discussion was held on the status of the Vista Square development and talking points for federal advocacy trip.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Council Member Riofrio commented on people playing soccer at the basketball courts at Rojas-Pierce Park; traffic congestion issues caused by the timing of the traffic light at the intersection of 9th and Oller Streets; and on the City Council recognizing the Mendota Wrestling team at a future meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez commented on traffic congestion issues caused by the timing of the traffic light at the intersection of 9th and Oller Streets; thanked the audience for attending the meeting and those who shared their concerns; thanked the City Council and staff for their support; and commented on the upcoming federal advocacy trip.

Council Member Alonso thanked the audience for attending the meeting and those who shared their concerns; commented on the condition of the Danny Trejo Soccer Field; commented on the upcoming drag races at the William Robert Johnston Municipal Airport, and on the federal funding that was championed by Congressman Duarte for street reconstruction projects in the City.

2. Mayor

Mayor Martinez thanked the residents who shared their concerns; commented on the positive projects that are coming to fruition; and shared information about the 2nd Annual Silva Strong 5K Run and Walk.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to Government Code sections 54954.5, subdivision (f), 54957.6
 - a. Agency Designated Representative: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager
 - b. Employee Organization: Mendota Police Officers Association

2. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8
Property: 1758 7th Street, Mendota, CA 93640
Agency Negotiator: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager
Negotiating Party: Gabriel Guillen
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9 (two potential cases).

4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9 (one potential case).

5. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8
Property: 643 Quince Street, Mendota, CA 93640
Agency Negotiator: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager
Negotiating Party: United Security Bank
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

At 7:09 p.m. the City Council moved into closed session.

At 8:26 p.m. the City Council reconvened in open session and City Attorney Kinsey stated that in regard to items 1 through 5 of the closed session there were no reportable actions.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:26 p.m. by Council Member Alonso, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

Victor Martinez
Victor Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:

Celeste Cabrera-Garcia
Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

