

## MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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**Regular Meeting**

**July 23, 2024**

**Meeting called to order by Mayor Martinez at 6:00 PM**

**Roll Call**

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Victor Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem Libertad “Liberty” Lopez and Council Members Joseph Riofrio and Oscar Rosales (at 6:01 p.m.)

**Council Members Absent:** Council Member Jose Alonso

**Flag salute led by Council Member Riofrio in honor of Police Chaplain Robert Salinas.**

**Invocation led by Police Chaplain Robert Salinas.**

### **FINALIZE THE AGENDA**

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

City Manager Gonzalez requested that Closed Session Item 4 be tabled to a future meeting and Mayor Martinez requested that Business Item 1 be tabled to a future meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Rosales to adopt the modified agenda as requested, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

### **CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS**

Kyle Savage provided an update on H.R. 8495 – EV Fair Trade Act of 2024.

Discussion was held on the update provided by Mr. Savage.

Kevin Romero provided an update on local sports.

Discussion was held on the update provided by Mr. Romero.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING**

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of July 9, 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 Council Member Riofrio to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. JULY 2, 2024 THROUGH JULY 16, 2024
  - a. WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 55057 THROUGH 55119
  - b. TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$1,083,625.88
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-39**, approving an Administrative Services Agreement with T. Rowe Price Retirement Plan Services, Inc. for the City of Mendota's 401K Profit Sharing Plan.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-40**, ratifying the Coronavirus State Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Subrecipient Agreement with the County of Fresno and approving an Obligation Timeline Agreement thereto.

A motion was made by Council Member Rosales to approve items 1 through 3 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Council Member Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

### **BUSINESS**

- ~~1. Council discussion and consideration of appointing a City Councilmember to serve on the Recreation Commission.~~

*Business Item 1 was tabled to a future meeting.*

2. Council discussion and consideration of waiving the second reading and adoption of **Ordinance No. 24-04**, amending the official City of Mendota Zoning Map in the matter of Rezone No. 24-01.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal provided the report.

Discussion was held on the report provided by City Planner O'Neal.

*Mayor Martinez opened the public comment period and seeing no one willing to comment closed it within the same minute.*

A motion was made by Council Member Rosales to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 24-04, seconded by Council Member Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

3. Council discussion and consideration of waiving the second reading and adoption of **Ordinance No. 24-05**, amending the official City of Mendota Zoning Map in the matter of Rezone No. 24-02.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal provided the report.

*Mayor Martinez opened the public comment period and seeing no one willing to comment closed it within the same minute.*

A motion was made by Council Member Rosales to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 24-05, seconded by Council Member Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 24-41**, confirming the diagram and authorizing the levy and collection of assessments for Landscape and Lighting Maintenance District No. 2019-01 for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and City Engineer Osborn provided the report.

*At 6:15 p.m. Mayor Martinez left the City Council Chambers.*

Discussion was held on the report provided by City Engineer Osborn.

*At 6:19 Mayor Pro Tem Lopez opened the hearing to the public and seeing no willing to comment closed it within the same minute.*

A motion was made by Council Member Riofrio to adopt Resolution No. 24-41, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Alonso and Martinez).

2. Council discussion and consideration of the continued introduction and waiver of the first reading of **Ordinance No. 24-06**, amending Mendota Municipal Code Section 17.024.080 in the matter of Application No. 24-30.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal provided the report.

*At 6:20 p.m. Mayor Martinez returned to the City Council Chambers.*

Discussion was held on the report provided by City Planner O'Neal.

*At 6:22 p.m. Mayor Martinez opened the hearing to the public.*

Joseph Amador inquired into a mobile trailer home that is located at 855 Quince Street.

Discussion was held on the inquiry made by Mr. Amador.

Carl Castro requested clarification on what section of the Mendota Municipal Code would be modified under Ordinance No. 24-06.

Discussion was held on the comment made by Mr. Castro.

*At 6:25 p.m. Mayor Martinez closed the hearing to the public.*

A motion was made by Mayor Martinez to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 24-06, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

### **CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS (Continued)**

Cristian Cruz stated that he requested a police report from the Mendota Police Department ("MPD") and that they were unwilling to provide it to him; commented on liability insurance for the MPD; his desire to repair the relationship between the MPD and community members; the need for state laws to be stricter on individuals who violate the law; and inquired into whether Chief of Police Smith would be willing to sign his nomination papers for the November 5, 2024 presidential election.

Discussion was held on the comments shared by Mr. Cruz.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Animal Control, Code Enforcement, and Police Department
  - a) June Monthly Logs

Chief of Police Smith provided an update on a homicide that recently occurred in the City; provided the monthly update for the Code Enforcement department, including the recent hire of a new Community Service Officer and provided the monthly update for the Animal Control Department, including an update on a new animal control facility.

Discussion was held on the update provided by Chief Smith and the Mendota Police Department's newly formed Homeless Engagement And Response Team.

2. City Attorney

Assistant City Attorney Castro had nothing to report.



### 3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez provided an update on a new solar light that was installed near the City Hall parking lot.

Discussion was held on the update provided by City Manager Gonzalez; the Streetlight Data Collection and Mapping Project; Starbucks opening in the City; requests for qualifications that were received from architectural and engineering firms for consultant services for the Community Center Project; purchasing body-worn cameras for MPD; the California Highway Patrol enforcing traffic violations in the City; the status of the new Police Department and City Council Chambers Project; the Roundabout Project on State Highways 180 and 33; the City Council changing the date of regular meetings to the first and third Tuesday of each month; planned road repair projects in the City; the Pool Park Rehabilitation Project and the upcoming drag racing event at the William Robert Johnston Municipal Airport.

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### 1. Council Member(s)

Council Member Rosales commented on the proposed new church in the City; congratulated Mayor Martinez on being named the new Chief Business Officer for Golden Plains Unified School District and thanked everyone who attended the meeting.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Council Member Rosales and the development of new apartments in the City.

Council Member Riofrio thanked City staff and the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez commented on a commercial for Congressman John Duarte that she will appear in alongside Mayor Martinez; additional funding that the City may receive for the Community Center Project that was championed by Congressman Duarte; a mental health youth summit held by Fresno County and Westside Youth, Inc.; thanked the City Clerk's Department for providing water to individuals at the Department of Motor Vehicles ("DMV"); commented on the possibility of having an additional waiting area at the DMV; the possibility of the DMV relocating into a bigger building and thanked City staff for their work.

Discussion was held on the update provided by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; the DMV no longer offering appointments to individuals, and the possibility of sending letters to the DMV requesting additional service days in the City.

### 2. Mayor

Mayor Martinez thanked City staff and the City Council for their work; commented on the need to address trash being dumped throughout the City; the Mendota Chamber of Commerce; and on the Streetlight Data Collection and Mapping Project.

Discussion was held on the update provided by Mayor Martinez.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS  
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8  
Property: APNs 012-160-25S, 012-190-56, 012-190-25ST, 012-190-09T, and 012-190-26ST  
Agency Negotiator: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager  
Negotiating Party: Westlands Water District  
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
2. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS  
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8  
Property: APN 013-061-18T  
Agency Negotiator: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager  
Negotiating Party: Ramon Gonzalez  
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
3. 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).
- ~~4. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION  
Pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54957  
Title: City Manager~~

At 6:53 p.m. the City Council moved into closed session.

At 7:23 p.m. the City Council reconvened in open session and Assistant City Attorney Castro stated that in regard to items 1 through 3 there were no reportable actions.

### **BUSINESS (Continued)**

4. Council discussion and consideration of formal response to Silver Creek Drainage District's Proposed Assessments.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and Assistant City Attorney Castro provided the report.

A motion was made by Mayor Martinez to direct staff to provide a formal response to Silver Creek Drainage District's proposed assessments, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

5. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 24-42**, authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents required to effect the purchase of Fresno County

Assessor's Parcel Number 013-222-02.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and Assistant City Attorney Castro provide the report.

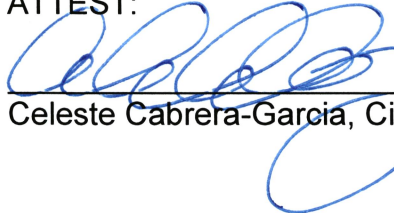
A motion was made by Council Member Riofrio to adopt Resolution No. 24-42, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 7:26 p.m. by Council Member Riofrio, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

  
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Victor Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

