

MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

August 20, 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 Jose Alonso, Joseph Riofrio and Oscar Rosales

Council Members Absent: None

Flag salute led by Council Member Rosales

Invocation led by Police Chaplain Robert Salinas

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

City Manager Gonzalez stated that an updated contract has been distributed to the City Council in relation to Consent Calendar Item 4 and to be included with Resolution No. 24-45.

A motion was made by Council Member Riofrio to adopt the modified agenda as requested by staff, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

PRESENTATIONS

1. City Council to recognize the Joaquin Murrieta Tradición y Cultura committee for their efforts in organizing the Annual Horse Ride.

The Joaquin Murrieta Tradición y Cultura committee (“Committee”) was recognized by the City Council for their efforts in organizing the Annual Horse Ride.

The Committee thanked the City Council for the recognition and shared information on the annual horse ride.

The City Council thanked the Committee for their work.

2. Chief of Police Smith to introduce the Homeless Engagement And Response Team (HEART).

Chief of Police Smith introduced the Homeless Engagement And Response Team (“HEART”); shared information on their work; thanked the Mendota Public Works Department for their work with HEART; and thanked Officer Yaghoubi for his work with HEART.

Discussion was held on the information shared by Chief Smith; HEART’s work with unhoused community members in the City; unhoused community members who do not want to receive assistance from HEART; and a recent fire at an encampment in the City.

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Omar Hernandez introduced himself and shared information on his candidacy for the West Hills Community College District Governing, Trustee Area No. 6.

Discussion was held on the information shared by Mr. Hernandez.

Karina Beltran inquired into whether the City will be able to lease City-owned property to La Granja de Favian (“La Granja”).

Discussion was held on the inquiry made by Karina Beltran and possibly discussing leasing City-owned property to La Granja during closed session at a future City Council meeting.

Ofelia Ochoa commented in favor of the City Council discussing leasing City-owned property to La Granja during closed session at a future City Council meeting; the desire to get started with La Granja and commented on various agencies who are willing to offer their support to La Granja, including the Mendota Unified School District (“MUSD”).

Discussion was held on the comments shared by Ms. Ochoa and possibly asking MUSD for assistance in acquiring a location for La Granja.

Richard Rodriguez commented on unlicensed security companies conducting business in the City and requirements that security companies need to meet in order to legally operate.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Mr. Rodriguez; the need to ensure that all security companies in the City are operating legally; City staff ensuring that security

companies meet all requirements when working events taking place at City-owned facilities, and unlicensed security companies being contracted by private parties to work at various halls in the City.

Kevin Romero provided an update on local high school sports.

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

Ignacio Larios commented on various ice cream vendors conducting business in the City without a business license; and the affects these unlicensed ice cream vendors have had on his own ice cream business.

Discussion was held on the comments shared by Mr. Larios; Mr. Larios possibly meeting with City Manager Gonzalez and Chief Smith to help address the issue; the effect that unlicensed ice cream vendors have on other businesses; whether the City would be able to confiscate ice cream carts from individuals operating without a business license; and bringing this issue to a future City Council meeting to see what can be done to address it, including possibly revisiting Ordinance No. 23-03.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of July 25, 2024 and special City Council meeting of August 8, 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 (5 ayes).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. JULY 17, 2024 THROUGH AUGUST 9, 2024
 - a. WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 55120 THROUGH 55216
 - b. TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$1,011,073.35
2. Proposed ratification of a letter of support for the Fresno Council of Governments' Fiscal Year 2024 Safe Streets and Roads for all Planning Grant Application.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-44**, approving the Consultant Services Agreement and Proposal from Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group for ongoing website management services.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-45**, approving the proposal submitted by Gerald Mele & Associates, Inc. for architectural and engineering services for the Mendota Community Center project and authorizing the City Manager to execute all

necessary documents.

5. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-46**, authorizing the creation of the position of Assistant Public Works Director and approving its respective job description and salary schedule.
6. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-47**, approving an amendment to the employment contract of the City Manager.

A motion was made by Council Member Rosales to approve items 1 through 6 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and consideration of waiving the second reading and adoption of **Ordinance No. 24-06**, amending Mendota Municipal Code Section 17.024.080 in the matter of Application No. 24-30.

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. 24-06, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

2. Discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 24-48**, appointing voting delegates for the League of California Cities' Annual Conference General Assembly.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia provided the report.

Discussion was held on the report provided by City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia.

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 Mayor Martinez to appoint Mayor Victor Martinez as the voting delegate and Council Members Oscar Rosales and Jose Alonso as the alternate voting delegates and adopt Resolution No. 24-48, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

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

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia provided the report. Discussion was held on the report provided by City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia.

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 appoint Council Member Riofrio to serve on the Recreation Commission, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 24-49**, in its capacity as the Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency, adopting the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and City Manager Gonzalez provided the report.

Discussion was held on the report provided by City Manager Gonzalez; water usage in the City for agricultural purposes and an upcoming webinar to discuss the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

At 7:01 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez left the Council Chambers.

At 7:01 p.m. Mayor Martinez opened the hearing to the public and seeing no one willing to comment closed it within the same minute.

A motion was made by Council Member Alonso to adopt Resolution No 24-49, seconded by Council Member Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Lopez).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

Chief of Police Smith provided the monthly update for the Animal Control Department, Code Enforcement Department and Police Department.

At 7:02 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez returned to the Council Chambers.

Discussion was held on the update provided by Chief Smith; the need to keep the City clean; unlicensed young individuals driving in the City; the purchase of the body-worn cameras that will be worn by the Mendota Police Department (“MPD”); and the MPD’s new mobile command post, including the mobile command post being purchased through a grant that the MPD received from the California Office of Traffic Safety.

2. City Attorney

Assistant City Attorney Castro had nothing to report.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez provided an update on a meeting he held with Family Options, including their desire to provide services to adults with disabilities in the City; the status of a potential new housing development; an upcoming meeting with Assemblywoman Esmeralda Soria to discuss a Westland's Water District solar project; the upcoming National Night Event; introduced Gerald Mele & Associates, Inc. who will be working on the Mendota Community Center Project and thanked the City Council for their support and work.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Council Member Rosales thanked everyone in attendance and thanked staff for their work.

Council Member Riofrio commented on the Ray Camacho Tribute Event.

Discussion was held on the Ray Camacho Tribute Event.

Council Member Alonso commented on individuals illegally parking in handicapped parking spots.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez thanked everyone in attendance and thanked staff and the City Council for their work.

2. Mayor

Mayor Martinez thanked every in attendance; thanked staff for their work; commented on the Community Center Project; the Roundabout Project on State Highways 180 and 33 and the Streetlight Data Collection and Mapping Project.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Mayor Martinez; the need for businesses in the City to improve their lighting; the new Police Department and City Council Chambers; the Starbucks opening in the City; the improvement of City roads; different funding that has been received to improve City roads; the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission opening a satellite office in the City; the Fresno Council of Governments efforts to allocate 100 million in funding for communities located in the westside of Fresno County; a new solar project near the City; the need to support local businesses; and the need to support undocumented individuals in the City.

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
Potential initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9 (one potential case).

A motion was made by Council Member Rosales to move into closed session, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

At 7:29 p.m. the City Council moved into closed session.

At 7:55 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.

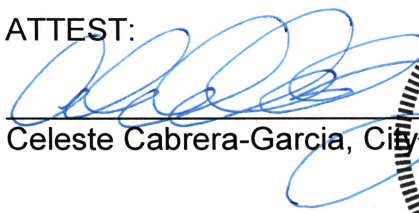
ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 7:55 p.m. by Council Member Rosales, seconded by Council Member Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).



Victor Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

