

MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

November 19, 2024

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

Roll Call

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

Council Members Absent: Mayor Victor Martinez and Council Member Oscar Rosales

Flag salute led by Administrative Services Director/Assistant City Manager Lekumberry

Invocation led by Police Chaplain Robert Salinas

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 (3 ayes, absent: Martinez and Rosales).

PRESENTATIONS

1. Chief of Police Smith to provide an update on the Mendota Police Department’s “No Shave November” contest, and request that the City Council select a contest winner.

Chief Smith provided an update on the Mendota Police Department’s (“MPD”) “No Shave November” contest (the “Contest”); and introduced all of the MPD officers participating in the Contest.

Discussion was held on the MPD's "No Shave November" contest, including selecting a winner for the Contest.

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Ofelia Ochoa commented on her excitement for the Mendota Community Center Project to be completed and inquired about the possibility of holding an event for special needs children in the City, including possibly holding events for special needs children at the Mendota Community Center and commented on the MPD's "No Shave November" contest.

Kevin Romero provided an update on youth sports.

Discussion was held on the update provided by Mr. Romero and on the 2024 Mendota Unified School District Board of Trustees Election.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of October 1, 2024 and the special City Council meetings of October 11, 2024 and October 29, 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 Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Martinez and Rosales).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. OCTOBER 24, 2024 THROUGH OCTOBER 25, 2024
 - a. WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 55481 THROUGH 55534
 - b. TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$1,373,991.64
2. OCTOBER 28, 2024 THROUGH NOVEMBER 7, 2024
 - a. WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 55535 THROUGH 55612
 - b. TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$1,984,988.24
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-65**, approving the quotes submitted by Jim Manning Dodge, Inc. and Cook's Communications and authorizing the purchase of two vehicles for the Police Department.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-66**, accepting and filing the Community Facilities District No. 2006-1 Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.
5. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 24-67**, approving an amendment to the lease agreement between the City of Mendota and BB Limited LP.

Council Member Riofrio requested information on Consent Calendar Items 1 and 2.

Discussion was held on Consent Calendar Items 1, 2 and 5.

A motion was made by Council Member Riofrio to approve items 1 through 5 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Martinez and Rosales).

BUSINESS

1. City Council discussion and consideration of the proposed layout for the Mendota Community Center.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez introduced the item and City Manager Gonzalez provided information on the item and introduced Wendy Wilson with Gerald Mele & Associates, Inc.

Wendy Wilson presented information on the item, including a proposed layout for the Mendota Community Center.

Discussion was held on the information provided by Ms. Wilson; the Amador and Smoot Extension Project adding additional parking that can be used for the Mendota Community Center; and the excitement for the Mendota Community Center.

At 6:44 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez opened the public comment period.

Joshua Garcia commented on the need to honor veterans in the City; whether the existing Rojas-Pierce Park parking lot will be reconstructed; and whether Westside Youth Inc's Open Market will continue to operate in the Rojas-Pierce Park parking lot.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Mr. Garcia and the City's request for additional funding for the Mendota Community Center Project.

Albert Escobedo inquired into whether the Senior Center will have its own dedicated restroom.

At 6:49 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Lopez closed the public comment period.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

Chief Smith provided the report for the Animal Control Department including statistics, commented on stray dog rehoming efforts done by volunteer Veronica Gill and on the continued construction of the new animal shelter and kennels.

Chief Smith provided an update on the Police Department including crime statistics being lower than the City of Kerman for the first time ever; crime decreasing in the wintertime; provided a personnel update; and commented on bringing an item to the City Council to consider approving additional police officers.

Discussion was held on the information provided by Chief Smith; the status of the body worn cameras; and Officer Alcazar graduating on Friday, November 22 from the Police Academy.

2. City Engineer
 - a) Presentation of the American Public Works Association Central California Chapter's Public Works Project of the Year award for the Mendota Stormwater Improvement Project

City Engineer Osborn presented the American Public Works Association Central California Chapter's Public Works Project of the Year award ("Award") for the Mendota Stormwater Improvement Project ("Project") and provided information on the Project.

City Manager Gonzalez provide background information on the Project.

Discussion was held on the Award; the status of the Derrick and Oller Roundabout; on the Street Reconstruction Project that will be funded through funding secured by Congressman John Duarte and on the Street Lighting Project.

3. City Attorney

Assistant City Attorney Castro commented on the enforcement of Big Rig Trucks parking in the City and All-Terrain Vehicles, including providing suggestions at a future meeting when all City Council Members are present.

4. City Manager
 - a) Holiday incentive for staff

City Manager Gonzalez commented on a holiday incentive for staff, including what has been done in the past; a programmable logistical controller ("PLC") malfunctioning at the City's Water Plant, including the need to purchase a new PLC; thanked staff for their work on behalf of Mayor Martinez; and commented on the Police Department and City Council Chambers Grand Opening event.

Discussion was held on providing a survey to staff to receive input on a holiday incentive; working with the City Attorney's office with regard to providing a holiday incentive; and a request to place Christmas lights on light posts along 7th Street.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Council Member Alonso thanked everyone in attendance and staff, commented on upcoming events, including the 2nd Annual Christmas Celebration and Toy Giveaway and the Police Department and City Council Chambers Grand Opening event and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Council Member Riofrio thanked everyone in attendance, staff and the Council for their work.

2. Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez thanked staff and requested that City Engineer Osborn provide a presentation on street reconstruction projects; and thanked everyone in attendance.

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

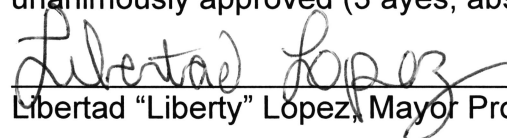
2. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8
Property: APN 013-050-21T
Agency Negotiator: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager
Negotiating Party: Karina Beltran
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

At 7:11 p.m. the City Council moved into closed session.

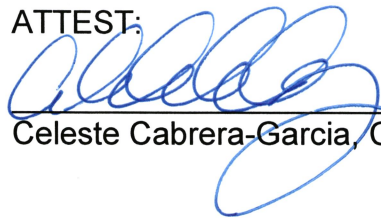
At 8:12 p.m. the City Council reconvened in open session and Assistant City Attorney Castro stated that in regard to items 1 and 2 there were no reportable actions.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:12 p.m. by Council Member Alonso, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Martinez and Rosales).


Libertad "Liberty" Lopez, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

