



MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

January 12, 2021

Meeting called to order by Mayor Castro at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Rolando Castro, Mayor Pro Tem Jesus Mendoza, Councilors Jose Alonso, Joseph Riofrio, and Oscar Rosales

Council Members Absent: None

Flag salute led by Mayor Castro

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to adopt the agenda, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

None offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of December 8, 2020.
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 Councilor Riofrio to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. DECEMBER 08, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 05, 2021
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 47601 THROUGH 47714
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$1,345,063.73
2. Proposed adoption of **Proclamation No. 21-01**, declaring the week of January 24 – January 30, 2021 as “School Choice Week” in the City of Mendota.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-03**, authorizing the City Manager, or his designee, to execute all documents necessary to receive the Active Transportation Program funding for the ATPSB1L-5285(022) “Safe Routes to School Master Plan”.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-04**, authorizing the submittal of an application for CalRecycle’s payment programs and related authorizations.
5. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-05**, approving the Second Amendment to the Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Fresno and the City of Mendota and authorizing the City Manager to execute the same.
6. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-07**, approving the Air Quality Monitoring Equipment Installation Agreement with the LEAP Institute and authorizing the City Manager to execute the same.

Discussion was held on the total amount of the warrant list.

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

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 21-06**, appointing Council Members to various boards, commissions, and subcommittees.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia summarized the report, including the various positions that need to be appointed.

Discussion was held and decisions were made on what Council Members would fill what seats.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to adopt Resolution No. 21-06, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 21-01**, adopting a mitigated negative declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act in the matter of Application No. 20-23 the Valley Agricultural Holdings, LLC, Commercial Cannabis Project (Portion of APN 013-030-68ST); **Resolution No. 21-02**, approving an amendment to the land use element of Mendota's general plan update 2005-2025 in the matter of Application No. 20-23, the Valley Agricultural Holdings, LLC, Commercial Cannabis Project (APN 013-030-68ST); **Ordinance No. 21-02**, Amending the Official Zoning Map of the City of Mendota in the matter of Application No. 20-23, the Valley Agricultural Holdings, LLC, Commercial Cannabis Project (APN 013-030-68ST); and **Ordinance No. 21-03**, Approving a Development Agreement between the City of Mendota and Valley Agricultural Holdings, LLC, in the matter of Application No. 20-23, the Valley Agricultural Holdings, LLC, Commercial Cannabis Project (Portion of APN 013-030-68ST).

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

Dustin Moore (Valley Agricultural Holdings, LLC) – commented on the item.

Councilor Mendoza left the Council Chambers at 6:26 p.m. and returned at 6:28 p.m.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 6:35 p.m. Mayor Castro opened the public hearing.

Joseph Amador – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Dustin Moore (Valley Agricultural Holdings, LLC) – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 6:40 p.m. Mayor Castro closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to adopt Resolution Nos. 21-01 and 21-02 and introduce and waive the first readings of Ordinance Nos. 21-02 and 21-03, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

2. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-04**, entrance into a development agreement in the matter of Application No. 20-24, the Left Mendota 1,

LLC project.

Mayor Castro introduced the item.

City Attorney Kinsey stated that Councilor Rosales would be recusing himself and Mr. Rosales left the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Mayor Castro expressed his concerns regarding Councilor Rosales's recusal, and City Attorney Kinsey responded to Mayor Castro's concerns.

City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 6:54 p.m. Mayor Castro opened the hearing to the public and, hearing no one present willing to comment, closed it in that same minute.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-04, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

Chief of Police Smith provided information on police activities over the holidays.

Chief Smith provided the report for the Code Enforcement department, including a summary of statistics, and provided a personnel update.

Chief Smith provided the report for the Animal Control department including an update on animal control activities and statistics; and the status of purchasing a new animal control truck.

Chief Smith provided the report for the Police Department including the status of the police canine program; an update on the motorcycle unit; and summarized crime statistics and significant cases.

Discussion was held on the possibility of implementing a neighborhood watch program; the possibility of creating a City-wide volunteer program; and the new police canine that will be purchased.

2. City Attorney
 - a) Update

City Attorney Kinsey thanked Assistant City Attorney Castro for his work on various projects.

Discussion was held on a discussion that was held at a previous City Council meeting.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez provided COVID-19 statistics and commented on upcoming projects.

Discussion was held on the possibility of installing additional guidance at the Bass and Barboza roundabout; when the landscaping at the roundabout will be installed; whether the ballfields at Rojas-Pierce Park will be open to the public in light of the pandemic; the status of COVID-19 in the community; and the need for additional lighting in certain areas of the City.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Rosales wished everyone well.

Councilor Alonso stated that accessible parking spots are meant to be used by those authorized to do so; and reported on Mendota residents who held a fundraiser to assist an individual.

Councilor Riofrio reported on the importance of Council Members meeting with the City Manager to discuss their items; ongoing criminal activity in Fresno; a Mendota resident who had recently passed away; the impacts of COVID-19; and the importance of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza reported on the importance of Council Members meeting with the City Manager to discuss their items; and thanked Mayor Castro for hosting his annual toy drive.

2. Mayor

Mayor Castro reported on the importance of Council Members meeting with the City Manager to discuss their items in safe manner; encouraged Council Members to have a ride along with the City Manager; encouraged everyone to follow COVID-19 precautionary measures; the Mendota Smog annual toy giveaway; and wished Finance Director Marquez well.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to CA Government Code §§ 54954.5(f), 54957.6
 - a. Agency Designated Representatives: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager;
Jennifer Lekumberry, Director of Administrative Services
 - b. Employee Organization: Mendota Police Officers Association

At 7:45 p.m. the Council moved into closed.

At 8:07 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session and City Attorney Kinsey stated that in regard to item 1 there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:08 p.m. by Councilor Rosales, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza; unanimously approved (5 ayes).



Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

