

MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

November 10, 2020

Meeting called to order by Mayor Castro at 6:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Rolando Castro, Mayor Pro Tem Victor Martinez (at 7:45 p.m.), Councilors Jesus Mendoza, Joseph Riofrio, and Oscar Rosales

Council Members Absent: None

Flag salute led by Chief of Police Smith

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 Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Martha Cabrera – shared her concerns about a home on her street where illegal activity may be taking place.

Discussion was held on Ms. Cabrera's concerns.

Sergio Valdez – inquired as to where individuals may discard of green waste.

Discussion was held on where individuals may discard of green waste; the upcoming community clean-up event; and posting information of the community clean-up programs in the December newsletter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of October 27, 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 Rosales to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. OCTOBER 26, 2020 THROUGH NOVEMBER 3, 2020
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 47465 THROUGH 47523
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$321,638.85
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-82**, authorizing the payment of retainage to the contractor for the Rojas-Pierce Park Expansion Project.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-84**, approving the Office Lease Agreement with the Fresno Area Workforce Investment Corporation for the lease of a City-owned building at 655 Quince Street, Suite C.

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

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and consideration of the collaboration between the City of Mendota, 655 Unidxs and Arte Aqua Viva for the Mendota Mural Project.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Manager Gonzalez summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

Pedro Rivas – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Jessica Sanchez – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Julyssa Gonzalez – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Jessica Sanchez – commented on the item.

Pedro Rivas – commented on the item.

Teresa Rivas – commented on the item.

Antonio Avitia – commented on issues he has been experiencing regarding parking near his business.

Discussion was held on Mr. Avitia's comment.

At 6:46 p.m. Councilor Riofrio left the Council Chambers and returned at 6:48 p.m.

Council provided direction to staff to meet with the organizations and discuss the collaboration for the Mendota Mural Project.

2. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 20-86**, approving an alternative to the CARES Act and COVID-19 funding sources, programs, and reimbursements.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and Finance Officer Diaz summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

Sergio Valdez – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Marc Benjamin – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Dino Perez – commented on the item.

Pedro Rivas – commented on the item.

Dino Perez – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Sergio Valdez – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve Option #1, including the following funding breakdown with the modification that left over non-profit organization funding be allocated to the business grant and utility bill assistance programs:

Non-profit Organizations: \$30,000.00

- \$10,000.00 – Boys & Girls Club, Mendota, CA
- \$10,000.00 – Mendota Youth Recreation
- \$10,000.00 – Westside Youth

Non-profit Organizations: \$10,000.00

- Grant Amount dependent on number of applicants

Food Pantry Grant Program: \$2,000.00

- (2) \$1,000.00 per applicant

Basics Bank Grant Program: \$2,000.00

- (4) \$500.00 per applicant

Reimbursement: \$38,520.50

- Message trailers
- Overtime

The motion was seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

Chief of Police Smith provided the report for the Code Enforcement department including the statistics for citations; an event where the street sweeper will be cleaning certain streets; and a personnel update.

Chief Smith provided the report for the Animal Control department including department statistics.

Chief Smith provided the report for the Police Department including a personnel update; vehicle status update; a K-9 unit update; and crime statistics.

At 7:45 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Martinez entered the Council Chambers.

2. City Attorney
 - a) Update

Assistant City Attorney Castro provided an update on the items his office is currently working on.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez provided a status update on the properties of concern on Lolita Street; a meeting staff will have with Caltrans regarding improving the safety of highway corridors in the City; the status of the Bass Avenue and Barboza Street Roundabout; the status of the Mowry Bridge Replacement Project; and stated that City Hall will be closed on November 11th in observance of Veterans Day.

Discussion was held on when trees on public right-of-way will be trimmed; and the need to increase the safety of highway corridors.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Riofrio commented on Pool Park; and the possibility of preventing power outages.

Councilor Mendoza thanked the men and women who have served and are serving in the armed forces.

Councilor Rosales thanked staff and Council for their work and reported on an upcoming fundraiser.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez thanked staff and Council for their work; and inquired as to whether the City Council meetings can be broadcasted via Facebook Live.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 8:16 p.m. Mayor Castro left the Council Chambers and returned at 8:18 p.m.

2. Mayor

Mayor Castro inquired about the possibility of having invocations at the City Council meetings.

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

2. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

CA Government Code § 54957(b)


Title: City Manager

At 8:19 p.m. the Council moved into closed.

At 9:28 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session and Assistant City Attorney Castro stated that in regards to item 1 there was no reportable action. In regards to item 2, the Council unanimously voted to provide direction to staff to bring back an amendment to the City Manager's contract at a future meeting.


ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 9:28 p.m. by Councilor Mendoza, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).



Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

