

MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

February 13, 2018

Meeting called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez at 6:07 p.m.

Flag salute led by Councilor Silva.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Victor Martinez, Councilors Jesse Mendoza, Oscar Rosales, and Robert Silva.

Council Members Absent: Mayor Rolando Castro.

Invocation led by Director Reza Nekumanesh from the Islamic Cultural Center of Fresno.

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to adopt the agenda, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Castro).

PRESENTATION

1. Davena Witcher to provide an update on the Alliance for Medical Outreach & Relief project.

Davena Witcher with Alliance for Medical Outreach & Relief (AMOR) reported on the history and background of AMOR; the AMOR Board's decision to move forward with a project in Mendota; details of the project, including the proposed site plan and floor plan of the clinic; Madera Community Hospital running the clinic; the services that will be provided at the site; the proposed neighborhood resource center that will create an

additional safe place in the community; the agencies that are interested in placing their services inside of the neighborhood resource center; the importance of allowing residents meet with AMOR representatives; the challenges that the agency has ran into related to fundraising; and requested that the City Council consider additional fee reductions and/or exemptions related to the project.

Discussion was held on the proposed hours of operation for the clinic; enhancing the fee exemptions for the project; the enhancement of the fee reductions or exemptions being the city's investment into the project; creating a development agreement that will include fee reductions or exemptions; the various individuals and agencies that Ms. Witcher has met with; and the Council commended Ms. Witcher for her work.

2. Steve Hair to present the proposed conceptual design for a Bass Avenue subdivision.

Steve Hair introduced himself and stated that KSA Inc. has provided affordable housing in Mendota for the past 10 years; the amount of homes that were built in the Las Palmas subdivision; that KSA Inc. had been looking for additional property to provide additional housing; rezoning a property that he acquired along Bass Avenue; what the current zoning of the property allows; the amount of homes that will be developed, including a park and a commercial site; paying for traffic mitigation at the corner of Barboza Street and Bass Avenue; helping the city fund a new soccer field, including discussing the possibility of creative funding measures through the development agreement; and helping the city with the annexation of land on the Westside of the city.

Discussion was held on the size of the lots; the location of the entrance of the subdivision; whether Marie Street will be extended into the subdivision; the important aspects of the project; the design of the homes that will be built in the subdivision; hiring additional legal counsel to work on the project; how contract employees are paid; and when staff could begin seeking additional legal counsel.

Council consensus was reached to direction the City Manager to seek outside legal counsel to represent the city on the proposed Bass Avenue subdivision.

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 January 23, 2018, and the special City Council meeting of January 30, 2018.
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 Silva to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Castro).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. JANUARY 18, 2018 THROUGH FEBRUARY 07, 2018
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 043508 THRU 043575
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$402,366.27
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 18-11**, approving the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with Fresno Council of Governments for the Fresno County Regional Pavement Management System.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 18-13**, accepting the Derrick Avenue and 7th Street Intersection Beautification and Reconstruction project.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 18-14**, authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement proposal for the preparation of an environmental impact report for the waste water treatment plant water reclamation project.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to adopt items 1 through 4 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Silva; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Castro).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion on the removal of the vehicle closure on Cervantez Street.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez introduced the item and Assistant Engineer Osborn provided the history and background of the Las Palmas Estates; reported on the progress and modification of the original plan of the subdivision over the years; the points of access of the subdivision; the concerns that were brought to the attention of Mr. Hair and the city regarding the impact that traffic would have on certain access points; the installation of a vehicle closure on Cervantez Street that can be accessed by emergency vehicles; the effects of removing the emergency vehicle access; the need to reconstruct the access should it be open to the public; the costs associated with reconstruct the access; and the overall impact that the opening of the closure would have on traffic at certain access points.

Discussion was held on the increase of traffic at certain access points if the closure was opened; the city attempting to acquire the Westland Water District Property that is west of Rojas-Pierce Park; the goal to extend Amador Street in the future; the reasons as to why the closure should not be opened; issues that were overlooked when the subdivision was approved in 2005; and the lack of communication between staff and the Council in 2005 when the approval of the subdivision was considered.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Code Enforcement & Police Department a) Monthly Report

Chief of Police Andreotti summarized the report for the Code Enforcement Department including that the officer will soon begin the weed abatement process for the year; that a shanty was discovered on Lolita Street; and that the property owner was responsive and cleaned the lot.

Chief of Police Andreotti summarized the report for the Police Department including that the fundraiser that the Explorers Program had recently was very successful; that the program had deployed two new canopy's that it acquired through a BSCC grant; that the department would be purchasing canopy's for two local youth organizations through the grant as well; that the Coffee with a Cop and Council Member event would be held on February 20th at Westside Youth, Inc.; he was contacted last month by Bike Masters, a group that volunteers their time and expense to offer free bike repair to individuals who are in need; and reported on a significant case.

Discussion was held on the success of the recent fundraiser that the Explorers Program held; the problem of public intoxication in the city; whether the city can establish an alcohol tax; and whether the police department can coordinate a "bike drop-off" event with Bike Masters.

2. Economic Development a) Monthly Report

Economic Development Manager Flood reported that United Way would like to bring a representative at the next City Council meeting; that there will be a workshop that will be held on February 22nd at the Westside Institute of Technology in Mendota to learn about financing a truck, and getting licensing and certifications; the Salvadoran and Mexican consulates being in the city in the future to provide their services; a new recycling business that opened on Naples Street; the inquiries that he has received from commercial brokers regarding available land; and that he has resources available for businesses.

Discussion was held on whether the interested parties inquire on how well other established businesses are doing, and showcasing businesses on the city's website.

3. City Attorney a) Update

City Attorney Kinsey reported that his office is working on various projects for the city.

Councilor Mendoza inquired on the status of the Cole Memo.

City Attorney Kinsey reported on the stay on DACA by two federal judges.

Discussion was held on what can be done with the city's property near the solar farm; the possibility of selling the property; the possibility of subdividing the property; what can be developed on the property; and whether the county prohibits the cultivation of marijuana.

Discussion was held on the city not being subject to county regulations.

4. City Manager

City Manager DiMaggio reported on the upcoming joint meeting of the Mendota Unified School District Board of Trustees and the City Council that will be held on February 28th at 6 pm; on the upcoming immigration workshop that will be held on March 15th from 6 pm – 8 pm at the Mendota High School Cafeteria; that no immigration enforcement will be present at the immigration workshop; having the annual goal setting meeting sometime in May to lead up to the budget workshops; and his intention to terminate the contract with Townshend.

Discussion was held on the lack of results by Townshend, and whether representatives of Townshend should provide a debriefing at a future City Council meeting.

Councilor Rosales requested that staff provide the Council Members with a letter to request donations for a possible Fourth of July fireworks show.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Mendoza thanked the members of the audience for attending the meeting.

Councilor Rosales thanked the members of the audience for attending the meeting; thanked staff for their work; emphasized the importance of working together with the community; and reported on the upcoming Coffee with a Cop and a Councilmember event that will be held on February 20th at Westside Youth Inc.

Councilor Silva reported on ICE performing audits of various businesses, and a meeting that will be held on February 23rd regarding DACA and TPS that will be sponsored by various agencies.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez reported that the Salvadoran Consulate will be providing their services at Gonzalez Hall on March 11th, and requested that an item be added to a future meeting regarding the leadership of the City Council.

Discussion was held on ensuring that the Council works together.

Members of the Joint Military Assistant Command introduced themselves and shared a project that they are working on.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
CA Government Code § 54956.8
Property: Approximately 2,000 acres within Westlands Water District in the County of Fresno located south of the Ashlan Avenue alignment, west of Dos Palos Road/State Highway 33 (Derrick Avenue), north of Belmont Avenue, and east of Douglas Avenue
Agency Negotiator: Vince DiMaggio, City of Mendota
Negotiating Parties: Westlands Water District

At 7:55 p.m. the Council moved into closed session.

At 8:19 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session and City Attorney Kinsey stated that in regards to item 1 of the closed session, there was no action.


ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:19 p.m. by Councilor Silva, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Castro).



Victor Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:



Matt Flood, City Clerk

