



**MINUTES OF MENDOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Regular Meeting

April 10, 2018

Meeting called to order by Mayor Castro at 6:00 p.m.

Flag salute led by Mayor Castro.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Rolando Castro, Councilors Jesse Mendoza, Oscar Rosales, and Robert Silva.

Council Members Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Victor Martinez.

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

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

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

None offered.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the special City Council meeting of March 26, 2018 and the regular City Council meeting of March 27, 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 Rosales to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MARCH 26, 2018 THROUGH APRIL 04, 2018
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 043739 THRU 043796
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$246,072.58
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 18-20**, approving a contract with Granted Solutions for grant writing and lobbying services.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 18-21**, conditionally approving an exclusive use permit for use of Rojas-Pierce Park to hold an event in May.

Requests were made to pull items 2 and 3 for discussion.

A motion was made by Councilor Silva to adopt item 1 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 18-20**, approving a contract with Granted Solutions for grant writing and lobbying services.

Mayor Castro requested that this item be discussed due to past grant writers that have not performed adequately, and stated that he wishes to meet with the party directly.

Dino Perez of Westside Youth, Inc. spoke in favor of Sonia Hall and her company, including her proven track record, and what she has done for his organization.

Sonia Hall of Granted Solutions reported that she has acquired \$55 million in funds for the City of Parlier, and explained how her firm knows the needs of rural communities.

Discussion was held on meeting with the grant firm in the future to communicate what the City of Mendota would like to pursue, and the absence that the previous grant writers demonstrated.

A motion was made by Councilor Silva to adopt Resolution No. 18-20, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 18-21**, conditionally approving an exclusive use permit for use of Rojas-Pierce Park to hold an event in May.

Councilor Silva reported on the fees that were established for the usage of the park before it was remodeled that specifically addressed these types of events; the damage that can happen to the parks with these types of events; and how the current fee schedule is set up.

Discussion was held on the different fees that will be charged to the applicant; the security requirements, including contracting police officers; the lack of success in previous public dances or concerts; the fence that will be set up to monitor admissions; the legal challenges related to limiting access to the park; and Council direction to staff to accommodate Mr. Arambula as much as allowable.

Alfredo Arambula (applicant) - stated that he is unsure on the amount of tickets that will be sold; his experience of doing events in other communities; and the difficulties that certain regulations impose on conducting this type of business.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to adopt Resolution No. 18-21, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

BUSINESS

1. Appointment of a Mendota resident to the Mendota Recreation Commission.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and Economic Development Manager Flood summarized the report including that the Recreation Commission has a vacancy due to the resignation of Kevin Romero, and that Ms. Jessica Barron had submitted an application.

A motion was made by Councilor Silva to appoint Jessica Barron to the Recreation Commission, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

2. Discussion on the status of the Liberty Groves/WST/Mekorot Waste Water Treatment Plant project.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Manger DiMaggio reported on the City's partnership with Liberty Groves; the logistics of the proposed project; the proposed project being exclusive to Mendota; recent testing being done in Firebaugh with the purpose of including that community in the project; the selection of a consultant to perform an Environmental Impact Review (EIR); staff not supporting the inclusion of a Firebaugh element to the project in the EIR, due to the necessity of including a 7-mile pipeline and, consequently, the jurisdiction of Fresno County; delay in the project possibly due to work being done for Firebaugh; the need for the City to make a decision regarding how it is to move forward, whether that be cutting off the relationship with Liberty Groves, continuing to wait for Liberty Groves, or a hybrid of these two paths; the disadvantage and advantages of these options; the need to work with the State of California to set the preliminary groundwork for expanding the Wastewater Treatment Plant as a failsafe; and the recommendation of staff to select, as a course, a hybrid of the two paths.

Discussion was held on the trip that staff and a member of the City Council took to review the technology that will be used for the project in Israel.

Igal Trebach (Liberty Groves) - reported on how his company became interested in doing this project in Mendota; the economic factors taken into consideration when undertaking such a project; the agreement stipulating that there would be no cost to the City of Mendota; their wish to be able to accomplish things much quicker; issues related to aluminum leeching into the water; how bringing Firebaugh into the project creates more efficiencies; the cost of building such a plant; and reaffirmed his commitment to build the project in Mendota, while possibly using the City of Firebaugh's water.

Discussion was held on how long the project will take to come to fruition; the future timeline for completing the project; the efficiency of the Israeli systems; the fact that Liberty Groves is paying for all staff time related to this project; the need to not involve anymore jurisdictions in an already complicated project; the State's posture on tertiary treated water being exchanged in the California Water Project; and the desire of the Council to have Liberty Groves commit to doing a Mendota-only EIR.

A motion was made by Councilor Silva to work with Liberty Groves in a hybrid of the two proposed options, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Code Enforcement & Police Department
 - a) Monthly Report

Chief Andreotti provided his report for the Code Enforcement Department including the monitoring of various violations; the upcoming weed abatement process; and recruitment for a new code enforcement officer.

Discussion was held on violations near a specific apartment complex; two burnt cars on separate streets that have been parked outside in public view; and the violations inside the trailer park.

Chief Andreotti provided his report for the Police Department including a serious pedestrian versus vehicle accident where the pedestrian was in critical condition; updates on staffing; and the possibility of expanding the School Resource Officer position.

Discussion was held on the efforts of the police department in reducing crime in the community.

2. Economic Development
 - a) Monthly Report

Economic Development Manager Flood reported on an economic profile on Mendota that will be published in the coming months, and the efforts being made to fill some of the empty lots throughout the city.

Discussion was held on bringing a car dealership to the City and the progress that is being made on the Canna-Hub facility.

3. City Attorney
 - a) Update

Nothing to report.

4. City Manager

City Manager DiMaggio reported that new lights will be installed on the dais

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Silva reported on the efforts related to fundraising for the Mendota fireworks show; information he received on the expansion of Highway 180; and that a couple of members of the City Council would be attending the Mendota Unified School Board meeting on behalf of the Mendota Community Corporation Board.

Councilor Mendoza reported on a building at Pool Park that needs to be knocked down.

Councilor Rosales reported on a \$5,000 donation that Steve Hair donated towards the fireworks show.

2. Mayor

Mayor Castro reported on meeting with the Stamoules family on moving forward with the construction of the new Catholic Church, and having the Drip 2000 building function as a social hall; a \$2,000 donation the Stamoules company gave towards the fireworks show; an upcoming Coffee with a Cop and Council Member event; and an event that the Boys & Girls Club is going to have.

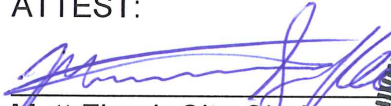
ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 7:38 p.m. by Councilor Silva, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).



Victor Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:



Matt Flood, City Clerk

