



**MINUTES OF MENDOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Regular Meeting

April 28, 2020

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

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Rolando Castro, Mayor Pro Tem Victor Martinez (at 6:06 p.m.), Councilors Jesus Mendoza, Joseph Riofrio, and Oscar Rosales (via phone)

Council Members Absent: None

A moment of silence was held for all individuals who have lost their lives to COVID-19.

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 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 regular City Council meeting of April 14, 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 Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APRIL 14, 2020 THROUGH APRIL 21, 2020
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 46679 THROUGH 46738
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$260,189.19
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-26**, approving updates to the City's Westamerica Bank Signature Card.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-27**, ratifying Emergency Order Nos. 20-04 and 20-05 issued in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic emergency.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-28**, authorizing submission of a request for authorization for construction funding of the Bass and Barboza Roundabout Project.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve items 1 through 4, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and consideration of Emergency **Ordinance No. 20-10**, amending Section 110 of Chapter 2.44 of Title 2 of the Mendota Municipal Code to extend the prohibitions on price gouging and taking unfair advantage of customers during emergencies in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Attorney Kinsey reported that the item pertains to the City's prohibitions on price gouging and taking unfair advantage of customers during the COVID-19 pandemic emergency; that the City Council previously considered a similar item, but the provisions of the ordinance were only in effect for 30 days; and that the proposed ordinance allows the provisions to remain in effect until the local emergency ends.

Discussion was held on the importance of extending the provisions of the ordinance.

At 6:06 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Martinez entered the Council Chambers.

At 6:06 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 waive the reading of and adopt Ordinance No. 20-10, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

2. Council discussion and consideration of Emergency **Ordinance No. 20-11**, amending Section 120 of Chapter 2.44 of Title 2 of the Mendota Municipal Code to extend the prohibitions on evictions and foreclosures in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Attorney Kinsey reported that the item addresses the prohibitions on evictions and foreclosures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic emergency; that the City Council previously considered a similar item, but the provisions of the ordinance were only in effect for 30 days; and that the proposed ordinance allows the provisions to remain in effect until the local emergency ends.

Discussion was held on a case where an individual stated that his landlord was attempting to unlawfully evict him; the provisions of the ordinance; when non-essential businesses will be able to reopen; and the implementation of the Governor's four-stage framework to allow the state to gradually reopen.

At 6:12 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 Mendoza to waive the reading of and adopt Ordinance No. 20-11, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Finance Officer
 - a) Grant Update

Finance Officer Diaz presented the grant update and summarized her report including setting the acquisition of COVID-19 financial assistance as a priority and working on the application for the Urban Flood Protection Grant Program.

Discussion was held on other available grant opportunities.

2. City Attorney

City Attorney Kinsey reported that his office has been working on COVID-19 related matters.

Discussion was held on various questions that residents have regarding the information they hear pertaining to COVID-19.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez thanked the Council, staff, and community for working together to make the community better and stated that the City had recently received a large supply of facial masks and Administrative Services Director Lekumberry would be working to distribute them.

Administrative Services Director Lekumberry provided information on how the masks will be distributed.

Discussion was held on additional agencies, that are not already included, also receiving masks; the enforcement of the emergency order related to facial coverings; ensuring that City staff wear facial coverings; the status of the Axiom project; and the status of other projects throughout the City.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Rosales thanked staff for their work.

Councilor Riofrio inquired on the status of the Mowry Bridge replacement project.

Discussion was held on the funding for the project; the total cost of the project; and the timeline of the project.

Councilor Mendoza inquired as to whether the City was collaborating with the Mendota Unified School District to celebrate the Mendota High School graduating class of 2020.

Councilor Rosales stated that Cresco is need of additional personnel.

Councilor Riofrio commented on the Black Street project; various areas of the City that need road improvements; and inquired about the possibility of surveying the conditions of all City roads.

Discussion was held on the need to actively maintain roads.


2. Mayor

Mayor Castro stated that he was recently on the radio discussing COVID-19 matters and Mendota; the issue regarding undocumented individuals not being tested for COVID-19 out of fear; which individuals are notified regarding positive cases in the City; and the need to implement precautionary measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Councilor Mendoza thanked all essential employees for their work and encouraged community members to complete the 2020 Census questionnaire.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 7:13 p.m. by Councilor Mendoza, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez; unanimously approved (5 ayes).



Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

