



## MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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**Regular Meeting**

**May 26, 2020**

**Meeting called to order by Mayor Castro at 6:04 p.m.**

### **Roll Call**

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Rolando Castro, Councilors Jesus Mendoza, Joseph Riofrio, and Oscar Rosales

**Council Members Absent:** Mayor Pro Tem Victor Martinez

**A moment of silence was held in honor of former Mayor Robert Silva who had recently passed away.**

**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**

**Dino Perez** – shared information about an upcoming fundraiser that Westside Youth, Inc. (WSY) will be holding on June 5<sup>th</sup>; and inquired about the possibility of opening the Open Market.

**Discussion was held on the fundraiser that WSY will be holding; and discussing WSY's inquiry under Business item 4 of the agenda.**

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of May 12, 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. MAY 06, 2020 THROUGH MAY 19, 2020  
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 46813 THROUGH 46866  
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$255,204.21
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-32**, approving a contract with Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group to provide engineering and construction management services for the Mendota Automated Meter Reading Project.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve items 1 and 2 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

## BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and direction to staff concerning the naming of the new baseball diamond at Rojas-Pierce Park after Mr. Robert Silva and Mr. Joe Diaz.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Manager Gonzalez reported that the community is saddened by the passing of former Mayor Robert Silva; and shared the requests that Mr. Silva's family made to name the new baseball diamond at Rojas-Pierce Park after Mr. Silva and Mr. Joe Diaz, and to designate a Robert Silva Day.

Discussion was held on the requests of the family; ways to honor the two gentlemen at the park; allowing businesses and organizations to sponsor the field; and the need to dedicate the soccer field in the future.

**Sonya Mejia** – stated that it is great to honor long-time community members; and inquired about the possibility of allowing the community to nominate additional individuals who may also be honored.

Discussion was held on the need to honor additional community members; the status of the construction of the new baseball field; and ensuring that the City receives the biographies of the individuals that will be honored.

Council consensus was reached to direct staff to seek sponsorship opportunities for the new fields at Rojas-Pierce Park; seek different ways to honor Mr. Silva and Mr. Diaz at the new baseball field; and establish a process to allow community members to nominate individuals to be honored at the park.

2. Council discussion and direction to staff concerning designating a Robert Silva Day in the City.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Manager Gonzalez reported that Mr. Silva's family also requested that the Council consider designating a Robert Silva Day in the City.

Discussion was held on designating Mr. Silva's birthday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, as Robert Silva Day in the City; and different ways to celebrate the day.

**Dino Perez** – stated that it is a great idea to honor Mr. Silva; that there are other individuals who should be honored by the City; and ways that WSY has honored community members.

Discussion was held on honoring numerous community members.

**Sonya Mejia** – stated that establishing a Robert Silva Day would be a good idea, and that Mr. Silva should be honored properly.

Discussion was held on honoring Mr. Silva in the future with a proclamation.

Council consensus was reached to honor Mr. Silva in the future with a proclamation.

3. Council discussion on the attainment of 2019 goals, and discussion and determination of 2020 goals.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Manager Gonzalez summarized the report including the attainment of the goals for 2019; the impact that COVID-19 has had on revenue projections; and requested that the Council discuss and establish the goals for 2020.

Discussion was held on the 2019 goals that will be carried over to 2020; the potential development of a new police department building; the status of the veteran recognition program; the condition of equipment of the police department; the possibility of acquiring a K-9 officer; the number of police department personnel; the condition of the General Reserve Fund; current open recruitments; the proposed street projects for the upcoming fiscal year; making improvements at parks; and beautifying the entrances of the City.

A motion was made by Councilor Mendoza to utilize the aforementioned suggestions to establish the goals for 2020, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).

4. Discussion and direction to staff concerning potential relaxation of certain

emergency measures in the future, conditioned upon implementation of adequate protective measures, to allow the opening of businesses.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Attorney Kinsey summarized the report including the Governor's recommendations constantly changing; Fresno County receiving a variance to open certain businesses; the Council's interest to opening other types of businesses, such personal grooming businesses; the Governor allowing counties that have received variances to allow personal grooming businesses to open; the Governor's guidance not including nail salons, and manicure and pedicure services; the various options that are available to the Council; the ability of the Council to adopt orders that provide regulations that are more restrictive than state law, but not less restrictive; developing guidelines for places of worship; and provided staff's recommendation.

Discussion was held on the discussion that the Council had at the last Council meeting; whether places of worship are able to operate; ensuring that local businesses are complying with local emergency orders; and the various options available to the Council.

**Dino Perez** – inquired as to when Westside Youth, Inc.'s (WSY) Open Market will be able to operate; and the need for the organization to generate revenue.

Discussion was held on the goal of the Council being to maintain the community safe; and the amount of revenue that WSY generates from their Open Market.

**Carlos Quintanar** – stated that WSY should be allowed to operate their Open Market under certain conditions.

**Alex Garcia** – stated that he is not in favor of lifting restrictions; and stated that allowing the Open Market and easing restrictions to operate may have detrimental consequences on the community.

**Sonya Mejia** – commented on the impact that COVID-19 has had on the community; inquired as to what guidelines WSY should implement in order to allow the Open Market to open; thanked WSY for their efforts in giving back to the community; the services that WSY provides to the community; and thanked the Council for pledging to support WSY's upcoming fundraiser.

Discussion was held on the community supporting WSY.

**Josue Urias** – inquired as to whether dine-in seating will be permitted for restaurants.

Discussion was held on restaurants being able to permit dine-in seating under certain conditions.

A motion was made by Councilor Mendoza to move forward with option 3 and adopt Resolution No. 20-36, with modified language in section 1.6, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez)

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Finance Officer
  - a) Grant Update

Finance Officer Diaz presented the grant update, including the City purchasing a billboard advertisement with the Cal Recycle funding, and provided the status of the National Fitness Campaign grant.

Discussion was held on the National Fitness Campaign grant.

2. City Attorney

Nothing to report.

Discussion was held on COVID-19 increasing the City's need for legal services.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez thanked the Council for their leadership, community members for caring for their community; and staff for their work.

Discussion was held the impact that COVID-19 has had on the community; and the Council thanked the staff for their work.

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Riofrio inquired as to whether the City receives information on the number of individuals that have recovered from COVID-19; and commented on the public's perception of COVID-19.

Discussion was held on the number of COVID-19 cases in Mendota.

Councilor Mendoza thanked the staff and Council; and requested that the community continue to stay safe and support local businesses and non-profit businesses.

2. Mayor

*Nothing to report*

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:59 p.m. by Councilor Mendoza, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Martinez).



Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk