



MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

August 11, 2020

Meeting called to order by Mayor Castro at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Rolando Castro, Mayor Pro Tem Victor Martinez; Councilors Jesus Mendoza and Oscar Rosales (via Zoom)

Council Members Absent: Councilor Joseph Riofrio

Flag salute led by Records Manager Ophelia Lugo

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

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

SWEARING IN

1. City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia to swear in Chief of Police Kevin Smith.

City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia swore in Chief of Police Kevin Smith.

City Manager Gonzalez shared Chief Smith's background.

Chief Smith thanked the Council and City Manager Gonzalez for their support and shared his vision for the police department.

The Council thanked Chief Smith for his work and congratulated him.

Priscilla Meza (RCS Fresno) – commented on Chief Smith’s appointment.

Chief John Golden (City of Kerman) – commented on Chief Smith’s appointment.

Joseph Amador – commented on Chief Smith’s appointment.

At 6:24 p.m. Mayor Castro announced that there would be a brief recess.

At 6:32 p.m. the Council convened in open session.

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 July 28, 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 Mendoza to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Riofrio).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. JULY 22, 2020 THROUGH AUGUST 05, 2020
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 47105 THROUGH 47197
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$609,511.99
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-59**, amending Resolution No. 20-56 to correct a clerical error and accurately reflect 2020 nuisance abatement costs.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-60**, approving and accepting the public improvements constructed for Tract No. 6149.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-61**, approving a salary schedule modification reducing the pay for the police lieutenant position.
5. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-62**, accepting and filing the 2020 Conflict of Interest Code Biennial Notice for the City of Mendota.

A request was made to pull item 4 for discussion.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to approve items 1 through 3 and 5 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez; unanimously approved (4 ayes,

absent: Riofrio).

4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 20-61**, approving a salary schedule modification reducing the pay for the police lieutenant position.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to table the item for discussion and consideration at a future meeting, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Riofrio).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and direction to staff regarding the implementation of the Military/Veteran Banner Program.

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

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to direct staff to implement the program with the inclusion of a \$150 fee and to determine the frequency in which banners are purchased in the future, seconded by Mayor Castro; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Riofrio).

2. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 20-63**, appointing a Mendota resident to the Recreation Commission.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

Antonio Pizano – commented on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Mendoza to adopt Resolution No. 20-63, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Riofrio).

3. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 20-64**, approving a reimbursement agreement with the Firebaugh Canal Water District for the use of Well Number 3.

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

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to adopt Resolution No. 20-64, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Riofrio).

4. Council discussion and consideration of the recommendation provided by the Commercial Cannabis Business Negotiating Subcommittee.

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

Discussion was held on the item.

Tim McGraw (Canna-Hub) – commented on the item and inquired as to the status of his request for the Council to approve the addition of a Type 9 license for Canna-Hub; and Budee’s desire to hire additional local residents for their business.

Sal Villanueva (Budee) – commented on the item and discussed the benefits of the Council considering and approving the additional license.

Jose Gutierrez – inquired about the process to permit the additional license.

A motion was made Mayor Pro Tem Martinez to direct staff to move forward with Element 7 LLC, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Riofrio).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

Chief of Police Smith presented the reports for the police department and shared the department’s statistics for the month of July; and stated that a local businessman offered to cover the costs of implementing a K-9 unit within the police department.

Discussion was held on the possibility of implementing a K-9 unit.

At 7:36 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Martinez left the chambers and returned at 7:40 p.m.

Joseph Amador – commented on the possibility of implementing a K-9 unit.

Chief Smith presented the statistics for the Animal Control and Code Enforcement Departments.

Discussion was held on concerns regarding animal control issues.

2. City Attorney
 - a) Update

Nothing to report.

The Council thanked City Attorney Kinsey for his work.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez reported that staff prepared and submitted a letter to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors for COVID-19 financial assistance and resources for the City; the ongoing COVID-19 testing events; and COVID-19 statistics for the City.

Discussion was held on the distributing face masks to the community; and COVID-19 testing events.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Rosales thanked the staff and Council for their work.

Councilor Mendoza congratulated Chief Smith and Recreation Commissioner Pizano.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez congratulated Chief Smith and staff.

2. Mayor

Mayor Castro congratulated Chief Smith; thanked Councilor Mendoza for participating in an ad-hoc meeting; commented on economic development activities; upcoming testing event, food event, and PPE giveaway; and the possibility of the City Council Members participating at meetings via Zoom.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to CA Government Code §54957.6
Agency Designated Representatives: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager; Jennifer Lekumberry, Director of Administrative Services
Employee Organization: Mendota Police Officers Association

At 8:10 p.m. the Council moved into closed.

At 8:44 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session and City Attorney Kinsey stated that in regard to item 1 of the closed session, there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:44 p.m. by Councilor Mendoza, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Riofrio).



Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

