



## MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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**Regular Meeting**

**September 26, 2017**

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, Councilors Jesse Mendoza, and Robert Silva.

**Council Members Absent:** Councilor Oscar Rosales.

Flag salute led by Councilor Silva.

Invocation led by Joseph Amador, and Mr. Amador requested that a moment of silence be held in honor of Rachel Delfino and Francis Diaz who had recently passed away.

Discussion was held on the upcoming Driver Awareness Event.

### **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: Rosales).

### **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 September 12, 2017.
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: Rosales).

## CONSENT CALENDAR

1. SEPTEMBER 08, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 20, 2017  
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 042994 THRU 043056  
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$342,537.52
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 17-54**, confirming the results of the election returns for the Special Vote-By-Mail Election held on August 29, 2017.
3. Council approval of a retention agreement to retain bond counsel for the loan portion of the automated meter reader project.

A request was made to pull item 1 for discussion.

A motion was made by Councilor Silva to adopt items 2 and 3 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

1. SEPTEMBER 08, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 20, 2017  
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 042994 THRU 043056  
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$342,537.52

Discussion was held on various warrants.

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

## BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Mendota residents to the Mendota Planning Commission.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and Economic Development Manager Flood summarized the report including that the Planning Commission has two vacancies, a regular position and an alternate position; the roles of each position; and the appointment process for each position.

Discussion was held on the qualifications of the applicants.

**Jose Gutierrez (647 Perez Street)** – shared his background, and explained that he wants to do something good for the community.

**Jose Alonso (635 Peach Avenue)** – stated the reasons as to why he would like to be a member of the Planning Commission; and explained what he hopes to achieve if he is appointed to the Planning Commission.

Discussion was held on the involvement of the applicants in the community.

Mayor Castro nominated Mr. Jose Gutierrez for the position of regular Planning Commissioner.

A motion was made by Councilor Silva to appoint Mr. Jose Gutierrez for the position of regular Planning Commissioner, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

A motion was made by Councilor Silva to appoint Mr. Jose Alonso for the position of alternate planning commissioner, but the motion died for the lack of a second.

Discussion was held on the qualifications of the applicants, and a position still being open on the Recreation Commission.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez to appoint Mr. Jose Alonso for the position of alternate planning commissioner, but the motion died for the lack of a second.

Council consensus was reached to table the appointment of the Alternate Planning Commissioner to the October 10<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Discussion was held on asking Ms. Meza if she was still interested in the position of Alternate Planning Commissioner.

2. Council discussion and consideration on establishing a sub-committee for participation in the development agreement negotiation process for cannabis cultivation businesses.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Manager DiMaggio summarized the report including that the Council expressed interest in forming ad-hoc council sub-committee to participate in the negotiation process for the development agreements; the status of the development of the city-owned property; and the various issues that the sub-committee members would discuss.

Discussion was held on what other cities are doing in regards to the issue; the importance of acting on the issue now; how involved the sub-committee can be; and the the role of the sub-committee.

**Liberty Lopez (431 Lolita Street)** – stated that she has been researching the issue, and inquired on who regulates commercial cannabis cultivation businesses.

Discussion was held on the status of state licensing; the regulations that such developments would have; the location of the overlay district; and the provisions in the cannabis overlay district ordinance.

**Bianca Prieto (583 L Street)** – inquired as to whether residents were able to apply for the council sub-committee.

**Lupe Flores (615 J Street)** – stated that she has been researching the issue; stated that the issues relating to the commercial cannabis cultivation were not mitigated correctly in Colorado; stated that she hopes that Department of Justice will reprimand the state; and provided statistics regarding the impact of cannabis usage.

Discussion was held on businesses that want to develop in Mendota.

**Moises Castellanos (861 Lolita Street)** – inquired on whether the businesses that develop in the overlay district will create a significant number of jobs.

Discussion was held on the amount of jobs that will be created, and the potential impact that the development will have on youth.

**Jose Alonso (635 Peach Avenue)** – inquired on how the fees that the businesses pay will be used.

Discussion was held on the slow progress of road projects, and the economic development that the City has done in recent years.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez to appoint Councilors Mendoza and Silva to participate on the sub-committee, seconded by Mayor Castro; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

3. Receive report on administrative austerity measures under consideration for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Manager DiMaggio summarized the report including that it is City Manager's duty that the deployment of staff and all budgetary expenditures are done in a way that stays within the budget; stated that he will be implementing austerity measures; emphasized the importance of the tax measures that were considered at the special election; stated that the implementation of administrative austerity measures does not constitute a fiscal emergency; emphasized that the

enterprise funds are not affected; provided the reasons as to why management staff is concerned; stated that the City needs to build the reserve fund; future revenue streams potentially allowing the reduction in staff and hours worked to be reinstated; the goal that staff made to save about \$120,000; and summarized the administrative actions that are planned to be implemented.

Discussion was held on the development of the Fiscal Year 2017/2018 budget; the types of expenditures that will be reduced; other possible ways to reduce expenditures without reducing staff or hours worked; the budget zeroing out, and leaving no room for error; the amount of taxes that the city receives; and holding a budget workshop in the near future.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Administrative Services
  - a) Monthly Report

Administrative Services Director Lekumberry summarized the report including the work that she has been doing for special project management, risk management, and aviation.

2. Public Works
  - a) Monthly Report

Planning & Public Works Director Gonzalez summarized the report including an update on road projects, and the Lozano Lift Station improvement project; provided the status of the Automated Meter Reader project; and provided an update on the work of the planning department.

Discussion was held on the purchase of fuel; a leak audit grant that the City recently received; the requirements that need to be met to develop certain businesses, such as recycling businesses; and the possibility of further limiting recycling centers.

3. City Attorney
  - a) Update

Nothing to report.

Discussion was held on the status of the Quince Street reconstruction project issues.

3. City Manager

City Manager DiMaggio reported that the City was in the process of amending the the airport master plan; provided an update on the electric airplane project; and inquired on what dates the Council Members will be available to have a joint City Council/Mendota Unified School District (MUSD) Board of Trustees meeting.

Discussion was held on staff proposing dates for the joint City Council/MUSD Board meeting; the status of the proposed Taco Bell; and the possibility of having the Adult Offender Work Program workers perform additional duties.

The Council congratulated Mr. DiMaggio for the award that the EIZ received.

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

### 1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Mendoza inquired on the status of the issues concerning the El Charro parking lot.

Councilor Silva reported on the League of California Cities Annual Conference.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez thanked City Manager DiMaggio for his report on administrative austerity measures; inquired on why Deputy Sheriffs have been in the City a lot lately; and thanked the public for attending the meeting.

### 2. Mayor

Mayor Castro commented that a few deputy sheriffs are former Mendota Police Department officers; reminded everyone that the Driver Awareness Event will be held on October 1<sup>st</sup>; congratulated Mr. Jose Gutierrez for his appointment to the Planning Commission; and requested that the New Battalion Fire Chief introduce himself.

## **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 7:41 p.m. the Council moved into closed session.

At 8:01 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 nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:01 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez, seconded by Councilor Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

  
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Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Matt Flood, City Clerk

