

**MINUTES OF MENDOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Regular Meeting

May 11, 2021

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

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Rolando Castro, Mayor Pro Tem Jesus Mendoza, Councilors Jose Alonso, Joseph Riofrio, and Oscar Rosales

Council Members Absent: None

Flag salute led by Police Officer Galaviz

Invocation led by Police Chaplain Lugo

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 Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

SWEARING IN

1. City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia to swear in Police Officer Adriana Roth.

Chief of Police Smith provided Officer Roth's background.

City Clerk Cabrera-Garcia swore in Officer Roth.

The Council congratulated Officer Roth and wished her well.

At 6:21 p.m. Mayor Castro announced that there would be a recess.

At 6:29 p.m. the meeting resumed.

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Dan Urias (Fresno County Fire) – introduced himself and stated that he will be serving the area as the new battalion chief.

P. Anthony Thomas (Cresco Labs) – introduced himself and stated that he looks forward to continuing the partnership between the City and Cresco Labs.

Discussion was held on the possibility of scheduling a tour of the Cresco Labs facility.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of April 27, 2021.
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 Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APRIL 27, 2021 THROUGH MAY 5, 2021
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 50241 THROUGH 50299
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$981,992.39
2. Proposed approval of **Proclamation No. 21-02**, remembering and honoring Mayor Robert Silva for his passion and commitment to the City of Mendota.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-28**, authorizing application for and receipt of Regional Early Action Planning (REAP) Grant Program Funds for the development of a GIS online mapping system.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-29**, approving the proposal submitted by ECS Imaging, Inc. for electronic document management software and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents.
5. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-30**, establishing a banner sponsorship program for the baseball fields at Rojas-Pierce Park.

A request was made to pull item 5 for discussion.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve items 1 through 4 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

5. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-30**, establishing a banner sponsorship program for the baseball fields at Rojas-Pierce Park.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve item 5 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and consideration on the naming and grand opening of the soccer field at Rojas-Pierce Park.

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

Discussion was held on the item including naming the soccer field after Mr. Danny Trejo.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to name the new soccer field the "Danny Trejo Soccer Field", purchase a banner for the field, and plan a grand opening event, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

2. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 21-31**, authorizing the formation of a City Council ad hoc subcommittee to evaluate the proposals received in response to the Request for Proposals for the Sale and Development of City Real Property.

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

Discussion was held on the item.

Jonathan Leiva – stated that it was difficult to hear the Council.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to appoint Councilors Rosales and Riofrio and regular members and Mayor Castro as the alternate member, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

3. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-11**, adding Chapter 2.56 to Title 2 of the Mendota Municipal Code to establish uniform administrative appeal procedures.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and Assistant City Attorney Castro provided the report.

Discussion was held on the item and on various code violations throughout the City.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-11 and set the public hearing for the May 25th City Council meeting, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

4. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-12**, amending Chapter 1.20 of Title 1 of the Mendota Municipal Code (MMC) and adding Chapter 2.54 to Title 2 of the MMC to establish a uniform procedure for the assessment, levying, collection, and appeal of penalties issued for violations of City ordinances.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and Assistant City Attorney Castro provided the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-12 and set the public hearing for the May 25th City Council meeting, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

5. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-13**, amending Chapter 10.12 of Title 10 of the Mendota Municipal Code to permit impoundment of vehicles in violation of parking restrictions.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and Assistant City Attorney Castro provided the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-12 and set the public hearing for the May 25th City Council meeting, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-07**, approving amendments to Chapter 8.37 of Title 8 of the Mendota Municipal Code to repeal the cannabis retail business license cap.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 7:13 p.m. Mayor Castro opened the hearing to the public

Anthony Thomas (Cresco Labs) – inquired about the item.

At 7:18 p.m. Mayor Castro closed the hearing to the public.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-07, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

2. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-08**, approving amendments to Chapter 17.99 of Title 17 of the Mendota Municipal Code to repeal the cannabis dispensary ban in the Commercial Cannabis Overlay District.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 7:19 p.m. Mayor Castro opened the hearing to the public

Anthony Thomas (Cresco Labs) – inquired about the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 7:21 p.m. Mayor Castro closed the hearing to the public.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-08, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

3. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-09**, approving the entrance into a development agreement in the matter of Application No. 20-22, the Element 7 Mendota, LLC project.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Josh Black (Element 7) – provided information on the project.

Discussion was held on the item and on the Element 7 Mendota, LLC project.

At 7:31 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 Rosales to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-09, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

4. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-10**, approving amendments to Chapter 8.32 of Title 8 of the Mendota Municipal Code regarding alarm systems and Chapter 15.04 of Title 15 of the Mendota Municipal Code regarding electrified fencing.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

Keith Kaneko – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item and on cannabis cultivation projects in the community.

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Discussion was held on the item and on cannabis cultivation projects in the community.

At 7:48 p.m. Mayor Castro opened the hearing to the public and, hearing no one present willing to comment, closed it in that same minute.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-10, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Finance Officer
 - a) Grant Update

Finance Officer Diaz provided an update on various grant projects; and the status of various grant applications.

Discussion was held on the Mendota Connectivity Project; and the status of the community center grant application.

At 7:52 p.m. Councilor Riofrio left the Council Chambers and returned at 7:55 p.m.

2. City Engineer
 - a) Update

City Engineer Osborn provided his report including the status of various engineering projects, planning projects, grant applications, and development projects.

Discussion was held on the basketball courts resurfacing project.

3. City Attorney
b) Update

The Council thanked Assistant City Attorney Castro for his work.

4. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez reported on the upcoming Robert Silva Memorial Event; a fatal accident that recently occurred and an email that he sent to Caltrans expressing the City's concerns over traffic/pedestrian safety along Oller Street; staff painting curbs red; a structure fire that recently occurred; PG&E outages along 7th Street; the status of the Little Caesar's project; and issues with certain ag wells.

Discussion was held on the issues with the ag wells; companies that may be interested in building homes in the City; the quality of the City's water; the possibility of installing a little library; and the status of the Mendota Mural Project.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Rosales commented on potentially acquiring surplus property from the IRS.

Councilor Riofrio commented on the closure of the Fresno branch of the IRS; the relocation of a Fresno Costco store; a new casino that is coming to Fresno; that he recently ran into Mr. Rudy Marquez; and other items/historical information relevant to the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza commented on the progress of the community and inquired about the Westside Youth, Inc. open market.

Discussion was held on the work of the police K-9, and community engagement.

Councilor Alonso inquired on the possibility of painting the curb adjacent to stop signs red; and a panel that he recently participated on.

Discussion was held on parking violations and safety concerns throughout the City.

2. Mayor

Mayor Castro commented on the utilization of Lozano Park and the possibility of improving the park.

Discussion was held on scheduling the budget hearing; and the upcoming charitable softball game.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to CA Government Code §§ 54954.5(f), 54957.6

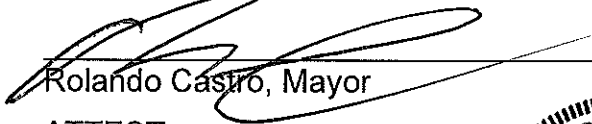
- a. Agency Designated Representatives: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager;
Jennifer Lekumberry, Director of Administrative Services
- b. Employee Organization: Mendota Police Officers Association

At 8:46 p.m. the Council moved into closed.

At 9:19 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session and City Attorney Kinsey stated that in regard to item 1 there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 9:19 p.m. by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Councilor Alonso unanimously approved (5 ayes).



Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

