



MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

October 26, 2021

Meeting called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Jesus Mendoza at 6:09 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Jesus Mendoza and Councilors Jose Alonso and Joseph Riofrio

Council Members Absent: Mayor Rolando Castro and Councilor Oscar Rosales

Flag salute led by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza

Invocation led by Police Chaplain Ophelia 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 Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and 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 October 12, 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 Alonso to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. OCTOBER 13, 2021 THROUGH OCTOBER 19, 2021
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 50921 THROUGH 50996
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$641,345.16
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-83**, cancelling the November 23rd and December 28th Regular City Council Meetings and authorizing the City Manager to execute any necessary warrants.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-84**, approving an agreement with the County of Fresno to administer and implement the Community Development Block Grant Program and authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement and any matters relating thereto.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-85**, authorizing the City Manager to approve and execute a proposal and consultant services agreement from Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group for the preparation of CEQA compliance documents related to the proposed new City Hall and Police Station.
5. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-86**, granting an access and use easement to the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation in connection with the Mowry Bridge Replacement Project.

A request was made to pull item 4.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve items 1 through 3 and 5 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 21-85**, authorizing the City Manager to approve and execute a proposal and consultant services agreement from Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group for the preparation of CEQA compliance documents related to the proposed new City Hall and Police Station.

Discussion was held on the item.

Joseph Amador – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve item 4 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion on the City's American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funding.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza introduced the item and Finance Director Banda provided the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Alonso to direct staff to meet with the personnel of the Mendota Unified School District to discuss the possibility of utilizing ARPA funds on the construction of a new water well, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

2. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 21-87**, approving the formation of a Recreation Commission and City Council ad hoc subcommittee to discuss potential improvements to Mendota Pool Park.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza introduced the item and City Manager Gonzalez provided the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 6:46 p.m. the Council took a recess and reconvened at 6:47 p.m.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to appoint Mayor Rolando Castro and Councilor Oscar Rosales as regular members and Councilor Jose Alonso as an alternate member of the ad-hoc subcommittee and adopt Resolution No. 21-87, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

3. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 21-88**, transitioning City Council meetings to in-person participation and ending virtual attendance service offerings.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza introduced the item and Assistant City Attorney Hunter provided the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

Joseph Amador – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Sabrina Noah – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Alonso to table the item to the next regular City Council meeting, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-16**, amending Chapter 17.99 of Title 17 of the Mendota Municipal Code's provisions regarding approved uses in the Commercial Cannabis Overlay District.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 7:12 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza 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 second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 21-16, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

2. Council discussion and consideration of the following items in the matter of Application No. 21-01, the Left Mendota II Commercial Cannabis Project (APN 013-280-29): **Resolution No. 21-81**, adopting a mitigated negative declaration pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act; **Resolution No. 21-82**, ruling on the applicant's appeal of the Mendota Planning Commission's denial of a conditional use permit; and introduction and waiver of the first reading of **Ordinance No. 21-17**, approving and entering into a development agreement by and between the City of Mendota and Left Mendota II, LLC.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 7:31 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza opened the hearing to the public.

Discussion was held on the item.

Albert Escobedo – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the item.

Chris Lefkovitz – commented on the item.

At 7:46 p.m. the Council took a recess and reconvened at 7:48 p.m.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 8:03 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza closed the hearing to the public.

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to not adopt Resolution No. 21-81, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to deny the appeal of the Planning Commission's denial of a conditional use permit in the matter of Application No. 21-01, the Left Mendota II Commercial Cannabis Project (APN 013-280-29), seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

At 8:12 p.m. the Council took a recess and reconvened at 8:14 p.m.

3. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 21-18**, approving amendments to Development Agreement No. 2018-01 in the matter of Application No. 20-24, the Left Mendota I, LLC Commercial Cannabis Project (APNs 013-280-15 & 22S).

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

At 8:17 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza 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 Alonso to introduce and waive the first reading of Ordinance No. 21-18, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

Chief of Police Smith provided the report for the Code Enforcement Department including a personnel update and monthly statistics.

Discussion was held on code enforcement cases.

Chief Smith provided the report for the Animal Control Department including monthly statistics; issues with stray dogs; and the possibility of renovating the dog pound.

Discussion was held on how the animal control department addresses calls for service involving poultry.

Chief Smith provided the report for the Police Department including monthly statistics; crime trends; a commercial enforcement detail; the department looking into potentially acquiring body worn cameras; and thanked Councilor Alonso for participating in a ride along at the police department.

Discussion was held on gang enforcement in the City; traffic issues during rainy days; the personnel of the department; and the Council thanked the police department for its work.

2. City Attorney
 - a) Update

Assistant City Attorney Castro reported on ongoing projects and assignments.

Discussion was held on the status of the abatement process of a property on 6th and Lolita Streets.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez reported on the upcoming movie night event; rain in the weather forecast; the status of the new City Hall and Police Station project; an upcoming Cresco Labs tour; long-time community members who had recently passed away; and thanked the Council for their direction regarding the construction of a new water well.

Discussion was held on the smell at a meat packing shed that is located East of the City; airport property uses; and Covid-19 vaccination requirements.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Alonso reported on upcoming events and thanked Chief Smith for allowing him to participate in a ride along.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza reported on upcoming events.

2. Mayor

Mayor Castro was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:13 p.m. by Councilor Alonso, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Castro and Rosales).



Jesus Mendoza, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

