



MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

March 22, 2022

Meeting called to order by Mayor Castro at 6:10 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Rolando Castro, Mayor Pro Tem Jesus Mendoza and Councilors Jose Alonso, Joseph Riofrio and Oscar Rosales (at 6:11 p.m. via Zoom)

Council Members Absent: None

Flag salute led by Mayor Castro

A moment of silence was held in honor of Fowler Mayor David Cardenas who had recently passed away.

Invocation led by Police Chaplain Robert Salinas

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

City Manager Gonzalez reported that an updated warrant list for Consent Calendar item 1 was provided to the Council for consideration, and that a hard copy of the Price Paige and Company presentation for Business item 1 was also provided, for reference.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to adopt the agenda as requested by staff, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

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 March 8, 2022.
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. MARCH 1, 2022 THROUGH MARCH 15, 2022
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 51496 THROUGH 51539
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$382,258.80
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 22-17**, authorizing the final payment of retention to the contractor for the 2021 Alley Paving Project – CML-5285(024).
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 22-18**, approving the Direct Payment Agreement with HORNE, LLP, a Delaware Limited Liability Partnership, contracted by the California Department of Community Services and Development to administer the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 22-19**, approving an amendment to the agreement with the Superior Court of California, County of Fresno, for the provision of Available Court Connection and Electronic Support Services.

Finance Director Banda provided the updated total amount for the warrant list in item 1.

A request was made to pull item 1 for discussion.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve items 2 through 4 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

1. MARCH 1, 2022 THROUGH MARCH 15, 2022
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 51496 THROUGH 51539
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$382,258.80

Discussion was held on warrant number 51516, and the subject invoice being from October 2021.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve item 1 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 22-20**, acknowledging receipt of the annual audit of City funds.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and Finance Director Banda provided the report.

Fausto Hinojosa and Kristin Torres with Price, Paige, & Company presented the June 30, 2021 financial statement audit for the City of Mendota.

Discussion was held on the item.

Joseph Amador – commented on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to adopt Resolution No. 22-20, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

2. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 22-21**, proclaiming a continued local emergency, ratifying the proclamation of a state of emergency by the Governor on March 4, 2020, and authorizing remote teleconference meetings of the City of Mendota's legislative bodies for a period of thirty days pursuant to the Brown Act.

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

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to allow public participation at City public meetings and to not adopt Resolution No. 22-21, seconded by Councilor Alonso; motion unanimously approved (5 ayes).

3. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 22-22**, transitioning City Council meetings to in-person participation and ending virtual attendance service offerings while monitoring public health developments.

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 Riofrio to adopt Resolution No. 22-22 and set the end date for remote meeting offerings as March 24, 2022, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

Chief of Police Smith provided the report for the Police Department including monthly statistics; crime trends; and a personnel update.

Discussion was held on speeding issues and noise issues in the community; police presence throughout the community; and the drone program.

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

Discussion was held on the department's personnel.

Chief Smith provide the report for the Animal Control Department including the current capacity of the dog pound and the condition of the dog traps.

Discussion was held on the possibility of holding a dog vaccine clinic.

2. City Attorney
 - a) Update

Assistant City Attorney Castro stated that he had nothing to report.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez reported on the possibility of having an event at the future site of the Daniel Porras Youth Soccer Field; a mass notification that was issued regarding the upcoming career training and job fair; whether the City would like to commit to the installation of the high school's senior banners; and the status of a future housing development.

Discussion was held on the condition of a fence at Veteran's Park; the status of capital projects; and whether a commercial lot near La Colonia will be developed or maintained.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Alonso apologized to the Council for a post that he made on social media.

Councilor Riofrio stated that a bench on Quince and 7th Street needs to be addressed; and the wind tangling City banners.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza reported on the upcoming career training and job fair at the AMOR Wellness Center; thanked staff for working on the lights at the basketball court; thanked staff for the trees that were planted along Bass Avenue; thanked Councilor Alonso for his apology; commented on Fowler Mayor Cardenas' funeral; and commented on the condition of sidewalks.

At 7:21 p.m. Councilor Riofrio left the Council Chambers and returned at 7:22 p.m.

2. Mayor

Mayor Castro commented on Fowler Mayor Cardenas' funeral.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Ongoing litigation pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9 (one case).
City of Mendota v. Evelyn Kramer, et al., Fresno County Superior Court, Case No. 21CECG02410.
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Potential initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9 (two potential cases).

At 7:24 p.m. the Council moved into closed session.

At 7:44 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session and Assistant City Attorney Castro stated that in regard to items 1 and 2 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 7:44 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).



Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:



Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk