



## MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

---

**Regular Meeting**

**May 24, 2022**

**Meeting called to order by Mayor Castro at 6:05 p.m.**

**A moment of silence was held for the victims of the Robb Elementary School shooting in Uvalde, Texas**

**Roll Call**

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

**Council Members Absent:** Councilor Oscar Rosales

**Flag salute led by Mayor Castro**

**Invocation led by Police Chaplain Ophelia Lugo**

### **FINALIZE THE AGENDA**

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

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza to adopt the agenda, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; 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 May 10, 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 Riofrio to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. MAY 6, 2022 THROUGH MAY 17, 2022  
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 51737 THROUGH 51799  
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$283,505.42
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 22-30**, approving the estimate and authorizing H&R Underground to proceed with recoating the influent channel walls at the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve items 1 and 2 of the Consent Calendar, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

## **BUSINESS**

1. Council discussion and consideration of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Proposed Budget.

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

Finance Director Nancy provided additional information on the item.

Discussion was held on the information provided.

**Martha Cabrera** – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the information provided by Ms. Cabrera.

**Brian Rickers (Aqua Natural Solutions)** – commented on the item.

Discussion was held on the information provided by Mr. Rickers.

*At 6:42 p.m. Councilor Riofrio left the Council Chambers and returned at 6:45 p.m.*

Council provided direction to staff on suggested modifications to the draft budget.

2. Council discussion and consideration on opening the sports fields to the public during regular park hours.

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

Discussion was held on the item.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to table the item to a future meeting agenda, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Public hearing and proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 22-29**, confirming the diagram and authorizing the levy and collection of assessments for Landscape and Lighting Maintenance District No. 2019-01 for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

Mayor Castro introduced the item and City Engineer Osborn provided the report.

Discussion was held on the item.

*At 7:35 p.m. Mayor Castro opened the hearing the public and, seeing no one willing to comment, closed the hearing within the same minute.*

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to adopt Resolution No. 22-29, seconded by Councilor Alonso; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

### **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 Code Enforcement Department including monthly statistics and a personnel update.

Discussion was held on code violations throughout the community.

Chief Smith provided the report for the Animal Control Department including the current capacity of the dog pound, and the status of the dog vaccination clinic.

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

Discussion was held on the department's monthly statistics; and Officer Gurrola being nominated for a Mother's Against Drunk Driving award.

*At 7:51 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza left the Council Chambers.*

2. City Attorney
  - a) Update

City Attorney Kinsey provided an update on an abatement action; provide an update on pitches motions; and requested direction from staff regarding modifying the monthly stipend for City Council Members.

Discussion was held on the information provided by City Attorney Kinsey.

Council directed staff to hold off on the item regarding modifying the monthly stipend for City Council Members.

*At 7:53 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza returned to the Council Chambers.*

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez reported on the 2022 ICSC Las Vegas conference that he and the Council recently attended; and provided an update on the Element 7 project.

Discussion was held on the Automatic Meter Reading project.

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

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Alonso shared his condolences for the victims of the mass shootings in Texas and New York and stated that he hopes legislators act on matters related to gun control.

Councilor Riofrio commented on historical acts of gun violence.

Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza commented on the mass shootings that have recently taken place and commented on the precautionary measures that local schools and the police department have in place for those types of situations.

2. Mayor

Mayor Castro commented on the devastating consequences of the mass shooting in Texas and reported on the 2022 ICSC Las Vegas conference that he recently attended.

Discussion was held on the school resource officer program.

**CLOSED SESSION**

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS  
Pursuant to CA Government Code §§ 54954.5(f), 54957.6
  - a. Agency Designated Representative: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager
  - b. Employee Organization: Mendota Police Officers Association
  
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Potential initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9 (one potential case).
  
3. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
  - a. Agency Designated Negotiator: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager
  - b. Negotiating Party: United Security Bank
  - c. Real Property Under Negotiation: 643 Quince Street, Suite B, Mendota, CA 93640

At 8:22 p.m. the Council moved into closed session.

*City Attorney Kinsey left the Council Chambers following the discussion of Closed Session item 2.*

At 9:12 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session and City Manager Gonzalez stated that in regard to items 1 through 3 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 9:13 p.m. by Councilor Alonso, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mendoza; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rolando Castro, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

