

## MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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**Regular Meeting**

**February 14, 2023**

**Meeting called to order by Mayor Martinez at 6:02 p.m.**

**Roll Call**

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Victor Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem Libertad “Liberty” Lopez, and Councilors Joseph Riofrio and Oscar Rosales

**Council Members Absent:** Councilor Jose Alonso

**Flag salute led by Beto Mejia**

***Invocation was not held***

### **FINALIZE THE AGENDA**

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

City Manager Gonzalez requested that items 3 and 4 of the Closed Session be tabled until the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to adopt the modified agenda as requested by staff, seconded by Mayor Martinez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

### **PRESENTATIONS**

1. City Council to recognize the Mendota High School varsity football team for winning the Division VI Valley Championship.

The Mendota High School (MHS) varsity football team was recognized by the City Council for winning the Division VI Valley Championship.

MHS varsity football coach Beto Mejia thanked the City Council and commented on the recognition.

The City Council congratulated the MHS varsity football team for winning the Division VI Valley Championship and presented the football players and coaches with certificates of recognition.

### **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 January 24, 2023 and the special City Council meeting of February 2, 2023.
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 Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. JANUARY 18, 2023 THROUGH FEBRUARY 7, 2023  
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 52788 THROUGH 52895  
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$879,751.37
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 23-07**, approving a contract with Fresno Arts Council, Inc., for the Transportation Art Agreement Clean California Beautification Fund Contribution administered by CALTRANS; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement and any matters relating thereto.
3. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 23-08**, approving the Translation Services Agreement with Patricia Lyons DBA Lyons Interpreting and Translation and authorizing the City Manager to execute the agreement.
4. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 23-09**, approving the proposal submitted by NetXperts, Inc., for IT Managed Services; and authorizing the City Manager to execute the IT Managed Services agreement and any matters relating thereto.

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to approve items 1 through 4, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

### **BUSINESS**

1. Council discussion and consideration of providing direction to staff to order holiday décor for the Oller Street light poles.

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

Discussion was held on the report provided by Finance Director Banda.

*Mayor Martinez opened the floor to receive public comments.*

Ofelia Ochoa commented on the need to create positive change in the community; encouraged community members to support the City Council and attend future meetings to share their opinions; and thanked the City Council for their work.

Morena Larreynaga commented in favor of the City Council approving the purchase of new holiday décor for the Oller Street light poles.

Sherry Charles commented in favor of the City Council approving the purchase of new holiday décor for the Oller Street light poles.

*Mayor Martinez closed the floor to public comments.*

A motion was made by Councilor Rosales to direct staff to order new holiday décor for the Oller Street light poles, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Finance Director
  - a) Grant Update

Finance Director Banda provided an update on grants and the upcoming SB 1383 organics workshops that the City will be hosting on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and April 21<sup>st</sup>; a movie night being held by Adelante Mendota on February 24<sup>th</sup>; and provided an update on the Community Resilience Grant.

Sherry Charles commented on the issue of individuals going through her garbage bins.

Discussion was held on the comment made by Ms. Charles, and on the update provided by Finance Director Banda.

2. City Engineer
  - a) Update

City Engineer Michael Osborn provided an update on the Rojas-Pierce Park Phase 2 Expansion Project, including the status of installing the lighting and the need to close both

baseball diamonds and soccer field in order to complete the project; the status of the 2022 Local Street Reconstruction Project; and provided an update on the MJHS Safe Routes to School Project.

Juan Ledesma requested clarification on when the Rojas-Pierce Park Phase 2 Expansion Project would be complete.

Discussion was held on Mr. Ledesma's comment and on lighting issues in the City.

3. City Attorney
  - a) Update

Assistant City Attorney Castro commented on ongoing administrative tasks and stated that he is happy to address any concerns that any staff member might have.

4. City Manager
  - a) Discussion on holding a Town Hall meeting

City Manager Gonzalez thanked everyone who attended the Mendota Police Station and City Council Chambers groundbreaking ceremony; provided an update on the new Police Station and City Council Chambers project; provided a housing project update on land owned by Westlands Water District; commented on the City Council holding a Town Hall meeting at a future date; and reported on events that City Council Members have expressed interest in attending.

Discussion was held on the logistics of holding the Town Hall meeting; and the City Council provided direction to staff to schedule a Town Hall meeting in late March/early April.

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

1. Council Member(s)

Councilor Rosales inquired about a project at the Casa de Rosa apartments; the growing homelessness problem being faced by the City; and thanked all those who attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the Mendota Police Station and City Council Chambers and encouraged community members to attend City Council meetings.

Discussion was held on the inquiry and comments made by Councilor Rosales, and on the City providing interpretation services for future City Council meetings.

Councilor Riofrio commented on the Mendota Police Station and City Council Chambers groundbreaking ceremony, including the attendance of elected government officials at the ceremony; negative comments being made by community members on social media; continued growth in the City; the conditions of local roads; and ongoing housing issues.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Councilor Riofrio.

## 2. Mayor

Mayor Martinez commented on the Mendota Police Station and City Council Chambers groundbreaking ceremony and thanked staff for organizing the event; commented on an initial Chamber of Commerce meeting being held on February 15<sup>th</sup>; a 5K Run that is being organized in honor of former Mayor Robert Silva; the Mendota Community Corporation's Annual Golf Tournament; the possibility of hosting a soccer tournament; an upcoming community clean up event in April; scheduling a Town Hall meeting at a future date; and on negative comments being made on social media about the City.

Discussion was held on the community clean up event being held in April and on negative comments made by community members on social media regarding road conditions.

Councilor Rosales commented on service fees regarding water meters and water shutoffs.

Mayor Martinez thanked all those present for attending the meeting and congratulated the MHS varsity football coaches Juan Ledesma and Joshua Perez for winning the Division VI Valley Championship.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

1. 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).
2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS  
Pursuant to Government Code sections 54954.5, subdivision (f), 54957.6
  - a. Agency Designated Representative: Cristian Gonzalez, City Manager
  - b. Employee Organization: Mendota Police Officers Association
3. ~~PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION~~  
~~Pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54957~~  
~~Title: City Manager~~
4. ~~PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION~~  
~~Pursuant to subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54957~~  
~~Title: Finance Director~~

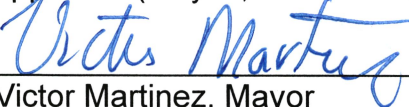
At 7:22 p.m. the Council moved into closed session.

At 7:55 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 were no reportable actions.


*Items 3 and 4 of the Closed Session were tabled for a future meeting.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 7:55 p.m. by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Councilor Rosales; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Alonso).

  
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Victor Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

