



## MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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**Regular Meeting**

**March 28, 2023**

**Meeting called to order by Mayor Martinez at 6:00 PM.**

### **Roll Call**

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

**Council Members Absent:** None

**Flag salute led by Mayor Martinez**

**Invocation led by Police Chaplain Robert Salinas**

### **FINALIZE THE AGENDA**

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

A motion was made by Council Member Riofrio to adopt the agenda, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

Council Member Rosales wished Council Member Riofrio a Happy Birthday.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

1. City Council to recognize Ana Raquel Hernandez for her success with her YouTube Channel “Cocinando con Raquel”.

Ana Raquel Hernandez was recognized by the City Council for her success with her YouTube Channel and social media sites “Cocinando con Raquel”.

Ms. Hernandez thanked the City Council and commented on the recognition.

The City Council congratulated Ms. Hernandez on her success and thanked her for representing Mendota and her culture.

### **CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS**

**Patricia Gamez** – reported that there is a community mailbox in front of her home that has a red curb; that she has received citations for parking her vehicle in front of the mailbox event on days that there is no United States Postal Service; that personal circumstances make it difficult for her to not park in front of her home, along the red curb; and requested that the City consider allowing vehicles to park in front of the community mailboxes on the days that there is no postal service.

Discussion was held on Ms. Gamez's inquiry.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING**

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of March 14, 2023 and the special joint City Council and Mendota Unified School Board of Trustees meeting of March 22, 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 Council Member Rosales to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. MARCH 9, 2023 THROUGH MARCH 21, 2023  
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 53014 THROUGH 53064  
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$494,057.41
2. Proposed adoption of **Resolution No. 23-21**, approving the quotes submitted by National Auto Fleet Group and Cook's Communications and authorizing the purchase of two vehicles for the Police Department.
3. Proposed authorization of the Mayor to execute a letter of support for the proposed one-time relief package to support hospital care for Medi-Cal patients.
4. Proposed authorization of the Mayor to execute a letter of support for funding for the National Farmworker Jobs Program.

A motion was made by Council Member Rosales to approve items 1 through 4, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

## **BUSINESS**

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 23-22**, authorizing the City Manager to purchase vehicles for the Public Utilities and Public Works Departments from Geweke Ford in an amount not to exceed \$110,000.00 plus taxes and fees and execute all documents necessary to effectuate the purchase.

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

Discussion was held on the information shared by Mr. Gonzalez.

Chief Plant Operator Angel provided additional information on the item.

Discussion was held on the information shared by Mr. Angel.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez to adopt Resolution No. 23-22, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

2. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 23-23**, approving the proposal submitted by Townsend Public Affairs for State and Federal Advocacy Trip Support Services and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to effectuate the proposal.

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

Discussion was held on the information shared by Ms. Cabrera-Garcia.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez to approve Resolution No. 23-23, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

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

Chief of Police Smith provided the monthly report for the Code Enforcement department, including weed abatement enforcement efforts; and the enforcement of illegal semi-truck parking.

Discussion was held on the City's efforts to enforce illegal semi-truck parking; and the department issuing Council Member Rosales's brother a citation for illegal parking.

*Mayor Pro Tem Lopez left the Council Chambers and returned at 7:41 p.m.*

Chief Smith provided the monthly report for the Animal Control department, including

monthly statistics and the dog pound's current capacity.

Discussion was held on the maximum dog capacity for the dog pound.

Chief Smith provided the monthly report for the Police Department, including monthly statistics.

Discussion was held on the report provided by Chief Smith, including current personnel recruitment efforts.

2. City Attorney

a) Update

City Attorney Kinsey reported on the investiture for Judge Ana de Alba who serves as a United States District Judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California and shared how Judge de Alba is an inspiration for young Latinas on the West side of the Central Valley.

3. City Manager

a) Mobilized vendor update

City Manager Gonzalez provided an update on motorized and sidewalk vendors, including the vendors who have current licensing; the City's efforts to oversee and manage the flooding issues; the status of the cleanup and beautification program; the status of the inclusive park; and the status of the Police Department/City Council Chambers project.

Discussion was held on motorized and sidewalk vendors; the status of the cleanup and beautification program; the possibility of implementing a beautification subcommittee; and the status of the inclusive playground.

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

1. Council Member(s)

Council Member Rosales inquired about a staff appreciation luncheon and requested that Ana Raquel Hernandez be a guest of honor at the 2023 Mendota Fireworks Show.

Joseph Amador thanked City Manager Gonzalez and Chief Smith for their work.

Council Member Riofrio commented on the incorporation dates of various cities; and the history of Mendota.

Discussion was held on selling Mendota merchandise; and creating a donor list for the Mendota Community Corporation and the City.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez commented on the great work of the community, staff, and City

Council.

Council Member Alonso congratulated Ana Raquel Hernandez and her husband on the success of "Cocinando con Raquel"; reported on the upcoming Public Safety Subcommittee meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and reported on an upcoming meeting he will have with an organization based in New York.

2. Mayor

Mayor Martinez reported on ongoing City efforts and projects; the efforts of the Chamber of Commerce; creating a new soccer field; and on the Town Hall Meeting that was held on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

Discussion was held on upcoming self-help housing meeting and the possibility of installing fencing at the Lindgren-Lozano Park.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 7:23 p.m. by Council Member Alonso, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).



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Victor Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk