



MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting

April 11, 2023

Meeting called to order by Mayor Martinez at 6:03 PM.

Roll Call

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

Council Members Absent: Council Member Oscar Rosales

Flag salute led by Albert Escobedo

Invocation led by Police Chaplain Ophelia Lugo

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 Alonso; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Veronica Rasmussen-Gil – inquired about the possibility of the City assisting with a veterinary clinic event to spay and neuter dogs to help with the ongoing issue of stray dogs.

Discussion was held on the inquiry made by Ms. Rasmussen-Gil.

Phylliss – requested clarification on City and State laws pertaining to dirt bikes and inquired about the City providing a location where community members could ride their dirt bikes legally.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Phyliss.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the special City Council meeting held on March 27, 2023, and the regular City Council meeting of March 28, 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 Riofrio to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. MARCH 23, 2023 THROUGH MARCH 30, 2023
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 53065 THROUGH 53109
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$558,710.52

A motion was made by Council Member Alonso to approve item 1, seconded by Council Member Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Ordinance No. 23-01**, authorizing an amendment to the contract between the Board of Administration, California Public Employees' Retirement System and the City of Mendota.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and Director of Administrative Services Lekumberry provided the report.

Discussion was held on the report provided by Director of Administrative Services Lekumberry.

Mayor Martinez opened the hearing to the public and seeing no one willing to comment closed the hearing to the public within the same minute.

A motion was made by Council Member Alonso to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 23-01, seconded by Council Member Riofrio; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Rosales).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Finance Director
 - a) Grant Update

Finance Director Banda provided an update on various grants and programs; commented on the upcoming SB1383 Educational Workshop that will be held on April 21st at the AMOR Wellness Center, and on the Adelante Mendota movie night that will be held on April 21st at Rojas-Pierce Park.

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

2. City Engineer
 - a) Update

City Engineer Osborn provided an update on ongoing City projects, including the Rojas-Pierce Park Phase 2 Expansion Project, the Mendota Junior High School ("MJHS") Safe Routes to School Project and the Mendota Stormwater Improvement Project.

3. City Attorney
 - a) Update

Assistant City Attorney Castro provided an update on ongoing projects; possible regulations to businesses licenses; and stated that he is ready to assist staff with anything they may need.

4. City Manager
 - a) Business licenses

City Manager Gonzalez provided an update on the business license process in the City, commented on the possibility of regulating certain businesses such as smoke shops; reported on an upcoming Advocacy Trip to Sacramento; on the upcoming Employee Recognition and Appreciation Lunch; the status of the Mendota Police Department/City Council Chambers Project; the inclusive playground at Rojas-Pierce Park; the Pool Park Rehabilitation Project and the upcoming Mendota Clean Up and Beautification Program.

Discussion was held on the report provided by City Manager Gonzalez.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Council Member Alonso commented on the need for business owners to clean and maintain their properties; the City's 2023 Earth Day Celebration Event; an upcoming Advocacy Trip to Sacramento and stated that he has been researching grants to improve the City's dog pound facility.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez commented on a cleanup event that will be held on Friday, April 14th; an event to provide resources to homeless individuals on April 15th; on the Department of Motorized Vehicles ("DMV") expanding its facility in the City; on the Employee Recognition and Appreciation Lunch and stated that she is happy with the work of the City Council.

Discussion was held on the report provided by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez.

Council Member Riofrio thanked City staff for their work, commented on grant opportunities for the City; on the need to upgrade the dog pound facility; the MJHS Safe Routes to School Project, including the need to continue to improve crossings near schools; on smoke shops in the City and the possibility of regulating them; and on the City being stricter when it comes to tobacco and cannabis businesses/products.

Discussion was held on the report provided by Council Member Riofrio and on payments owed to the City by Odyssey Agricultural Development, LLC.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez commented on a meeting with Self-Help staff; a meeting held with staff at Federal Correctional Institution, Mendota ("FCI Mendota"); on the possibility of prisoners at FCI Mendota assisting with dog training and on the need to address stray dogs in the City.

2. Mayor

Mayor Martinez commented on the upcoming Employee Recognition and Appreciation Lunch; on the need to address public drinking at different businesses in the City, on the need to address the homeless situation in the City; on the positive changes being seen throughout the City and thanked City staff for their work.

Discussion was held on the report provided by Mayor Martinez.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9 (one potential case)

At 7:04 p.m. the City Council moved into closed session.

At 7.20 p.m. the City Council reconvened in open session and Assistant City Attorney Castro stated that in regard to item 1 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 7:20 p.m. by Council Member Alonso, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent Rosales).



Victor Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:

Antonio Pizano, Deputy City Clerk