

**MINUTES OF MENDOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Regular Meeting

April 25, 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, Joseph Riofrio and Oscar Rosales

Council Members Absent: None

Flag salute led by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez

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

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Andres Godoy – thanked the City Council for their work with the Police Department/City Council Chambers project and stated that he is willing to assist the City and City Council with anything they may need.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Mr. Godoy.

Joseph Amador – thanked the City Council for their work and commented on the importance of the Mendota Chamber of Commerce.

Discussion was held on the comments made by Mr. Amador.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of April 11, 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 Alonso to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Council Member Rosales; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Calendar and will be considered separately.

1. APRIL 5, 2023 THROUGH APRIL 14, 2023
WARRANT LIST CHECK NOS. 53110 THROUGH 53177
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$872,119.48
2. Proposed ratification of a letter of support for Senate Bill 524 (Caballero).
3. Proposed ratification of a letter of support for Senate Bill 621 (Caballero).
4. Proposed ratification of a letter of support for Senate Bill 870 (Caballero).
5. Proposed ratification of a letter of support for Senate Bill 17 (Caballero).
6. Proposed ratification of a letter of support for Assembly Bill 412 (Soria).

Discussion was held on items 2 through 6 of the Consent Calendar.

A motion was made by Council Member Rosales to approve items 1 through 6, seconded by Council Member Alonso; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and consideration of **Resolution No. 23-24**, authorizing the addition of two regular full-time entry level police officer positions for the Mendota Police Department.

Mayor Martinez introduced the item and Chief of Police Smith provided the report.

Discussion was held on the report provided by Chief Smith.

Mayor Martinez opened the floor to receive public comment.

Andres Godoy – commented in favor of the resolution; on the need to improve public safety; and requested that the Mendota Police Department (“MPD”) be more lenient with pulling over workers coming home from work and focus on individuals who are speeding.

Mayor Martinez closed the floor to receive public comment.

A motion was made Council Member Alonso to approve Resolution No. 23-24, 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 Smith provided the monthly report for the Code Enforcement department, including monthly statistics; their assistance with the City’s 2023 Earth Day Celebration event; the Adelante Mendota movie night; a cleanup event held at an encampment for the homeless in the City; the enforcement of illegal semi-truck parking; the City’s weed abatement process, and the City’s efforts to combat public drinking.

Discussion was held on the report provided by Chief Smith.

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

Discussion was held on the report provided by Chief Smith; the City’s weed abatement process; the need to review the fee schedule for weed abatement violations; the City’s newly implemented Community Clean Up and Beautification Program; the issue of loud music at various locations throughout the City; and an issue with a rat infestation in an area of the City.

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

Discussion was held on the report provided by Chief Smith and on the issue of homelessness in the City.

2. City Attorney
 - a) Update

City Attorney Kinsey stated that he had nothing to report but was happy to answer any questions the City Council might have.

3. City Manager

City Manager Gonzalez reported on the City’s Community Clean Up event, a newly implemented Community Clean Up and Beautification Program; Administrative Assistant

Week; the all-inclusive playground at Rojas-Pierce Park; the planning of a new soccer field; the 2022 Local Street Reconstruction Project; the Mendota Police Department's National Night Out; the Employee Appreciation and Recognition Lunch; the 2023 Earth Day Celebration Event; the advocacy trip to Sacramento; and the City's weed abatement process.

Discussion was held on the update provided by City Manager Gonzalez; the City's Mattress Recycling Program; the need to address trash build up in the City; fining individuals who are caught dumping trash illegally; and the need to install more surveillance cameras throughout the City.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

Council Member Alonso provided an update on the recent advocacy trip to Sacramento.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez provided an update on a clean up event held at an encampment for the homeless in the City; thanked the Mendota Public Works department and Code Enforcement department for their assistance with the clean up event; a worship and prayer event that was held at an encampment for the homeless; thanked Chief Plant Operator Angel for attending the worship and prayer event; thanked MPD for addressing her speeding concerns; provided an update on a health clinic being offered once a week at AMOR Wellness; the upcoming AMOR Wellness Gala in the Garden event and inquired about the possibility of installing speed bumps on Lolita Street.

Council Member Riofrio commented on the 2022 Local Street Reconstruction Project, including signage placed on City Streets needing to be repaired due to missing information; issues with public drinking and ways to combat it, and on the possibility of providing conditional use permits to certain businesses in the City.

2. Mayor

Mayor Martinez thanked staff for their work; commented on the need to continue to improve the community and road conditions; the issue of stray dogs; the issue of homelessness; provided an update on the recent advocacy trip to Sacramento, and an upcoming advocacy trip to Washington DC.

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 7:10 p.m. the City Council moved into closed session.

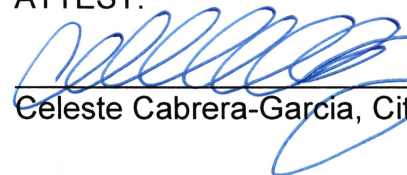
At 7:39 p.m. the City Council reconvened in open session and City Attorney Kinsey reported that there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 7:39 p.m. by Council Member Rosales, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lopez; unanimously approved (5 ayes).


Victor Martinez, Mayor

ATTEST:


Celeste Cabrera-Garcia, City Clerk

