

**MINUTES OF MENDOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Regular Meeting

May 12, 2015

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

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Robert Silva, Mayor Pro Tem Sergio Valdez (at 6:32 p.m.), Councilors Joseph Amador and Joseph Riofrio.

Council Members Absent: Councilor Rolando Castro.

Flag salute led by Mayor Silva.

Invocation led by Pastor John Flores from Rivers of Living Waters Christian Church.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Julia Rodriguez, Ruben Segovia, and Dickran Boranian who had recently passed away.

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

City Attorney Boranian requested adding an emergency item in the form of an existing litigation to the closed session for a total of 4 items. A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to adopt the agenda as modified, seconded by Councilor Amador; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Castro and Valdez).

PRESENTATION

1. Joel Saldana from Fresno EOC.

Joel Saldana from Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC) presented information regarding the initial formation of the EOC; the EOC's vision to empower individuals and maintain healthy communities; the various areas of focus and how programs within EOC meet that focus; and the various EOC programs currently in Mendota.

Discussion was held on the various EOC programs currently in Mendota and other EOC programs that can be provided in Mendota.

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Joe Gil Gomez (2033 7th Street) - stated that the Transient Occupancy Tax payment from Mendota Motel and Apartments has decreased due to decreased gross revenue; expressed the impact that the drought has had on businesses; and issues of overcrowding homes (6:32 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Valdez entered the Council Chambers).

Discussion was held on the drought affecting local businesses.

Bob Rasmussen (231 McCabe Avenue) – explained that he and his daughter are both disabled and have disabled placards for their vehicles; sometimes unable to park in front of their home due to their neighbors parking there; reported on an incident in which his daughter received a parking citation for parking on the lawn; issues with neighboring homes having multiple vehicles and not enough space to park them; and asked for parking considerations for people with disabilities, such as allowing them to park on the lawn, but would be pleased with whatever solution the City chooses.

Discussion was held on the issue of overcrowding homes; various ways to remedy the situation such as creating a marked, disabled parking spot in front of the home; and the issue of allowing vehicles to park on the lawn being unsightly and bringing property values down.

Sandra Alvarado (1625 8th Street) – stated that Code Enforcement Officer Vaca advised her that she cannot park her trailer in her front yard and wanted clarification on why other homes are allowed to park their trailers at their homes.

Discussion was held on having Ms. Alvarado meet with Planning & Economic Development Manager Flood in order to provide her with clarification.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Code Enforcement
 - a) Monthly Report

Planning & Economic Development Manager Flood summarized the report for April including the focus on public nuisances, violations related to vehicles, water conservation regulations, and maintaining the business sector clean.

Discussion was held on the process to notify a property owner of a public nuisance on their property; the timeframe that a property owner has to clean the public nuisance on their property; the process for the City to forcefully abate a property; and the status of the ordinance related to off-site temporary signs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of April 28, 2015.
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 Valdez; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Castro).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APRIL 29, 2015 THROUGH MAY 07, 2015
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 39341 THRU 39410
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$205,541.80
2. Council adopt Resolution No. 15-34, to hold two Special City Council meetings to consider the budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.
3. Council adopt Resolution No. 15-35, authorizing the City Manager to execute loan documents necessary for the purchase of a City vehicle.
4. Council adopt Resolution No. 15-36, authorizing the City Manager to send a letter to the California Department of Transportation opposing the planned roundabout at the intersection of Oller and Derrick.
5. Council approve Second Amendment to City Manager's Employment Agreement.

Requests were made to pull items 2 through 5 for discussion.

A motion was made to approve item 1 of the consent calendar by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Councilor Amador; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Castro).

2. Council adopt Resolution No. 15-34, to hold two Special City Council meetings to consider the budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.

Discussion was held on changing the proposed Special City Council meeting dates due to conflicting schedules with various Councilors.

Council consensus was reached to continue the item to the May 26th Regular City Council meeting.

3. Council adopt Resolution No. 15-35, authorizing the City Manager to execute loan documents necessary for the purchase of a City vehicle.

Discussion was held on the possibility of waiting to purchase the vehicle until the 2015-2016 fiscal year and which City revenues would be used to purchase the vehicle.

A motion was made to approve item 3 of the consent calendar by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Mayor Silva; motion failed (2 ayes, no: Amador and Valdez, absent: Castro).

Discussion was held on continuing the item in order to identify which exact revenues would be used to purchase the vehicle.

A motion was made to continue item 3 of the consent calendar by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Councilor Amador; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Castro).

4. Council adopt Resolution No. 15-36, authorizing the City Manager to send a letter to the California Department of Transportation opposing the planned roundabout at the intersection of Oller and Derrick.

Discussion was held on whether the traffic study of the intersection would still occur; the possibility of adding traffic signals at the intersection instead of a roundabout; the issue of losing monies that were specifically for the roundabout; and whether the City has the ability to choose to move forward with the roundabout or not.

A motion was made to table item 4 of the consent calendar by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, seconded by Councilor Amador; unanimously approved (4 ayes, absent: Castro).

5. Council approve Second Amendment to City Manager's Employment Agreement.

Discussion was held on what monies would fund the increase of the City Manager's salary and the various City projects and billing accounts that will save the City money in the upcoming years.

A motion was made to continue item 5 of the consent calendar to the May 26th Regular City Council meeting by Councilor Amador, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez; approved (3 ayes, no: Riofrio, absent: Castro).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Police Department
 - a) Monthly Report

Chief of Police Andreotti summarized the report for April including the increase of auto thefts throughout the City; an increase of self-initiated activity from the officers, such as subject checks, that result in the apprehension of illegal paraphernalia; the apprehension of the suspect involved in a stabbing incident; the ongoing investigation of a homicide that occurred near 7th Street and Highway 33; and the increase of trust between the public and the police department.

Discussion was held on the increase of gang activity within the City and the Council thanked Chief Andreotti and the police officers for their hard work.

2. City Attorney
 - a) Update

City Attorney Boranian reported that a City employee recently took a CPR class and would get reimbursed through her Educational Grant Program.

3. City Manager
 - a) Report

Nothing to report.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)
 - Council reports

Mayor Pro Tem Valdez reported on upcoming Cal Ripken baseball tournaments that will be held in Mendota; the Mendota Youth Recreation baseball league season coming to an end; and the maintenance of the Benny Mares Sr. baseball field.

Discussion was held on the maintenance of the Benny Mares Sr. baseball field and the City soccer field and the possibility of workers from a project on Panoche Road illegally using water from City fire hydrants.

Councilor Amador reported on the Sober Grad basketball fundraiser that was held recently and thanked staff for participating.

2. Mayor

Mayor Silva reported on the upcoming Orange County Water Summit that he will be attending as a guest speaker; the media attending the upcoming food distribution; and Dianne Feinstein's staff that is focused on water issues.

CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -- EXISTING LITIGATION
CA Government Code § 54956.9 (a)
Edward Warkentine v. City of Mendota, Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 13 CECG 03203
2. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
CA Government Code § 54957.6
Title: Unrepresented Management MOU
Designated Representative and Negotiator: Vince DiMaggio
3. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
CA Government Code 54957.6
Agency designated representatives: City Manager Vince DiMaggio
Employee organization: Mendota Police Officers Association
4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -- EXISTING LITIGATION
CA Government Code § 54956.9 (a)
Lisseth Martinez v. City of Mendota- EEOC Charge No. 485-2015-0024

At 7:49 p.m. the Council moved into closed session.

At 8:24 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session and City Attorney Boranian reported that in regards to items 1 and 4 of the closed session, there was nothing to report. In regards to items 2 and 3 of the closed session, consensus was reached to continue the items to the May 26th City Council meeting.

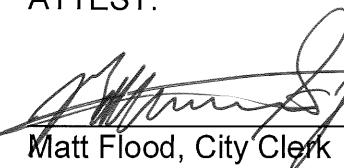
ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:25 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (3 ayes, absent: Amador and Castro).



Robert Silva, Mayor

ATTEST:



Matt Flood, City Clerk

