



MINUTES OF MENDOTA REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting **July 14, 2015**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Silva at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: **Mayor Robert Silva, Mayor Pro Tem Sergio Valdez, Councilors Joseph Amador, Rolando Castro, and Joseph Riofrio.**

Council Members Absent: **None.**

Flag salute led by Councilor Amador.

Invocation led by Pastor Carmen Montejano from the Templo Lugar de Refugio.

FINALIZE THE AGENDA

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

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to adopt the agenda, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

PRESENTATION

1. Promotion of 4 Police Corporals to Sergeants by Chief of Police Andreotti.

Mayor Silva introduced the item and Chief Andreotti explained that the Mendota Police Department was re-established in 2009 and Police Corporal's have been assigned to supervisory duties since then; the goal to restructure and reorganize personnel positions and duties within the department; having the Sergeants build relationships with other Sergeants from allied agencies; and introduced all four police sergeants.

Discussion was held on the department restructuring personnel positions and Council thanked Chief Andreotti and the Mendota police officers for serving the community.

At 6:15 p.m. Mayor Silva announced there would be a 10 minute recess (6:18 p.m. Councilor Amador left the Council Chambers).

At 6:21 p.m. the Council reconvened in open session.

2. Proclamation 15-04: Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Fresno Housing Authority.

Stacy Sablan, representing the County Board of Commissioners, stated that this is the Fresno Housing Authority's 75th Anniversary and introduced Development Manager Christina Husbands who provided a presentation on the Fresno Housing Authority, including its mission to create and sustain vibrant communities, provide low-income housing, and engage residents; the administration of major housing programs and the coordination of resident support services; the diversity of individuals served; the major housing programs such as assisted housing and affordable housing and the programs within them; programs, projects, and partnerships throughout the County; the various organizations within Community Centers; and Preston Prince, CEO/Executive Director Fresno Housing Authority, thanked Council for allowing the presentation.

Discussion was held on the amount of funding that went into renovating the Mendota Housing Authority; a proposed senior development in Firebaugh; the location of the Mendota Farm Labor Housing; the Mendota Farm Labor Housing being year-round; donations that the Housing authority has received to be dedicated towards scholarships for Mendota students; a partnership between the Housing Authority and Fresno State regarding the matching of scholarships for students who decide to attend Fresno State; English language classes that will be offered in the Mendota Housing Authority Community Center; and Council thanked the individuals representing the Housing Authority for what they have done for Mendota.

Deputy City Clerk Cabrera presented Proclamation 15-04 and read it into the record.

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

Juanita Gonzalez (261 Black Avenue) – explained that she is part of the original group of the Joaquin Murrieta equestrian ride (6:44 p.m. Councilor Amador returned to the Council Chambers); this is the 38th year of the Joaquin Murrieta Rides Again Tradición y Cultura Event; stated that it is memorial ride for the original riders; reported on a ceremony that will be performed by the American Indian Association; explained the group's involvement with the "El Agua Es Asunto de Todos" campaign; and introduced Sam Olivas who is a member of the American Indian Association.

Discussion was held on notifying staff and making arrangements for the group to utilize the Lozano Park; inviting community members to participate (6:52 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Valdez left the Council Chambers); volunteers organizing the event (6:54 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Valdez returned to the Council Chambers); the purpose of the American Indian ceremony (6:56 p.m. Councilor Amador left the Council Chambers and returned at 6:57 p.m.); and Mrs. Gonzalez presented a Certificate of Recognition to Council.

Ramiro Espinoza (837 Stamoules Street) - explained that the Mendota Boys and Girls Club was now open; the amount of youth that attend; the hours of operation; and the mission of the Boys and Girls Club.

Discussion was held on the hours of operation for the Mendota Boys and Girls Club.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the Special City Council meeting of June 16, 2015 and the Regular City Council meeting of June 23, 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 Mayor Pro Tem Valdez to approve items 1 and 2, seconded by Councilor Castro; approved (4 ayes, abstain: Riofrio).

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. JUNE 18, 2015 THROUGH JULY 08, 2015
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 39562 THRU 39640
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$249,303.43
2. Council approve to enter into an agreement with Fresno County for the Community Development Block Grant for Fiscal Year 2015/2016 and authorize the City Manager to execute all associated documents.
3. Council adopt **Resolution No. 15-51**, authorizing staff to submit an application for the Cycle 2 Active Transportation Program.
4. Council adopt **Resolution No. 15-52**, approving the creation of a full-time Community Service Officer position and establishing a Salary Schedule.
5. Council adopt **Resolution No. 15-53**, waiving the fee for the encroachment permit fee for the annual backpack giveaway event of 2015. and the Mendota Police Officers' Association.

Requests were made to pull items 1 and 4 for discussion.

A motion was made to approve items 2,3, and 5 of the consent calendar by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

1. JUNE 18, 2015 THROUGH JULY 08, 2015
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 39562 THRU 39640
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$249,303.43

Discussion was held on check number 39562.

A motion was made to approve item 1 of the consent calendar by Councilor Amador, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

4. Council adopt **Resolution No. 15-52**, approving the creation of a full-time Community Service Officer position and establishing a Salary Schedule.

Discussion was held on the City acquiring a Community Service Officer (CSO) position through funding by a third party; having a part-time position in the past that had the dual roles of Code Enforcement and CSO; not having funding to fund a full-time CSO position in the past; the possibility having Code Enforcement and the CSO based at the police department; the lack of efficiency from Code Enforcement in the past; Code Enforcement being based at City Hall and the CSO being based at the police department; the various duties that the CSO will have such as community involvement and coordinating events; the benefits of hiring an individual from the Mendota Community to serve as a CSO; the step increases associated with the proposed CSO position; and the timeframe of acquiring a CSO.

A motion was made to approve item 4 of the consent calendar by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, seconded by Councilor Riofrio; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

BUSINESS

1. Council discussion and consideration to adopt **Resolution No. 15-54**, appointing voting delegates for the League of California Cities' annual business meeting.

Mayor Silva introduced the item and Planning & Economic Development Manager Flood summarized the report including the purpose of designating voting delegates for the upcoming League of California Cities' Annual Conference and designating another Council Member as voting delegate if either Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem do not plan to attend the conference.

Discussion was held on Mayor Pro Tem Valdez not attending the League of California Cities' Annual Conference.

A motion was made to appoint Mayor Silva and Councilor Amador as the voting delegates and adopt Resolution No. 15-54 by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez; unanimously approved (5 ayes).

2. Council discussion and consideration on the increase of water and sewer rates.

Mayor Silva introduced the item and City Manager DiMaggio reported that the water and sewer rates have not been increased in a significant amount of time; funding capital items through development impact fees and water and sewer fees in a Capital Improvement Plan; the need to increase water and sewer fees to fund current operations; the amount that will be increased; the different options available to increase water and sewer rates; and the possibility of holding workshops in the future to inform the public of the situation.

Discussion was held on the last time that the water and sewer rates were increased; the different options that are available to increase water and sewer rates; the need to educate the public on the situation; the lack of maintenance on the water system in the past significantly influencing the situation; the issue being on the agenda for future City Council meetings; an upcoming Proposition 218 election; the age requirement for the senior discount regarding water rates; the contract between the City and B.B. Limited; and the possibility of having a Spanish translator at future meetings.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Council hold a public hearing and perform the second reading of **Ordinance No. 15-08**, amending Sections 17.04.110 and 17.60.020 and adding Section 17.88.025 to Title 17 of the Mendota Municipal Code related to emergency shelters and supportive and transitional housing.

Mayor Silva introduced the item and City Planner O'Neal summarized the report including the purpose of the proposed ordinance is to make the necessary changes to the Mendota Municipal Code regarding SB 2 in order for the California Department of Housing and Community Development to consider certifying the City's Housing Element update.

Discussion was held on the differences between emergency shelters and supportive and transitional housing (7:55 p.m. Councilor Riofrio left the Council Chambers) and utilizing M-1 zone as permitted locations for emergency shelters since the City does not have S-C zoned property (7:58 p.m. Councilor Riofrio returned to the Council Chambers).

At 7:59 p.m. Mayor Silva opened the hearing to the public and, seeing no one present willing to comment, closed it in that same minute.

A motion was made to adopt Ordinance No. 15-08 was made by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Councilor Amador; unanimously approved (5 ayes)

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Code Enforcement
 - a) Monthly Report

Planning & Economic Development Manager Flood summarized the report including the various foci for the month of June such as the enforcement of water conservation measures, weed abatements, and improving the aesthetic look of the community.

Discussion was held on an overflowing garbage bin near the Community Center possibly caused by food distributions; a survey that is being done in regards to garbage bins throughout the business corridor; the process to abate graffiti; issues with illegal dumping throughout the City; verifying that the City complies with water regulations; issues regarding graffiti throughout the City; and a organization that is interested in creating a rehabilitation center in Mendota possibly receiving assistance from the office of State Senator Cannella.

2. Police Department
 - a) Monthly Report

Chief of Police Andreotti reported that the amount of warrant arrests and identity theft cases have increased; a suspect involved with identity theft was arrested; the decrease of narcotic arrests; varied spikes of auto thefts within the City; the involvement of the Fresno H.E.A.T task force; and an individual from Mendota who was caught in possession of a stolen vehicle.

Discussion was held on the impact that that the passing of Proposition 47 has had on crime; the possibility of repealing Proposition 47; an individual who is constantly involved with auto thefts; the possibility of the City paying for beds for dangerous criminals; an organization that wants to create a rehabilitation center in Mendota; the contact information for the Alcoholicos Anonimos organization; a 5150 individual who was attempting to sell their infant child; recycling centers being required to ask for an individual's identification card in order for them to sell their recyclables; and a letter that was sent to a local recycling center to cease operations.

3. City Attorney
 - a) Update

City Attorney Boranian reported that she has not received any further information from the Mendota Unified School District's attorney regarding the Community Center.

4. City Manager

City Manager DiMaggio reported that H.R. 2898 regarding drought relief, which was introduced by Congressman Valadao, will be voted on by the United State House of Representatives.

Discussion was held on water regulations being enforced equally throughout the state and City Manager DiMaggio and Mayor Silva being invited to attend a meeting regarding a Joint Powers Authority.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)
Council reports

Mayor Pro Tem Valdez stated that the upcoming Mendota Harvest Festival is going to be held from July 16th- July 19th; reported on a pile of humus soil at Rojas-Pierce Park that needed to be removed; and stated that the 8 and under Little League Team lost at the State Tournament.

Councilor Castro reported on the Mayor and Council Members Executive he recently attended along with the Mayor and stated he would resign as Vice-Chairperson for the Public Safety Sub-Committee.

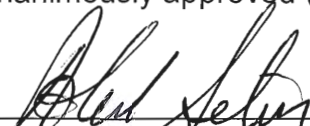
Discussion was held on the frequency and attendance of the Public Safety Sub-Committee meetings.

2. Mayor

Mayor Silva reported on the upcoming Backpack Giveaway even which will be held on Sunday, August 2nd and the amount of dead trees at Rojas-Pierce Park.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made at 8:51 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Valdez, seconded by Councilor Castro; unanimously approved (5 ayes).



Robert Silva, Mayor

ATTEST:



Matt Flood, City Clerk

Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting



7/14/2015