

**MINUTES OF MENDOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Regular Meeting **Tuesday April 22, 2014**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Robert Silva at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Members Present: **Mayor Robert Silva, Councilors S. Leo Capuchino
and Joseph Riofrio.**

Council Members Absent: **Mayor Pro Tem Joseph Amador and Councilor
Sergio Valdez.**

Flag Salute led by Councilor Riofrio

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 Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Council to take public comment and take action on a proposal by Water Connection, Inc. to serve as the City's sole provider for the testing of backflow prevention assemblies. [Interim City Manager, Pauley]

Mayor Silva introduced the item and Mr. Don Pauley reported that staff had received a proposal from Mr. McKeever to be the sole provider for testing backflow compliance and that staff recommended a noticed public hearing to be sure that the public had the chance to provide input.

At 6:03 p.m. Mayor Silva opened the hearing to the public and, seeing no one interested in providing comment, closed the hearing in that same minute.

Discussion was held on the meaning of having this company as a sole provider of that service; how the City currently performs the testing of backflows, how backflow testing would be carried out with non-compliant parties; the importance of complying for safety

purposes; the liability the City incurs if it does not enforce regulations related to backflow maintenance; the manner in which a City official determines if a backflow prevention device is needed or not; the requirements of Title 17 that has the City compel those needing a backflow to install one or have their service cut off; and the staff recommendation to enter into an agreement that the City Attorney will create.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve the item, seconded by Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

PRESENTATION

1. Ann Kloose from Pacific Gas & Electric to present information on their Pipeline Pathways Safety Program.

Mrs. Kloose reported that she met with City staff recently concerning this program; PG&E is committed to continue being the safest transmitter of gas; the history of gas transmission by PG&E; the purpose of this program, which is to improve safe access to transmitting pipes; other aspects of the program including safety, risks, zone designations above and around the pipeline, the stages of it, the outreach efforts that will be carried out; and PG&E's commitment to the community of Mendota.

Kristen Jordan of PG&E explained the outreach process that she would be undertaking and the resources that are available on the internet to learn about this program and pipelines.

Discussion was held on the length and reach of the transmission line, as well as its age; collaborating with MUSD as well; the path of the pipeline through Mendota; safety issues related to the location of the transmission lines; and the timeline of the project.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING

1. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 8, 2014.
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 adopt numbers one and two, seconded by Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS

None Offered

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 Minutes of Regular City Council

Consent Calendar and will be considered separately.

1. APRIL 8, 2014 THROUGH April 17, 2014
WARRANT LIST CHECKS NO. 37700 THRU 37758
TOTAL FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL = \$193,021.94
2. Council approve a request from Covanta to send a letter of support for AB 2362 (Dahle) for renewable diversity in California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) program.
3. Council authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mendota Unified School District for improvements on Perez Street.
4. Council approve the lease renewal with American Ambulance for the use of the building on 1647 6th Street.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to remove items two and three for separate consideration, and to adopt items one and four, seconded by Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

2. Council approve a request from Covanta to send a letter of support for AB 2362 (Dahle) for renewable diversity in California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) program.

Mayor Silva introduced the item and reported that Covanta is a good partner to the City of Mendota and would face difficulties if this bill was not passed.

Matt Barnes (Covanta) – reported that their 25 year power purchase agreement with PG&E is about to come to an end; the State legislature is taking action to support solar and wind energies, which sometimes inadvertently prejudices other forms of renewable energy; explained what this bill would do; and asked that the Council support it.

Discussion was held on approaching politicians and members of the Public Utilities Commission to gain support.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve the item, seconded by Mayor Silva; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

3. Council authorize the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mendota Unified School District (MUSD) for improvements on Perez Street.

Discussion was held on the actual costs that will be incurred by the City; the terms by which MUSD must pay their share; the ability of Barboza and Perez Streets to handle traffic from heavy vehicles; possible traffic issues on Bass Avenue.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve the item, seconded by Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

BUSINESS

1. Council hear a request from Mendota High School students to use Community Promotions Fund donation to plant flowers at Lindgren-Lozano Park. [City Clerk, Flood]

Mayor Silva introduced the item and City Clerk Flood reported that staff received a request from some Mendota High School students to be able to do a project to beautify the community; they painted the sign at Lindgren-Lozano Park and created a bed to put flowers in, but that they need funds for flowers.

Fabiola Ochoa (Mendota High School Junior) – reported on the efforts made by her and her friends at the park; the recent documentary about the Aztec football team on ESPN that cast the community's aesthetic condition in a negative light; the challenges Mendota faces; their desire to get groups together to make a positive difference in the community; and the need they have to get funds to purchase flowers.

Discussion was held on the recent activity accomplished by the students; the amount of money to be given these students out of the Community Promotions Fund; and how to keep the flower barrels that were put on the main streets of the community alive.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to allocate up to \$200 from the Community Promotions Fund for flowers to be planted by these students, seconded by Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

2. Council discussion and consideration to budget the appropriate funds in the 2014/15 fiscal year for building erosion control project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. [City Engineer, McGlasson]

Mayor Silva introduced the item and City Engineer McGlasson reported on the history of the trailer that is used as an office at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP); the erosion under and around the cement foundation that has been caused by wind and other natural causes; the analysis of the issue that was done and the realization that it would be better to contract out the work that needs to be done to correct it; the approximate amount of money it would take to complete the project; and the purpose of this report being to make Council aware of the situation and to plan and program it in next year's budget.

Discussion was held on the lack of facilities out at the WWTP; the possibility of having rate increases for services related to water; the importance of having a capital master plan; and the exact technical reasons for the erosion affecting the trailer.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to approve the item, seconded by Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

3. Council discussion and consideration to apply for the Active Transportation Program (ATP) for the 2014/15 year cycle. [Director of Support Operations, Johnson]

Mayor Silva introduced the item and Director of Support Operations Johnson reported that the Safe Routes to School (SR2S) Project was recently completed; the components of that project; the new 2014-2015 SR2S project cycle; the focus of this cycle's grants; prospective project locations; and the resolution that staff recommends be approved.

Discussion was held on the lack of a requirement for matching funds; cooperating with MUSD on the project; the possibility of doing something on 2nd Street between Naples and Marie; and the difficulty in working with the railroad company.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to adopt Resolution No. 14-11, seconded by Mayor Silva; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

Discussion was held on Council's need to select a project to recommend that staff pursue it.

A motion was made by Councilor Riofrio to pursue the project on 2nd Street and Bass Avenue, seconded by Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).

4. Council discussion and direction for the reduction of fees to encourage economic development. [Interim City Manager, Pauley]

Mayor Silva introduced the item and Mr. Pauley reported that he did a survey of comparable cities regarding the reduction of fees to encourage economic development; the results of those studies being only three of the nine provided incentives; the issues experienced by these communities due to the lack of funds to provide attractive incentives; different cities and their specific fees; how Mendota ranks in impact fees, being very reasonable, possibly too low; and the need to have a separate study done on development impact fees.

Discussion was held on the justification for raising impact fees; other tools available for fostering economic development in Mendota; and the different challenges faced by each city.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. City Manager

Mr. Pauley gave an update on the progress being made in the repairs to the water

treatment plant and reported that he is currently working with a coalition of private businesses and non-profits to address drought issues, specifically on the west side.

City Manager DiMaggio thanked the City Council and staff for the warm welcome; reported that he had a staff meeting to introduce himself; and is looking forward to working in Mendota.

2. City Attorney

Assistant City Attorney Fike had nothing to report.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Council Member(s)

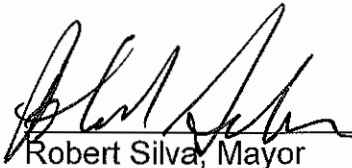
Councilor Riofrio reported on the rising cost of gasoline and the reality of having to extend the cost of providing a service to the consumer; and code enforcement issues related to people occupying uninhabitable places.

2. Mayor

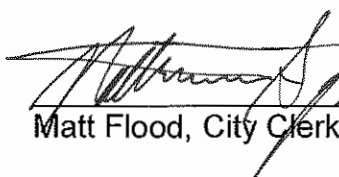
Mayor Silva reported on support that will be given to Westside Youth to ensure they receive some funding from the County and the need to have a joint meeting with the MUSD in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT

With no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made by Councilor Riofrio, seconded by Councilor Capuchino; unanimously approved (3 ayes; absent: Amador and Valdez).


Robert Silva, Mayor

ATTEST:


Matt Flood, City Clerk

