

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 4, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING**

City Hall Council Chambers
117 Macneil Street
San Fernando, CA 91340

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Joel Fajardo called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Present:

Council: Mayor Joel Fajardo, Vice Mayor Sylvia Ballin, and Councilmembers Robert C. Gonzales, Antonio Lopez (left at 7:25 p.m.), and Hector A. Pacheco

Staff: City Manager Alexander P. Meyerhoff, Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla and City Clerk Elena G. Chávez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Personnel Manager Michael Okafor

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Vice Mayor Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to approve the agenda. By consensus, the motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

The following presentations were made:

- a) PRESENTATION BY METRO ON THE NORTH SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BUS RAPID TRANSIT PROJECT

Rescheduled.

- b) PRESENTATION REGARDING “THE ROAD TO 2020”

By consensus, the City Council created an Ad Hoc Committee (Gonzales and Ballin) regarding this item.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – February 4, 2019

Page 2

c) **PRESENTATION ON MACLAY FAMILY HISTORY**

DECORUM AND ORDER

Assistant City Attorney Padilla provided a brief summary of the rules.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Paul Ventimiglia, San Fernando Police Officers' Association President, discussed the police officer recruitment, urged Council to go on record that the City will not contract out for police services, and looks forward to working with Council and staff to maximize public safety in the City.

Arturo Garcia, field representative for Assemblymember Luz Rivas provided information on their activities and gave updates.

Rudy Ortega Jr. opined Native Americans have become invisible, noted the need to change Maclay Avenue, discussed the need to listen to both sides of the Maclay matter, and thanked Council for listening.

Bernice Frances Cooke provided a brief history of her family in the City of San Fernando, expressed pride in her family's service, and thanked Council for its support.

Pamela Villasenor, FernandenoTataviam Band of Mission Indians, shared information about the organization, discussed a recent court case incident, said they have endured racism on a daily basis, and commented on the negative effects of historical trauma.

Leon Worden discussed Indian Land Rights, reported American Indians were not considered citizens until 1924, said that today people think about people, differently and urged Council to consider how they want to be seen in the future.

Tom Ross discussed a meeting with the Chamber of Commerce and the Maclay Family, noted history is filled with bad decisions and horrible events, and commented on the need to educate people on the history of San Fernando.

CITY COUNCIL - LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Gonzales gave updates regarding the Independent Cities Association, San Fernando Valley Service Council, City Selection Committee, and the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor meetings.

Mayor Fajardo and Councilmember Gonzales met on several ad hoc committees including the committee considering the financial pension study, an event to honor veterans living in San Fernando, and discussed the parking process for a parking permit system.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Mayor Ballin requested to pull Item No. 6 for further discussion.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to approve the remaining Consent Calendar Items:

- 1) REQUEST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 22, 2019 – SPECIAL MEETING
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE WILLDAN ENGINEERING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR THE SAN FERNANDO TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICATION TO THE HEALTHY FOOD FINANCING INITIATIVE PROGRAM TO FUND THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A FARMERS MARKET
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020 LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT RESOLUTION INITIATING PROCEEDINGS AND ORDERING THE ENGINEER’S REPORT

By consensus, the motion carried.

Item Pulled for Further Discussion

- 6) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR THE SAN FERNANDO CALLES VERDES PROJECT

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Yazdan T. Emrani provided a brief report.

(Male speaker – did not state name) thanked the City for its partnership and discussed the planting of approximately 1,000 trees in the City. He reported it will improve water supply throughout the region and looked forward to working with the City.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to:

- a. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with TreePeople, Incorporated (Contract No. 1904) for the San Fernando Calles Verdes Project; and
- b. Authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute the MOA.

By consensus, the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

7) UPDATE REGARDING THE WILD HORSE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP

City Manager Alexander P. Meyerhoff introduced the item and deferred to Director of Recreation and Community Services Julian Venegas who provided the staff report.

Discussion followed regarding changes to Pioneer Park as a result of the partnership, outreach to residents around the park, and additional programs in the field house.

8) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Mayor Fajardo announced Items No. 8 and 9 would be considered concurrently.

9) DISCUSSION REGARDING A SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY AND ANY CONTRACTS OR REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS RELATED TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

City Manager Meyerhoff presented the staff report.

Vice Mayor Ballin discussed the need to refine the social media form and suggested establishing an ad hoc committee to consider making the necessary changes and developing recommendations for Council.

Councilmember Pacheco agreed to be on the Social Media Ad Hoc Committee along with Vice Mayor Ballin.

10) DISCUSSION OF MEETINGS WITH POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO DISCUSS DEPARTMENT MATTERS AND RECRUITMENT

Vice Mayor Ballin and Mayor Fajardo both gave brief updates on meetings with Police Department personnel to discuss department matters and recruitment. They reported the meetings were helpful and provided an opportunity to get to know employees on a one-to-one basis. Mayor Fajardo explained that the meetings were not intended as a "fishing expedition", but rather to improve morale and listen to employee concerns.

Discussion followed regarding continuing efforts to improve City institutions, processes and services, considering the advice of the City Attorney relative to meeting with bargaining groups (especially during contract negotiations) and the importance of Council having general guidelines in that regard.

11) DISCUSSION AND PROCEDURE FOR REVIEW OF STATEMENTS OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS (FORM 700)

Mayor Fajardo discussed Form 700 and reported if Council chooses the City Attorney can review their Form 700 prior to submission.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – February 4, 2019

Page 5

Discussion ensued and City Council concurred to direct the City Attorney to develop a policy for reviewing individual Councilmembers' Form 700.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

None

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Gonzales thanked residents helping in Santa Barbara last weekend and thanked City staff for their excellent work.

Vice Mayor Ballin stressed she would never support outsourcing police services in the City and restated her commitment to the Police Department.

Mayor Fajardo thanked Federal employees who continued to work despite not being paid, reported Council will consider a minimum wage at the next regularly scheduled meeting, and announced receiving a communication from the Chamber of Commerce regarding the creation of a business improvement district.

ADJOURNMENT (8:03 P.M.)

Motion by Councilmember Gonzales, seconded by Vice Mayor Ballin, to adjourn the meeting. By consensus, the motion carried.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of February 4, 2019, meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

*Elena G. Chávez, CMC
City Clerk*