

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**JUNE 4, 2018 – 6:00 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING**

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

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Sylvia Ballin called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Present:

Council: Mayor Sylvia Ballin, Vice Mayor Antonio Lopez, and Councilmembers  
Joel Fajardo, Jaime Soto and Robert C. Gonzales

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Director of Community Development Timothy Hou

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Soto, to approve the agenda.  
By consensus, the motion carried.

**PRESENTATIONS**

The following presentations were made:

- a) RECOGNITION OF HEAVENLY PANCAKES RESTAURANT OWNERS SELVA  
AND VICTOR MAGAÑA
- b) RECOGNITION OF SAN FERNANDO HIGH SCHOOL WOMEN'S WRESTLING  
CHAMPIONS
- c) PRESENTATION BY L.A. TREE PEOPLE ON THE CALLES VERDES PROJECT

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**DECORUM AND ORDER**

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

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL**

Irwin Rosenberg (San Fernando Police Officers' Association) said it is essential that the City Council vote in favor of Item 10 (to place a measure on the November ballot extending the existing half-cent local sales tax).

Maritza Duarte, Las Palmas Park Senior Club member, thanked Councilmembers who listened to their concerns and provided support for their dances, and she submitted additional signatures for their petition to Council regarding support for various items.

Michael Remenih also spoke in support of Item 10.

Joe Ruelas said he found 40 campaign flyers at his home and suggested establishing protocol so that candidates running for office follow certain rules. He also said that Harding Ave. (his street) has not been repaved for many years and has major potholes.

Jesse Avila spoke in support of Measure A and said to let residents decide whether it will be extended.

**CITY COUNCIL - LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilmember Fajardo gave updates regarding the League of Cities, San Fernando Valley Council of Governments and Metro.

Councilmember Soto talked about the Ad Hoc Committee on Ice Cream Truck Vendor Operations Regulations and spoke about the Los Angeles Fire Department.

In response to his comments and by consensus, the City Council formed an Ad Hoc committee (consisting of Vice Mayor Lopez and Councilmember Soto) regarding the Los Angeles City Fire Department.

Councilmember Gonzales also gave updates regarding Metro, Independent Cities Association, Metro Service Council, and reported that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Wild Horse Children's Foundation had met.

Vice Mayor Lopez also gave an update regarding Metro.

Mayor Ballin said that she attended the Independent Cities Association conference with Contract Cities and gave an update regarding the Metropolitan Water District.

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**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to approve the following Consent Calendar Items:

- 1) REQUEST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2018 – SPECIAL MEETING
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CODE BY ADDING A NEW DIVISION 9 (ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS) TO REGULATE THE PARKING IN DESIGNATED ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION PARKING STALLS
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO DESTROY CERTAIN CITY RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO THE GOVERNMENT CODE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO CONSIDER THE PLACEMENT OF LIENS ON REAL PROPERTY FOR NON-PAYMENT OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES BILLINGS
- 6) CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE SUBMITTAL OF GRANT APPLICATION TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR THE METRO OPEN STREETS PROGRAM GRANT CYCLE THREE TO FUND THE HEALTHY SAN FERNANDO OPEN STREETS FESTIVAL
- 7) DISASTER COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS
- 8) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A NON-EXCLUSIVE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE WILD HORSE CHILDREN’S FOUNDATION TO GRANT ACCESS TO USE PARK FACILITIES AT PIONEER PARK
- 9) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH RJM DESIGN GROUP, INC. TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PARK MASTER PLAN

By consensus, the motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- 10) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE TO PLACE A MEASURE ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT TO EXTEND THE EXISTING HALF-CENT LOCAL SALES TAX

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Mayor Ballin declared the Public Hearing open

Assistant City Attorney Padilla presented the staff report and replied to various questions from Councilmembers.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers.

Mayor Ballin called for public testimony.

Jesse Avila gave background (as a former Councilmember) information regarding Measure A and why it had to be done and he suggested that people take a good look at who's in favor and who is not.

Mary Mendoza asked about the expiration date of this measure (Mayor Ballin reported that staff would be responding).

Michael Remenih said there is still lots to be done in the City (i.e., street repairs, etc.), it costs money, and has yet to hear an alternative to the proposed tax.

Paul Luna reported that he is not in favor of a tax but the reality is there is currently nothing in place that would replace the necessary funds (new businesses are not coming into the City and Sam's Club is no longer here), and he hopes the continuance of this tax will help.

Dave Bernal said that he doesn't like the fact that it's a permanent tax, but unfortunately it needs to be done so "place this on the ballot and let the voters decide".

In response to Mrs. Mendoza's question, Assistant City Attorney Padilla replied that the current tax will sunset on September 31, 2020. If the proposed tax is not placed on the regular 2018 November election, it would have to be done at a special election and the challenge would be a unanimous fiscal finding requirement.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to close the Public Hearing. By consensus, the motion carried.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers.

Vice Mayor Lopez made a motion to move forward with Councilmember Fajardo's suggested changes to the ballot measure question. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fajardo.

Assistant City Attorney Padilla restated the ballot measure question:

*Extension of City Half-Cent Transactions and Use Tax. To preserve funding for essential City services like fire and police services; street and sidewalk repair; park maintenance; cultural and recreational programs; personnel wage increases and other unrestricted general revenue purposes; and to restore the City's "rainy day" general fund reserves, shall the City's existing half percent*

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*(1/2%) transactions and use tax be extended until such time as the tax is repealed by City voters?*

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Gonzales, Fajardo, Lopez, Ballin – 4  
NOES: Soto – 1  
ABSENT: None

**RECESS (8:40 P.M.)**

Deputy City Manager/Finance Director Nick Kimball began to present the budget item but discussion continued regarding Item 10. Mayor Ballin then called for a brief recess.

*At this time, Councilmember Soto exited the Council Chambers.*

**RECONVENE (8:48 P.M.)**

Regarding Item No. 10, Assistant City Attorney Padilla reported that the City Council had to make two motions (one for each, resolution and the ordinance).

Motion by Councilmember Gonzales, seconded by Fajardo, to adopt Resolution No. 7852, subject to the word changes to the ballot measure question previously voted on:

- i. Calling and giving notice of a General Municipal Election to be held November 6, 2018 to submit to the City a question relating to the extension of the City’s existing Half-cent Transactions and Use Tax;
- ii. Requesting consolidation of such election with the County General Election to be held on the same day;
- iii. Requesting the County of Los Angeles to provide specific election services; and
- iv. Setting priorities for filing written arguments and rebuttals regarding City measures and directing the City Attorney to prepare an impartial analysis; and

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Gonzales, Fajardo, Lopez, Ballin – 4  
NOES: \*Soto – 1  
ABSENT: None

*Although absent for this motion, prior to leaving the meeting Councilmember Soto voted against the word changes to the ballot measure question.*

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Motion by Councilmember Gonzales, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo, to introduce for first reading, in title only, and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1678, “An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California, extending indefinitely, subject to voter approval, the General Purpose Transactions and Use Tax administered by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration and codified under Article V (Transactions and Use Tax) of Chapter 82 (Taxation) of the San Fernando Municipal Code pursuant to Revenue & Taxation Code Sections 7251 et seq.”

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Gonzales, Fajardo, Lopez, Ballin – 4  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Soto – 1

Motion by Vice Mayor Lopez, seconded by Mayor Ballin, to create an Ad Hoc committee (consisting of Councilmembers Gonzales and Fajardo) to prepare the argument in favor of the measure.

AYES: Gonzales, Fajardo, Lopez, Ballin – 4  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Soto – 1

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

11) FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018-2019 BUDGET STUDY SESSION NO. 2

Deputy City Manager/Finance Director Nick Kimball presented the staff report. He and Department Heads replied to various questions from Councilmembers.

Staff provided feedback regarding follow-up items from the last meeting including: cost of a deferred maintenance study, a facility maintenance plan, sidewalk repairs, LED street lights, election recount cost, the number of requests for public records, funding of senior programs and program improvements, explanation and recommendations regarding employee overtime, a plan for fixing the trash situation in the downtown area, and the status of film permits.

Discussion ensued and staff replied to questions from Councilmembers.

Councilmember Fajardo inquired about an automatic recount of votes if the election is within a close margin (i.e., two candidates are tied, or within a half of a percent), and suggested that the City set aside money for a possible recount. By consensus, staff was directed to report back with information and options.

Councilmember Gonzales asked for a breakdown of overtime (i.e., how much is recovered or partially recovered) and said that information would be useful in determining the actual cost.

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**DEPARTMENT HEADS - COMMISSION UPDATES**

City Clerk Chávez reported that the Education Commission would be having a special meeting tomorrow.

Police Chief Vairo gave an update regarding the Homeless Connect Day to be held on July 19 at Las Palmas Park and invited all to attend.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Julian Venegas provided updates regarding the summer programs and activities.

Director of Community Development Tim Hou reported that the Planning and Preservation Commission will meet tomorrow, announced the hiring of Associate Planner Gerardo Marquez, and he provided an update regarding an American Planning Association Ambassadors Program contest at San Fernando Middle School.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Yazdan T. Emrani reported there would be a Transportation and Safety Commission meeting on Wednesday.

City Manager Meyerhoff gave updates regarding various meetings and activities that he has participated with staff and several organizations.

**GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Gonzales thanked staff for staying this late for the meeting.

Vice Mayor Lopez thanked staff for addressing a concern from the last meeting and replacing the styrofoam cups for paper cups.

Mayor Ballin thanked staff and said she is looking forward to going into the Closed Session meeting.

**STAFF COMMUNICATION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT (9:57 P.M.)**

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, 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 June 4, 2018, meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.*

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*Elena G. Chávez, CMC*  
*City Clerk*