

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 4, 2017 – 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 6:06 p.m.

Present:

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

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Finance Director Nick Kimball

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

The following presentation was made:

- a) CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION – EDUCATION COMMISSIONER DANITZA PANTOJA

**DECORUM AND ORDER**

City Attorney Olivarez provided a brief summary of the rules.

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES – December 4, 2017**

**Page 2**

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL**

Marsela Hernandez talked about traffic lights and said that it's not nice when residents, who live near schools, put out their trash containers out so that parents (picking up their children from school) can't park in front of their homes.

Ruben Quintana SFPEA, talked about their union, the dedication of their members, and the sacrifices they've made, and (referring to current discussions) asked the City Council to "do the right thing".

Joe Ruelas is concerned about the proposed 160 homes that are scheduled to be built on Harding Ave. and the enormous traffic issues that will impact the neighborhood and suggested that the issue to be addressed beforehand.

Liana Stepanyan, San Fernando Library Manager, provided information regarding upcoming events and services available to the community.

Mary Mendoza said she feels she has not gotten straight answers from staff regarding the construction taking place at the JC Penney building and she believes that residents deserve to know what's going on.

City Clerk Chávez read an email from resident Patty Lopez who said that residents have expressed disappointment to her regarding the lack of partnership and positive movement when trying to work with the City Council.

**CITY COUNCIL - LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilmember Gonzales gave an update regarding Independent Cities Association activities

Both Mayor Ballin and Councilmember Soto gave an update regarding the Disaster Relief Fund Ad Hoc Committee.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

- 1) REQUEST TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF:
  - a) NOVEMBER 6, 2017 – SPECIAL MEETING
  - b) NOVEMBER 20, 2017 – SPECIAL MEETING
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES – December 4, 2017**

**Page 3**

- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CALENDAR YEAR 2018 BUSINESS PERMITS FOR CERTAIN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES AS REQUIRED BY THE CITY CODE
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE INVESTMENT POLICY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS APPROVING NEW JOB SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PAYROLL TECHNICIAN CLASSIFICATIONS
- 6) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDS AWARDED BY THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR SAN FERNANDO CITYWIDE SIGNAL SYNCHRONIZATION AND BUS SPEED IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
- 7) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE MASTER AGREEMENT WITH JWA URBAN CONSULTANTS, INC. TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

By consensus, the motion carried.

By consensus, the following item was moved up on the agenda.

- 12) CONSIDERATION TO APPOINT AN EDUCATION COMMISSIONER

Councilmember Fajardo made a motion to appoint Veronica Pacheco as his representative to the Education Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ballin and was approved by consensus.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- 8) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS CERTIFYING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT SCH NO. 2015121088 AND APPROVING THE AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S GENERAL PLAN TEXT AND MAP, AND CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE SAN FERNANDO CORRIDORS SPECIFIC PLAN SP-5 AND RELATED AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY'S ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AND MAP

Motion by Vice Mayor Lopez, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to reopen the Public Hearing (continued from the meeting of November 20, 2017). By consensus, the motion carried.

City Attorney Olivarez announced that Councilmember Fajardo would recuse himself from this discussion due to a conflict of interest (he lives within 500' of the project area).

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

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES – December 4, 2017**

**Page 4**

Interim Community Development Director Jack Wong provided a brief presentation and replied to questions from Councilmembers.

At this time, Mayor Ballin announced that the public comment portion of the Public Hearing was reopened.

The following individuals spoke against approval of the item:

Brent Bell  
Steven Bravo  
Alf Knudson  
Ron Hernandez  
Marsela Rodriguez  
(Male, did not state name)  
Mary Mendoza  
Jessica Medina  
(Male – did not state name)  
Elvira Orozco  
Richard Arroyo

(Male – did not state name) spoke in favor of the item.

City Clerk Chávez read letters from:

Johannes Lopez' letter addressed "EV" (electronic vehicle) stations, motorists, and parking.

Angel-Zobel Rodriguez believes that any improvements to San Fernando's corridors must include discussions with the City of Los Angeles regarding traffic flow.

Apolonio Caceres' was in favor of the item.

There being no further comments, Mayor Ballin closed the Public Hearing.

Interim Community Development Director Wong, Assistant City Attorney Padilla, David Sargent and Juan Gomez-Novy (Sargent Town Planning) addressed comments and concerns expressed by the public and replied to various questions from Councilmembers.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers.

Motion by Councilmember Gonzales to:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 7826:
  - i. Certifying the Final Environmental Impact Report SCH No. 2015121088, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, finding that the proposed San Fernando Corridors Specific Plan SP-5 and related amendments to the City's General Plan and

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES – December 4, 2017**

**Page 5**

Zoning Ordinance text and maps will not have an effect on the environment that cannot be mitigated to less-than-significant impact levels, and such finding shall be contingent upon the final adoption of the amendments to the General Plan text and map, and final adoption of the San Fernando Corridors Specific Plan SP-5 and amendments to the Zoning Ordinance text and map; and

- ii. Approving the amendments to the City’s General Plan text and map, contingent upon the final adoption of the San Fernando Corridors Specific Plan SP-5 and amendments to the Zoning Ordinance text and map; and
  
- b. Introduce for first reading, in title only, and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1671, “An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California, Approving the San Fernando Corridors Specific Plan SP-5 and Repealing in its Entirety the Former Corridors Specific Plan SP-4 and Amending the Zoning Ordinance Text and Zoning Map”.

Mayor Ballin requested an amendment to “eliminate housing on First Street and amend the Specific Plan and correct the language on the west side”.

Vice Mayor Lopez also requested an amendment to “change in the downtown area to allow for wine bars, distilleries, and potential arcades”.

Both amendments were accepted by Councilmember Gonzales and the motion was seconded by Mayor Ballin.

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	Gonzales, Ballin, Lopez – 3
NOES:	Soto – 1
RECUSE:	Fajardo – 1

*At this time, Councilmember Fajardo returned to the Council Chambers.*

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 9) CONSIDERATION TO ESTABLISH A TRANSACTION TAX EXTENSION (MEASURE “A”) AD HOC COMMITTEE

*During this item, Councilmember Soto stepped away and exited the Council Chambers.*

Due to expressed interest from three Councilmembers, City Clerk Chávez and Cultural Arts Supervisor Virginia Diediker randomly drew names from a cup. The names selected were Vice Mayor Lopez and Councilmember Gonzales.

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES – December 4, 2017**

**Page 6**

Motion by Councilmember Gonzales, seconded by Vice Mayor Lopez to approve the members to the Transaction Tax Extension (Measure “A”) Ad Hoc Committee. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

10) GENERAL DISCUSSION OF DEVELOPMENT ISSUES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS, DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AND OTHER TOPICS OF COMMUNITY CONCERN OR INTEREST

Councilmember Fajardo gave a brief report regarding this item. By general direction, the item would be forwarded to the new Community Development Director for follow up.

11) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE REGARDING THE REGULATION OF BEHESTED PAYMENTS

Councilmember Fajardo gave a brief report regarding this item and replied to questions from Councilmembers.

By consensus, Council agreed that the City Attorney’s office would review the ordinance and bring it back at a subsequent meeting.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS - COMMISSION UPDATES**

Both Recreation Supervisor Maribel Perez and Cultural Arts Supervisor Virginia Diediker gave updates regarding the holiday tree lighting and Alas Media Help Portrait Event.

Finance Director Kimball gave an update regarding user impact and developer impact fees.

Management Analyst Kenneth Jones provided updates regarding Public Works activities.

**GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Gonzales wished everyone happy holidays and thanked staff for their hard work.

Councilmember Soto said that the holiday lights and decorations throughout the City look nice and wished everyone happy holidays and a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Fajardo wished everyone a happy holiday season. He thanked staff for helping him with the last-minute arrangements regarding the preparation of the going away certificate for Ms. Pantoja. He recommended that we look at policies to make certain that managers have access to their subordinate’s computers. He briefly talked about the Public Works Director position job specification and about the need to look into raising the City’s minimum wage.

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES – December 4, 2017**

**Page 7**

Vice Mayor Lopez wished everyone happy holidays and thanked those that worked on the TOD project.

Mayor Ballin thanked Recreation Supervisor Maribel Perez and Cultural Arts Supervisor Virginia Diediker for their work and she requested approval to use City letterhead to reply to a grammar school student who had written to her (there was no objection by Councilmembers). She also thanked Interim Community Development Director Wong, he's been a pleasure to work with, and is grateful for the work he's done.

Police Chief Vairo gave an update regarding the Police Department's luncheon.

**STAFF COMMUNICATION**

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

**ADJOURNMENT (9:23 P.M.)**

Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla reminded the City Council that a second reading was required regarding Ordinance No. 1671.

Motion by Mayor Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to adjourn this meeting to an adjourned regular meeting to be held on December 20, 2017, at 6:00 p.m. (City staff to comply with the 72 hour noticing requirement). By consensus the motion carried.

*I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of December 4, 2017, meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.*

---

*Elena G. Chávez, CMC*  
*City Clerk*