

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**MARCH 2, 2020 – 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 6:03 p.m.

Present:

Council: Mayor Joel Fajardo, Vice Mayor Hector A. Pacheco, and Councilmembers Sylvia Ballin, and Robert C. Gonzales

Staff: City Manager Nick Kimball, Assistant City Attorney Lloyd Pilchen, and City Clerk Elena G. Chávez

Absent: Councilmember Mary Mendoza

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Interim Director of Public Works Martin Pastucha

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Jesse Avila suggested a he would create a file to be stored at City Hall, regarding the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District, to be used for reference by future City representatives to the GLACVCD.

Henry Romero said he emailed information to each Councilmember regarding parking issues he's experiencing at his business on Maclay Ave. and is proposing drop-off and pick-up times.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 2, 2020

Page 2

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Gonzales requested to pull Item No. 3 for further discussion.

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

- 1) REQUEST TO APPROVE MINUTES OF:
 - a. NOVEMBER 16, 2015 – REGULAR MEETING
 - b. APRIL 18, 2016 – REGULAR MEETING
 - c. MAY 7, 2018 – REGULAR MEETING
 - d. MAY 21, 2018 – REGULAR MEETING
 - e. AUGUST 6, 2018 – REGULAR MEETING
 - f. DECEMBER 3, 2018 – REGULAR MEETING
 - g. FEBRUARY 3, 2020 – SPECIAL MEETING
 - h. FEBRUARY 18, 2020 – REGULAR MEETING
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE THE ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CITY BUDGET TO INCLUDE A STIPEND FOR THE CITY’S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

By consensus, the motion carried.

Item Pulled for Further Discussion

- 3) CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO VINCOR CONSTRUCTION INC., FOR THE LAS PALMAS PARK BANQUET ROOM AND LOBBY RENOVATION PROJECT

Councilmember Gonzales expressed concern waiving the bid requirements for the contract and City Manager Kimball explained this was a cooperative purchase via the National Joint Powers Association and piggybacking is permissible in our purchasing rules.

Councilmember Gonzales is also concerned about various proposed changes to Las Palmas Park including security windows at the lobby and the redesigning of handicap parking.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers and staff.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 2, 2020

Page 3

City Manager Kimball said Councilmembers have valid concerns regarding the conceptual designs, etc. and cash collecting, and he reported that staff would pull the item and report back in April with ideas.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to table the item. By consensus, the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

6) **CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH JONES HALL TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF PENSION OBLIGATION BONDS**

Director of Finance Diego Ibanez presented the staff report and introduced Juan Galvan, partner with Jones Hall, who added a few comments.

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

- a. Approve a Professional Services Agreement (Contract No. 1945) with Jones Hall to provide legal services related to the issuance of Pension Obligation Bonds (POBs), including, but not limited to, preparing and filing validation proceedings, serving as Bond Counsel, and serving as Disclosure Counsel for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$82,500;
- b. Approve Resolution No. 7990 appropriating \$100,000 in Professional Services in the Retirement Fund to pay for costs associated with preparing to issue a POB; and
- c. Authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive changes and execute all related documents.

By consensus, the motion carried.

7) **METRO UPDATE REGARDING THE EAST SAN FERNANDO VALLEY TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECT**

Mayor Fajardo reported that two businesses contacted him concerned about possible eminent domain through the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor Project.

Discussion ensued regarding conflicting information, the City's support for continued operation and independence of businesses, impact during high traffic times and quiet zones, environmental justice and potential revenue loss.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Ballin, to prepare a letter incorporating Councilmembers' comments and allows each to sign on, if they choose.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 2, 2020

Page 4

City Manager Kimball added that the letter would be to anyone/everyone at Metro and he reported that there were on-going discussions with Metro staff reiterating that the need to work with the City to minimize the traffic impacts of the rail, increase the safety features/precautions as it comes through a quiet zone, and the City's continued strong opposition to the property acquisition,

He reported in June, Metro will bring their EIR to their board for certification (technically, they cannot engage property owners until it's adopted) and at that point, there will be discussions related to property acquisition and the City will reiterate our opposition. He stated that a study session is tentatively scheduled for the end of April.

By consensus, the above motion carried.

Mayor Fajardo and Frank Villalpando, Public Works Maintenance Worker and SEIU Local 721 President, talked about the passing of Hilda Garcia, SEIU Local 721 Political Coordinator, and said it was devastating to hear the sad news.

A brief discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

City Clerk Chávez reminded all to vote, announced Vote Centers hours and said to please contact staff if you observe (or are aware of) anything concerning, and we'll follow up with the County.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Julian Venegas stated the next Park, Wellness, and Recreation Commission will be on Tuesday (one of the topics for discussion is a community theater), and he announced the City received a Prop 68 grant (nearly \$1.1 million) for the Layne Park Revitalization project.

Deputy City Manager/Director of Community Development Timothy Hou reported the next Planning and Preservation Commission meeting will be on March 9 (scheduled to discuss the development of by-laws), he bid farewell to interns Christian Candelaria and Tamera Santoyo and thanked them for their service, and welcomed new employee Ricky Gonzalez as graffiti abatement specialist.

Director of Finance Ibanez reported that the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget process is underway.

Interim Public Works Director Pastucha announced the next Transportation and Safety Commission meeting would cover reorganization to select a Chair and Vice Chair for the coming year.

Personnel Manager Michael Okafor provided recruitment updates regarding the Director of Public Works and City Clerk positions and will propose options to the Ad Hoc Committee to extend or move forward with interviews for the City Clerk position.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 2, 2020

Page 5

City Manager Kimball said that staff will report back with recommendations on the City Clerk recruitment and he provide an update regarding the Coronavirus.

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Ballin reminded everyone to vote and to make sure that all family members are counted in the census (City Manager Kimball provided additional information). She gave a quote from Stacey Abrams who said that the economy is going well for those in the stock market, but not good for people at the supermarket.

Councilmember Gonzales gave updates regarding the various ad hoc committees he serves, talked about the importance of completing the census survey, mentioned the opening of two new businesses, and suggested adding to an agenda item to an upcoming meeting regarding providing diaper changing stations in all restrooms and feminine hygiene products at the full gender restrooms.

Vice Mayor Pacheco talked about the Coronavirus, said he was ecstatic about the grant for Layne Park, and that it is important to learn about election issues and reminded everyone to vote.

Mayor Fajardo thanked Jesse Avila for his proposal regarding a GLACVCD file, suggested that, in addition to signage at old polling places, staff include a list of nearby Vote Centers, reported he invited the County to speak about the voting system at a subsequent meeting, and Councilmembers talked about possibly joining the City of Beverly Hills in the lawsuit against the County.

ADJOURNMENT (7:06 P.M.)

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales, to adjourn the meeting in memory of Hilda Garcia. By consensus, the motion carried.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of March 2, 2020, meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

Elena G. Chávez, CMC
City Clerk