

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**MARCH 16, 2015 – 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 6:05 P.M.

Present:

Council: Mayor Sylvia Ballin, Mayor Pro Tem Robert C. Gonzales, and Councilmembers Jesse H. Avila, Joel Fajardo, and Antonio Lopez

Staff: City Manager Brian Saeki, Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla, and City Clerk Elena G. Chávez

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

San Fernando Police Reserve Officer Fernando Miranda

**PRESENTATION**

City Manager Saeki announced Police Lt. Anthony Vairo will succeed Police Chief Robert Parks effective March 20<sup>th</sup>, and congratulated Chief Parks on his retirement and welcomed Lt. Vairo.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilmember Fajardo requested to remove Item Nos. 8 and 9 to be considered for another meeting.

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

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL**

John Arroyo spoke in support of removing locks from tennis courts for use by skaters/skateboarders to remove kids from the streets and offered to manage it.

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John Blue spoke to raise the awareness about West Nile Virus, shared his experience contacting the illness, and noted the need for increased education and distribution of information about it.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NOS. 15-031, AND 15-032 APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTERS OF MARCH 2, 2015, AND MARCH 16, 2015, RESPECTIVELY
- 2) ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 1639 AMENDING SECTIONS 90-941 AND 90-942 OF CHAPTER 90 OF THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO CITY CODE RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015-2016 LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT RESOLUTION INITIATING PROCEEDINGS AND ORDERING THE ENGINEER'S REPORT
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF LOS ANGELES FOR THE COURT REFERRED VOLUNTEER CENTER PROGRAM
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITY'S SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL CYCLE 7 GRANT PROJECT
- 6) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CITY'S GRANT MANAGEMENT POLICY
- 7) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES AND THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO FOR THE 2014 URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE GRANT PROGRAM

By consensus, the motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 8) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 7664 AMENDING THE CITY COUNCIL PROCEDURAL MANUAL BY REVISING VARIOUS SECTIONS INCLUDING CHANGING THE TITLE OF MAYOR PRO TEM TO VICE MAYOR

*Item removed under Approval of Agenda.*

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

*Item removed under Approval of Agenda.*

10) CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL (HSR) PROJECT UPDATE

City Manager Saeki presented the staff report and replied to questions from Councilmembers.

Discussion followed regarding sources of the information provided, edits to the letter to the HSR Board, recommendations regarding public outreach efforts using City staff, and providing clarification relative to the Ad Hoc Committee's roles and responsibilities after Council's reorganization.

City Manager Saeki noted the need to have Council representation at upcoming HSR meetings and Councilmember Fajardo suggested discussing it at the April 6<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the City's position in opposing the HSR specific route alignment (not the HSR project, itself), the need to consider making the Ad Hoc Committee a standing committee, the need to be consistent in Council's representations and messaging and making sure the public understands the City's stance, and that individual Councilmember's positions are particular to the individual.

Ensuing discussion pertained to the possibility of assigning a spokesman for the City (i.e. City Manager) and having HSR develop solutions for everyone.

City Manager Saeki confirmed the letter clearly indicates the City's position in not wanting HSR through San Fernando, at all.

Assistant City Attorney Padilla redirected discussion to the letter, noting commonalities in core issues, stated no Councilmember forfeits his/her right to have and express opinions that are contrary to Council colleagues, and suggested redrafting the letter for increased clarity that the City is not opposed to the HSR project, itself, just not in the City of San Fernando and indicating the need to study impacts, further.

No formal action was taken on this item.

11) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE TITLE OF MAYOR PRO TEMPORE TO VICE MAYOR AND MAKING CONFORMING MODIFICATIONS TO THE SAN FERNANDO CITY CODE AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Councilmember Fajardo discussed the need for proposed ordinance to eliminate confusion regarding the use of Mayor Pro Tem versus Vice Mayor.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales, to introduce for first reading, in title only, and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1641, entitled, "An Ordinance

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of the City Council of the City of San Fernando Modifying the Title of Mayor Pro Tempore to Vice Mayor and Making Conforming Modifications to the San Fernando City Code and Other San Fernando Documents.” By consensus, the motion carried.

**COMMITTEE/COMMISSION LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilmember Avila announced an upcoming SFVCOG conference.

Councilmember Lopez reported attending a Blue Ribbon Committee meeting hosted by Metro, a Transportation Summit, and discussed upcoming meetings and subjects to be addressed.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales discussed recent ICA meetings and events and addressed lobbying efforts in Sacramento.

**GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Fajardo reminded City Manager Saeki to bring to Council recommended changes to ad hoc and standing committees, congratulated Chief Parks on his retirement, and thanked City Clerk Chávez for her exemplary work.

Councilmember Avila congratulated Chief Parks on his retirement and Lt. Vairo on his new position as Chief.

Mayor Pro Tem Gonzales congratulated Chief Parks on his retirement and Lt. Vairo on his new position as Chief and commended Council colleagues and staff.

Mayor Ballin thanked the election team, welcomed Lt. Vairo as the new Chief, and commended Councilmember Avila.

**STAFF COMMUNICATION**

City Clerk Chávez announced City Council will need to hold a special meeting, scheduled by March 27, to certify the election results and to administer the oath of office to new Councilmembers.

Mayor Ballin asked to schedule the special meeting on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

City Manager Saeki congratulated Council for its work, Councilmember Avila for his service and Lt. Vairo on his new position as Chief.

Recreation and Community Services Operations Manager Aguila announced the Lopez Adobe grand reopening.

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**ADJOURNMENT (7:12 P.M.)**

Motion by Councilmember Avila, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo, to adjourn the meeting. By consensus, the meeting was adjourned.

*I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of March 16, 2015, meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.*

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*Elena G. Chávez*  
*City Clerk*