

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**MARCH 21, 2016 – 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 6:01 p.m.

Present:

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

Staff: City Manager Brian Saeki, City Attorney Rick R. Olivarez and City Clerk Elena G. Chávez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led San Fernando Police Explorer Angela Vasquez

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PRESENTATION

The following presentation was made:

- a) INTRODUCTION OF NEW RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPERVISOR – MARIBEL PEREZ

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Dee Akemon asked that the City Council support Fire Station No. 91 and talked about the need to keep the red curbing at the charter school (the removal has caused much negative traffic impact).

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Michelle Guijarro pleaded to keep the red curbing at the Vista Del Valle Charter School in her neighborhood and she reminded everyone that the July 4th holiday is coming up and the need to enforce the noise ordinance.

Julieta Garcia talked about her proposal to offer various programs at the Las Palmas Park community center.

Jim Leahy, representative with Assemblywoman Patty Lopez, read from a press release regarding the Assemblywoman's opposition to the California High Speed Rail Project.

Irwin Rosenberg, Police Officers Association Secretary, talked about their opposition regarding a proposed appointment by Councilmember Soto to the Planning and Preservation Commission. He also commended City Manager Saeki and staff for moving the City forward.

Georgina Carranza, Pacoima, said she is opposed to the High Speed Rail Project.

City Clerk Chávez read a letter submitted by resident Pilar Enriquez regarding her opposition to the California High Speed Rail (HSR) Project and Mrs. Enriquez thanked Residents for a Better San Fernando for collecting nearly 1,000 signatures against HSR State Route 14.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Chair Ballin pulled Item Nos. 3 and 4 for further discussion.

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

- 1) REQUEST TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2016 – SPECIAL MEETING
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER

By consensus, the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Fajardo announced that the following two items were moved up on the agenda.

- 5) APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING AND PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Councilmember Soto gave brief background information regarding Anna Michelle Lopez.

Since Ms. Lopez was not present, Councilmembers agreed to postpone the item until she arrives.

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6) PRESENTATION REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY IMPACTION PLAN AND ITS EFFECTS ON OUR CITY'S RESIDENTS AND OTHER DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

Irene Tovar, Chairperson for the Coalition Against CSU Impaction and CEO of the Latin American Civic Association, made a presentation requesting that the City Council write to Governor Jerry Brown regarding increased funding for the California State University System.

Each Councilmember provided their comments in support of this item.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Lopez, that the City Manager work with Ms. Tovar regarding a letter of support (as mentioned above). By consensus, the motion carried.

7) UPDATE FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGARDING THE PROPOSED USE OF THE BUILDING AT 901 FIRST STREET

Maria Chong-Castillo and other representatives from L.A. County Board Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's office, made a presentation regarding the proposed use (i.e., mental health facility) of the County-owned building at 901 First Street.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers and County representatives regarding the property's proposed use and the outpatient program, and the letter from Senator Robert Hertzberg to L.A. County Board Supervisor Sheila Kuehl.

County representatives were thanked by Councilmembers for coming; no formal action was taken.

10) REQUEST FOR AN UPDATE REGARDING THE POTENTIAL ENFORCEMENT OF TOXIC EMISSIONS OF ICE CREAM TRUCKS AND RELATED VENDORS

Deputy City Attorney Richard Padilla presented the staff report and replied to questions from Councilmembers.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers regarding emissions from other vehicles, barbeques, CNG vehicles, truck deliveries to businesses, and concerns regarding hours of operation and how to regulate them.

Councilmembers concurred this item could be discussed during the upcoming discussion of City Council priorities. No formal action was taken.

5) APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING AND PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Motion by Councilmember Soto, seconded by Vice Mayor Ballin, to appoint Anna Michelle Lopez to the Planning and Preservation Commission as his representative. By consensus, the motion carried.

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

Items Pulled for Further Discussion:

- 3) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING IN ITS ENTIRETY DIVISION 6 (PURCHASING) OF ARTICLE IV (FINANCE) OF CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE SAN FERNANDO CITY CODE RELATING TO THE PROCEDURES FOR PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING

Finance Director Nick Kimball addressed the current purchasing ordinance and replied to questions from Councilmembers.

Discussion followed regarding the need for Council to review the proposed process, revisiting contracts every five years to reevaluate them, authorizing change orders, streamlining the process, contingencies, expecting high levels of service, purchase of resources by employees, and the possibility of tabling this item until those issues are addressed.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ballin, seconded by Mayor Fajardo, to table the item to a future meeting. By consensus, the motion carried.

- 4) CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL STATE PROJECT NO. SR2SL-5202(015), JOB NO. 7580, PLAN NO. P-715

Vice Mayor Ballin asked about the 15% contingency versus a 10% contingency and Finance Director Kimball noted 15% is standard a practice. Vice Mayor Ballin reported she did not have the time to review all of the materials and suggested tabling the item to a later meeting.

Finance Director Kimball reported the item is time-sensitive, noted the plans are available online, and encouraged City Council to move forward as quickly as possible on this item.

Brief discussion followed regarding needing to meet urgent deadlines.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ballin, seconded by Mayor Fajardo, to:

- a. Approve plans and specifications for the Safe Routes to School Project No SR2SL-50202(015), Job No. 7580, Plan No. P-715;
- b. Accept the lowest responsive bid from FS Contractors, Inc., for construction of these improvements;
- c. Authorize the City Manager to execute a Construction Contract with FS Contractors, Inc., (Contract No. 1820) for construction of these improvements in an amount not to exceed \$593,995; and

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- d. Establish an amount of 15% of the contract amount (\$90,000), as a contingency, to cover the cost of unforeseen construction expenses.

By consensus, the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (CONTINUED)

- 8) BUDGET PLANNING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 REGARDING ELECTRICAL UPGRADES ON SAN FERNANDO MISSION BOULEVARD AND MACLAY AVENUE FOR HOLIDAY EVENTS

Councilmember Soto explained he has been working with Public Works in planning for electrical upgrades to prepare for the holidays along Mission Boulevard, reported it would be a permanent upgrade and stated it could be for multiple uses (i.e., parade) if the City upgrades the circuits.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers and staff regarding about possibly bringing this item back during the discussion of City Council priorities.

Mayor Fajardo announced the item will be reconsidered during discussions of City Council priorities, without objection.

- 9) REQUEST TO DISSOLVE THE BUDGET, PERSONNEL, AND FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE AND CONVENE FULL CITY COUNCIL MEETING BUDGET WORKSHOPS

Vice Mayor Ballin referenced comments regarding extending Measure A and believed discussions should occur during full City Council meetings, going forward.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ballin, seconded by Mayor Fajardo, to dissolve the Budget, Personnel, and Finance Standing Committee and that the City Council hold regular budget meetings (open to the public).

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	Ballin, Fajardo, Gonzales, Soto, Lopez – 5
NOES:	None

- 11) UPDATE REGARDING THE CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECT

Mayor Fajardo provided information regarding an upcoming California High-Speed Rail Authority Board Meeting at the Anaheim Convention Center on April 12.

Discussion ensued regarding the need to promote the event and provide transportation for anyone interested in attending (i.e., employees, business owners, and residents) the meeting, and the need to be active and vigilant regarding this event.

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Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Soto, to authorize the City Manager to take all steps necessary to promote the event and to get as many residents to the meeting as possible. By consensus, the motion carried.

12) REORGANIZATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL – SELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR

City Clerk Chávez presented the staff report and opened the nominations for Mayor.

Mayor Fajardo nominated Robert C. Gonzales for Mayor; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Ballin.

Councilmember Soto nominated Councilmember Lopez for Mayor. There being no second, the motion died.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Vice Mayor Ballin, to close nominations. By consensus, the motion carried.

For Robert C. Gonzales as Mayor, the motion carried with the following vote:

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

City Clerk Chávez opened nominations for Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Ballin nominated Joel Fajardo for Vice Mayor; the motion was seconded by Councilmember Fajardo.

There were no other nominations.

Motion by Vice Mayor Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo, to close nominations. By consensus, the motion carried.

For Joel Fajardo as Vice Mayor, the motion carried with the following vote:

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

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Ballin reported on the MWD meeting and reported the ICFA is considering a lease-to-purchase program.

Vice Mayor Fajardo presented an update on the Chamber of Commerce's efforts to invite more businesses into the City.

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Mayor Gonzales reported staff will provide a presentation at an upcoming Library Commission meeting regarding services offered by the Los Angeles County Library, announced an upcoming ICA quarterly luncheon and summer seminar, and noted that in two weeks, the City will be visiting Sacramento to lobby.

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Ballin congratulated Mayor Gonzales on his appointment as Mayor.

Councilmember Lopez congratulated Mayor Gonzales, welcomed everyone back, and reported he is excited for the coming year.

Councilmember Soto congratulated Mayor Gonzales, thanked new Commissioner Anna Michelle Lopez for accepting her appointment, commented on the recent Cesar Chávez March, and thanked residents participating in High-Speed Rail actions, the POA for their recent luncheon, and City staff for their work.

Mayor Gonzales discussed the recent Cesar Chávez March, thanked the committee who organized the event, and commented on the importance of voting.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

City Manager Saeki congratulated Mayor Gonzales and Vice Mayor Fajardo and commented on the service of former Vice Mayor Ballin.

Finance Director Kimball congratulated Mayor Gonzales and Vice Mayor Fajardo on their elections and provided an update on Measure R financing.

Police Chief Vairo also congratulated Mayor Gonzales and Vice Mayor Fajardo, and thanked Councilmembers and staff who attended the POA luncheon.

ADJOURNMENT (8:45 P.M.)

Motion by Councilmember Lopez, seconded by Councilmember 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 March 21, 2016, meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

*Elena G. Chávez
City Clerk*