

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**JUNE 1, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING**

Teleconference Per Governor Executive Order N-29-20

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Joel Fajardo called the meeting to order at 6:09 P.M.

Present:

Council: Mayor Joel Fajardo, Vice Mayor Hector A. Pacheco and Councilmembers Sylvia Ballin and Mary Mendoza

Staff: City Manager Nick Kimball, Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla, Chief of Police Anthony Vairo, Deputy City Manager/Director of Community Development Tim Hou, and City Clerk Julia Fritz

Absent: Councilmember Robert C. Gonzales

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mayor Joel Fajardo

**INVOCATION**

Led by Councilmember Sylvia Ballin

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

City Manager Kimball reported declaring a local emergency and activating the City's Local Emergency Management System related to recent civil unrest and implementation of curfews for today and tomorrow; noted the action must be ratified by City Council and deferred to the Assistant City Attorney for an explanation.

Assistant City Attorney Padilla explained that City Council is being requested to ratify and affirm the proclamation declaring a local emergency and authorizing the City Manager's ability to declare a curfew.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza, to approve the agenda with the emergency item as described by the City Attorney, labeled Item No. 8.

The motion carried with the following vote:

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES – June 1, 2020**

**Page 2**

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AYES: Mendoza, Ballin, Pacheco, Fajardo – 4  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Gonzales – 1  
ABSTAIN: None

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS:**

City Clerk Fritz reported five comments were received from the public which have been forwarded to City Council; noted another comment was received after the 4:00 P.M. deadline and read each into the record.

David Govea, Chair, San Fernando Education Commission, expressed appreciation for City Councils continued support; highlighted current programs and listed recent accomplishments.

Christina Bernal, Chair, San Fernando Mall Association, referenced a proposal for outdoor dining during the current COVID-19 pandemic allowing restaurants to continue operations at a reduced capacity and urged City Council to support the proposal.

Adriana Gomez, San Fernando Mall Association, addressed negative impacts to small businesses due to COVID-19; referenced a proposal requesting creation of outdoor shopping space to allow businesses to continue operating and urged the City to continue its support.

Mayor Fajardo read the above statements in Spanish.

City Clerk Fritz listed businesses declaring support for Ms. Gomez' request.

Lorena Soto expressed disappointment at having received various parking citation and alleged she and her family are being targeted and followed by Miss Martinez because of contacting the City Manager regarding this matter.

Cristal Ludena, opposed increasing the Police Department budget; asked that the funds be distributed back into the community and spoke about discussing the Black Lives Matter movement with the City.

Arturo Garcia Mendoza discussed the work of Assemblywoman Luz Rivas to keep residents safe and informed and addressed recent and upcoming virtual meetings hosted by the Assemblywoman.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Vice Mayor Pacheco pulled Consent Calendar Item 3 for separate discussion.

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING A COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE LOS ANGELES URBAN COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM
- 4) SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 1695 APPROVING THE AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2-121(2) AND SECTION 2-161 OF THE SAN FERNANDO CITY MUNICIPAL CODE TO PERMIT THE APPOINTMENT OF A CITY CLERK BY THE CITY MANAGER

Motion by Mayor Fajardo to approve the Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1, 2 and 4, Vice Mayor Pacheco seconded the motion.

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	Mendoza, Ballin, Pacheco, Fajardo – 4
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Gonzales – 1
ABSTAIN:	None

**ITEM PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**

- 3) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROJECT LIST TO RECEIVE CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROJECT LIST AND EXPENDITURE PLAN FOR THE ROAD MAINTENANCE AND REHABILITATION ACCOUNT (RMRA) SENATE BILL (SB 1) FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020-2021

City Manager Kimball responded to questions from Vice Mayor Pacheco.

Motion by Vice Mayor Pacheco to approve Consent Calendar Item No. 3. Councilmember Ballin seconded the motion to:

- a. Accept \$470,622 in Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) Funds and approve the proposed project list to be funded by the SB 1 Local Streets and Roads Program;
- b. Adopt Resolution No. 8005 approving the list of projects for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 funded by SB 1, The Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017; and
- c. Authorize staff to submit all required documents to the California Transportation Commission.

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	Mendoza, Ballin, Pacheco, Fajardo – 4
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Gonzales – 1
ABSTAIN:	None

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

5) STUDY SESSION NO. 1 TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE CITY’S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020-2021 BUDGET

City Manager Kimball presented the staff report and responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Discussion followed regarding the Police Department budget compared with other City Department budgets, the possibility of adding a line item under the Recreation Department to include a Theater Group, reducing the Councilmember travel budget from \$2,000 to \$1,000 per year, exploring funds for Community Theater, continuing to allocate funds towards the Tree fund, allocating starter funds for the Farmers Market, the importance of travel and continued training, finding areas where cuts can be made that will have the least impact on San Fernando residents and considering reducing the number of busses allocated for events.

City Manager Kimball reported there would be another budget study session on June 15, 2020 and noted input from City Council will be incorporated into the draft.

6) EVALUATION OF CITY OF SAN FERNANDO’S COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORT AND POLICY INITIATIVES (INCLUDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND THE PURSUIT OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES) AND APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS, MODIFICATIONS AND/OR DIRECTION PROPOSED BY CITY STAFF OR BY COUNCILMEMBERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SAME, INCLUDING THE CREATION OF AN AD HOC COMMITTEE AND THE APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO STUDY AND ADVISE ON RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Mayor Fajardo requested that the City Council create an Ad Hoc Committee regarding the use of the CDBG funds to subsidize the purchase of biodegradable utensils, on a temporary basis, for local businesses and suggested forming an Ad Hoc Committee with Councilmember Mendoza.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo to approve Mayor Fajardo and Councilmember Mendoza as members of an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss the allocation of CDBG funds, Councilmember Ballin seconded the motion.

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	Mendoza, Ballin, Pacheco, Fajardo – 4
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Gonzales – 1
ABSTAIN:	None

7) DISCUSSION REGARDING A POSSIBLE COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL RENT FREEZE

Councilmember Mendoza inquired about assistance the community with implementing a potential one-year rent freeze.

City Manager Kimball stated staff would return with a draft ordinance, reaffirming the County’s eviction moratorium with their rent freeze provision that currently is only applicable to unincorporated areas and including commercial properties.

**The following item was approved for consideration during the approval of the agenda.**

8) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY REGARDING CIVIL UNREST AND SETTING A CITY-WIDE CURFEW, AS APPROPRIATE

City Manager Kimball presented the report and responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Assistant City Attorney Padilla added this would be parallel to the prior declaration of emergency to deal specifically, with the civil unrest and listed the recommended actions.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo to approve and ratify the City Manager’s emergency proclamation declaring a Local Emergency to address recent civil unrest until the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting and authorize the City Manager to declare curfews as appropriate. Councilmember Ballin seconded the motion.

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES:	Mendoza, Ballin, Pacheco, Fajardo – 4
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Gonzales – 1
ABSTAIN:	None

**STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES**

Deputy City Manager/Director of Community Development Hou presented an update on Los Angeles County Public Health orders relative to COVID-19 and encouraged the public to continue following safety protocols.

**GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilmember Mendoza thanked former Assembly Member Patty Lopez, sponsors, volunteers, the San Fernando Recovery Center and the San Fernando Swap Meet who provided grab-and-go meals for San Fernando residents and surrounding communities and expressed her condolences to the family and friends of George Floyd.

In response to Councilmember Ballin’s question, City Manager Kimball addressed the reopening of the San Fernando Swap Meet. Councilmember Ballin urged the public to continue following safety protocols including social distancing and face coverings.

Vice Mayor Pacheco commented on the recent civil unrest and the murder of George Floyd; read a quote from President Obama regarding protests and addressed the need to mobilize, raise awareness, vote, and approach each other with kindness. He expressed interest in creating an Ad Hoc Committee to establish policies and evaluate proposals as recommended by groups like Black Lives Matter and others. Additionally, he commented positively on the efforts of the San Fernando Mall to obtain support for outdoor dining and requested adjourning the meeting in memory of Mr. George Floyd and other who have been lost.

Mayor Fajardo spoke about George Floyd being a victim of Police brutality; noted his support for the efforts of protestors bringing awareness to racial injustices.

**ADJOURNMENT (8:17 P.M.)**

Motion by Councilmember Mendoza to adjourn the meeting in memory of Mr. George Floyd, Vice Mayor Pacheco seconded the motion and the motion carried by roll call vote with Councilmember Gonzalez, absent.

*I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of June 1, 2020, meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.*

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*Julia Fritz, CMC  
City Clerk*