

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

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

TELECONFERENCE – PER GOVERNOR’S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Joel Fajardo called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Present:

Council: Mayor Joel Fajardo, Vice Mayor Hector A. Pacheco (Arrived at 6:57 P.M.),  
Councilmembers Sylvia Ballin, Robert C. Gonzales, 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, Director of Finance Diego Ibanez, and City Clerk  
Julia Fritz

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mayor Fajardo

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilmember Mendoza requested adjourning the meeting tonight in memory of United States Army Specialist Vanessa Guillén.

Mayor Fajardo requested removing Item No. 9 from the agenda to be agendaized for the City Council meeting of July 20, 2020 and Councilmember Ballin requested to remove Item No. 10 to be agendaized to a date uncertain.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Ballin, to approve the agenda as amended to remove Item No. 9 to the July 20, 2020 meeting, and to remove Item No. 10 to allow staff more time to provide the information requested and scheduled to a date uncertain. The motion carried by roll call vote with Vice Mayor Pacheco, absent.

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN**

City Clerk Fritz read a written public comment submitted by:

Liana Stepanyan, San Fernando Library Manager, provided information on summer activities offered at the library.

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**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Councilmember Mendoza pulled Item No. 2 for separate discussion and Councilmember Ballin pulled Item No. 4 for separate discussion.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Ballin to approve Items No. 1 and 3 of the Consent Calendar.

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
  
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON FOR USE OF CITY FACILITIES

By consensus, the motion carried with Vice Mayor Pacheco absent.

**ITEMS PULLED FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION**

Motion by Councilmember Mendoza, seconded by Mayor Fajardo to accept the donation of four travel trailers from the State of California Department of General Services.

- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF FOUR TRAVEL TRAILERS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

By consensus, the motion carried with Vice Mayor Pacheco absent.

It was noted that Vice Mayor Hector A. Pacheco joined the meeting at 6:57 P.M.

Motion by Councilmember Ballin, seconded by Mayor Fajardo to approve:

- 4) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AND GIVING NOTICE OF HOLDING A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020, REQUEST TO CONSOLIDATE THE ELECTION WITH THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION, AUTHORIZE THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIAL TO PERFORM ELECTION SERVICES, AND ADOPTING REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO MATERIALS SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE

The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mendoza, Pacheco, Gonzales, Ballin, Fajardo - 5  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 6) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION OF INTENTION, AND RELATED CERTIFICATIONS, TO AMEND THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO AND THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM

City Manager Kimball presented details of the staff report and responded to questions from City Council.

City Councilmembers discussed the need to implement certain policies to save the City’s budget and prevent layoffs and furloughs.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Mendoza to:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 8016, approve related certification documents to effectuate a contract amendment between the City of San Fernando and the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS); and
- b. Authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive corrections and execute all related documents.

The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mendoza, Gonzales, Ballin, Fajardo - 4

NOES: Pacheco - 1

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

- 7) DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION REGARDING THE SAN FERNANDO OPEN STREETS FESTIVAL

Recreation and Community Services Director Venegas presented the staff report and responded to questions from City Council. 41:24

City Councilmembers discussed postponing the event during the COVID-19 pandemic, suggested future events should be smaller, spoke about safety concerns, and recommended reallocating funds towards First Mile, Last Mile program.

Motion by Councilmember Gonzales, and Mayor Fajardo seconded the motion, direct staff to repurpose funds towards the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor First/Last Mile project improvements, contingent upon Metro Link agreeing to apply the City’s allocation towards the matching requirement.

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The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mendoza, Pacheco, Gonzales, Ballin, Fajardo - 5

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

- 8) CONSIDERATION TO ALLOCATE THE ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS PROVIDED THROUGH THE CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT TO ESTABLISH A RESIDENTIAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM AND PROVIDE PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT TO ELIGIBLE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES, AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 ANNUAL BUDGET

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

Discussion followed regarding consideration to ensure that each food distribution box includes Personal Protective Equipment, cleaning supplies, and that the application process is simple and easily accessible to eligible residents and businesses.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales to approve the use of the additional Community Development Block Grant funding provided through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act to establish a Residential Food Distribution Program and provide Personal Protective Equipment to eligible residents and businesses, as recommended and discussed; adopt Resolution No. 8017 appropriating \$136,373 in additional funding in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Annual Budget and authorize the City Manager to execute all related documents. The motion carried, unanimously, by roll call vote.

- 9) DISCUSSION REGARDING COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS, INCLUDING THE CREATION OF AN AD HOC COMMITTEE AND THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS, IF APPROPRIATE

Mayor Fajardo discussed having staff available to ensure businesses are following mandated safety protocols.

Deputy City Manager/Director of Community Development Hou presented an update of recent changes to State and County Health Orders and addressed enforcement.

Discussion followed regarding expanding education efforts to ensure compliance, the possibility of setting a fine schedule for violations, postponing charging fees for violations at this time, and providing bilingual educational literature in the food boxes.

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Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Gonzales to approve the City’s COVID-19 planning, response, enforcement, and education efforts, and related policy initiatives; review and approval of financial assistance programs and the pursuit of funding opportunities, and related recommendations, as appropriate; and establish related Ad Hoc Committees and the appointment of Committee Members, if appropriate.

The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mendoza, Pacheco, Gonzales, Ballin, Fajardo - 5

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

10) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION RELATED TO WHISTLEBLOWER AND ALLEGED EMPLOYEE MISCONDUCT REPORTING PROCEDURES

This item was pulled by Major Fajardo under Agenda Review and was tabled to a date uncertain.

11) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE CITY’S MUNICIPAL ELECTION FROM THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION IN EVEN NUMBERED YEARS TO THE STATEWIDE PRIMARY ELECTION IN EVEN NUMBERED YEARS EFFECTIVE IN 2024

This item was pulled by Councilmember Ballin under Agenda Review and was continued to the City Council meeting of July 20, 2020.

**STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES**

City Manager Kimball introduced new Public Works Director Matthew Baumgardner and deferred to him for comments.

Public Works Director Matthew Baumgardner provided a brief background on his experience qualifications and provided updates on the Glen Oaks project and street resurfacing.

San Fernando Police Chief Vairo gave an update on the issue of fireworks in the City; discussed a new mapping program and related statistics; noted increased incidents and addressed challenges.

City Clerk Fritz announced the opening of the nomination period for elections is Monday, July 15, 2020; noted information and links will be available on the City’s website and discussed candidate handbook.

City Manager Kimball reported the availability of cooling centers, as temperatures rise.

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**GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilmember Gonzales discussed a recent meeting of the Disaster Service Council and thanked City staff for their work during these difficult situations.

Councilmember Ballin recommended that all Councilmembers participate in the County's weekly COVID-19 update conference call; noted the COVID-19 high risk group are now people in their 30's and welcomed Mr. Baumgardner on board.

City Manager Kimball anticipated City Council would meet in Council Chambers in August.

Councilmember Mendoza welcomed Mr. Baumgardner on board and commented on the allocation of \$300,000 by the State.

Vice Mayor Pacheco commended the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and American Indian Tribes for fighting against and shutting down the Dakota Access Pipeline; discussed a recent SCAG meeting noting that controversial topics were discussed related to diversity and equality.

Mayor Fajardo reported PPE loans were extended; commended the Supreme Court for the policy outlining workplace discrimination; requested an update and future discussion on the Measure A tax measure. He noted the CDBG Ad Hoc Committee discussed providing biodegradable utensils and suggested staff to create a policy whereby utensils would be given out upon request; asked the City Clerk to emphasize to candidates that signatures collection process, affidavit requirement for the nomination petition and welcomed Mr. Baumgardner on board.

Councilmember Mendoza requested adjourning tonight's meeting in memory of United States Army Specialist Vanessa Guillén. She also requested adopting a resolution expressing City Council's resolve that no woman, or anyone should be subjected to sexual assault or sexual harassment while in the military and include that an independent investigation be conducted, and send copies of the resolution to the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee and the U.S. House Armed Services Committee.

**ADJOURNMENT (9:09 P.M.)**

Motion by Councilmember Mendoza, seconded by Mayor Fajardo, to adjourn the meeting in memory of United States Army Specialist Vanessa Guillén. The motion carried, unanimously, by roll call vote.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of July 6, 2020, meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

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Julia Fritz, CMC  
City Clerk