

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

**MARCH 4, 2013 – 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING**

City Hall Council Chambers
117 Macneil Street
San Fernando, CA 91340

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Antonio Lopez called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

Present:

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

Staff: Interim City Administrator Don Penman, City Attorney Rick R. Olivarez, and City Clerk Elena G. Chávez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Fajardo

PRESENTATIONS

The following presentations were made:

- a) DENTAL ASSISTANT RECOGNITION WEEK (MARCH 3-9, 2013)
- b) UPDATE ON HELP-PORTRAIT SAN FERNANDO 2012 WITH ALAS MEDIA

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Margie Carranza and Sam Beltran spoke against a ballot measure regarding a transaction and use sales tax.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 4, 2013

Page 2

Irwin Rosenberg (San Fernando Police Officers' Association President) spoke in support of a new tax.

Linda Jauron said that if a new tax is the best option, then it should be done sooner, rather than later.

Stormy Haupt said that he would currently vote "no" on a new tax but maybe his vote would change if due diligence is accomplished and other cost savings would be found.

Tom Ross, Downtown Mall Association President, suggested that a service organization take over the City's 4th of July event and he said that raising taxes is a first line of defense but there needs to be a "Plan B".

Lillian De Loza, L.A. County Metropolitan Transportation, invited everyone to attend upcoming scoping meetings regarding a draft Environmental Impact Review and Statement.

Julian Ruelas said that no one likes a tax increase but the City is in financial peril and the voters should be able to decide what to do.

Frank Villalpando, San Fernando Public Employees Association President, talked about teamwork, said there have been ongoing talks with the Interim City Administrator, and they support the proposed new tax.

(Female speaker – did not state name) said that her 70 year-old father has been missing and asked for assistance in locating him.

Brenda Esqueda talked about the hiring of the new City Attorney and the proposed tax increase.

Patty Lopez invited everyone to attend an upcoming event in honor of Cesar Chávez.

Carolina Perez said she is concerned about the sales tax increase and believes that the City Council should provide residents more than one choice.

Ricardo Benitez supports the Cesar Chavez Commemoration Day Event.

Paul Luna said that although the citizens will determine whether to approve the tax, it does not relieve the City Council of searching for other ways to deal with the \$4 million deficit.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Avila, to approve the Consent Calendar Items:

- 1) APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER NO. 13-031

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 4, 2013

Page 3

- 2) RECLASSIFICATION OF A SENIOR COUNSELOR (PART-TIME) TO PROGRAM SPECIALIST (PART-TIME) POSITION

By consensus, the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- 3) APPROVAL OF A LOAN BETWEEN THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO AND THE SAN FERNANDO SUCCESSOR AGENCY

Interim Finance Director Rafaela King presented the staff report.

Motion by Mayor Lopez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ballin, to approve a loan to the San Fernando Successor Agency totaling \$184,060.46 to make interest payments on the 1998 and 2006 redevelopment bond issues due March 14, 2013, and direct the Mayor to sign a loan agreement on behalf of the City. By consensus, the motion carried.

- 4) CONSIDERATION OF CALLING FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION TO PLACE A BALLOT MEASURE BEFORE THE VOTERS TO CONSIDER A TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX

Interim City Administrator Penman presented the staff report and Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla also gave background information regarding this item.

Discussion ensued and staff replied to questions and concerns from Councilmembers.

Motion by Councilmember Avila, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ballin, to:

- a) Adopt Resolution No. 7525:
 - i. Calling and Giving Notice of a Special Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2013, to submit a ballot measure question to the voters concerning the enactment of a temporary one half of one percent (1/2%) Transactions and Use Tax to be implemented as a General Tax;
 - ii. Declaring a fiscal emergency justifying the placement of a General Tax Measure on a Special Election Ballot; and
 - iii. Setting election procedures and priorities for the filing of written arguments and rebuttals regarding the measure and reciting the City Attorney to prepare an Impartial Analysis.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 4, 2013

Page 4

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Lopez, Ballin, Gonzales, Avila, Fajardo – 5
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

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

- b) Adopt Resolution No. 7526 requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles render specified services to the City relating to the conduct of a Special Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2013; and
- c) Introduce for first reading, in title only, and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1626, “An Ordinance of the City of San Fernando Enacting, Subject to Adoption by the Electorate, a Temporary Half Cent Transactions and Use Tax to be Administered by the State Board of Equalization Pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code § 7251 et seq.”

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Lopez, Ballin, Gonzales, Avila, Fajardo – 5
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES

No. 1 Budget, Personnel and Finance (BPF)

Councilmember Avila – no updates.

No. 2 Housing, Community & Economic Development and Parking (HCEP)

Mayor Lopez – no updates.

No. 3 Natural Resources, Infrastructure, Water, Energy and Waste Management (NRIW)

Councilmember Fajardo – no updates.

No. 4 Public Safety, Veteran Affairs, Technology and Transportation (PVTT)

Councilmember Avila – Public Works Director Ron Ruiz reported that an upcoming discussion item will be the award of a contract for engineering services.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – March 4, 2013

Page 5

No. 5 Education, Parks, Arts, Health and Aging (EPAH)

Councilmember Gonzales – Recreation and Community Services Operations Manager Aguila talked about virtual patrol cameras that will be installed at Pioneer Park.

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Avila thanked staff and audience members and said that Council will try to be as diligent as possible.

Councilmember Gonzales thanked staff for their work and the information provided, and talked about the San Fernando and Santa Rosa Little Leagues opening day that he attended.

Councilmember Fajardo thanked his colleagues for a hearty debate, agreed with Mayor Lopez that the process has been transparent, and is looking forward to see what happens and how we can work together to make this city a better place.

Mayor Pro Tem Ballin understands the concerns regarding transparency because things are moving quickly, but she said that as soon as the City Council is made aware of an issue that must be addressed, it's pretty much on the next meeting agenda so that everyone is informed and kept up to speed.

Mayor Lopez thanked audience members and said that the City Council will address every item that is brought before them.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

None

ADJOURNMENT (8:56 P.M.)

By consensus, the meeting was adjourned.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of March 4, 2013 meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

Elena G. Chávez
City Clerk