

**SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 7, 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 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Council: Mayor Joel Fajardo, Vice Mayor Hector A. Pacheco, and Councilmembers Sylvia Ballin, Robert C. Gonzales (arrived at 6:04 p.m.) 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, Director of Recreation and Community Services Julian Venegas and City Clerk Julia Fritz

Absent: None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mayor Fajardo

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Ballin to approve the agenda.

The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Mendoza, Pacheco, Ballin and Fajardo - 4

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Councilmember Robert C. Gonzales joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

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**PRESENTATION**

- A) EDUCATION COMMISSION TEACHER SPOTLIGHT RECOGNITION OF SOCIAL JUSTICE HUMANITAS ACADEMY TEACHER DANIEL VAZQUEZ
- B) PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION HONORING A COMMUNITY MEMBER FOR HER YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE TO MARIA CARRILLO
- C) PRESENTATION HONORING RETIREES FOR THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN**

City Clerk Fritz read the following submitted public statements from:

Liana Stepanyan, San Fernando Library Manager provided an update of library resources, services and virtual programs that are being offered as a result of COVID-19.

Angel Zobel Rodriguez expressed thanks to Councilmember Gonzales and Mayor Fajardo for their service to the City and the community.

Christian Garcia expressed concerns on financial hardships affecting local businesses and communities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Victoria Ianni Garcia expressed concerns on financial hardships affecting local businesses and communities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pueblo Y Salud Organization welcomed Mary Mendoza, Cindy Montañez and Celeste Rodriguez to the City Council and thanked Councilmember Gonzales and Mayor Fajardo for their service to the City and the community.

Secondhand Smoke Organization welcomed Mary Mendoza, Cindy Montañez and Celeste Rodriguez to the San Fernando City Council.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

- 1) REQUEST TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2020 – SPECIAL MEETING
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL – OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY ENFORCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

- 4) SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 1700 APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 22 (BUSINESSES) OF THE SAN FERNANDO MUNICIPAL CODE BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW ARTICLE IX (ART MURALS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY)
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HOUSEAL LAVIGNE ASSOCIATES, LLC, DBA HOUSEAL LAVIGNE, TO PROVIDE 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE TO GENERAL PLAN

The motion carried unanimously.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 6) DISCUSSION REGARDING COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

A presentation from staff related to the City's COVID-19 efforts was received and filed.

- 7) ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION RECITING THE FACT OF THE CITY'S NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND DECLARING THE RESULTS OF THE SAME AND CONCURRENTLY RATIFY/APPROVE SECOND READING OF THE VOTER-APPROVED ORDINANCE INCREASING THE CITY'S EXISTING GENERAL PURPOSE HALF-CENT TRANSACTIONS (SALES) AND USE TAX BY AN ADDITIONAL QUARTER-PERCENT (1/4%) SUCH THAT THE RATE OF THE CITY'S TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX WOULD BECOME THREE-QUARTERS OF ONE PERCENT (3/4%); AND ADOPT RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TAX AND FEE ADMINISTRATION TO ADMINISTER AND COLLECT THE TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX ON BEHALF OF THE CITY

Members of the City Council expressed their appreciation and thanked Robert C. Gonzales and Joel Fajardo for their years of service to the community.

Councilmember Robert C. Gonzales expressed his gratitude, appreciation and thanked his family, friends, colleagues and the community for their support.

Mayor Joel Fajardo expressed his gratitude, appreciation and thanked his family, friends, colleagues and the community for their support.

Motion by Mayor Fajardo, seconded by Vice Mayor Pacheco to approve:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 8046 reciting the fact of the City's November 3, 2020 General Municipal Election and declaring the results of the same; and

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- b. Ratify adoption and second reading voter-approved Ordinance No. 1698, entitled: “An Ordinance of the People of the City of San Fernando, California, Increasing the City’s Existing General Purpose Half-Percent (1/2%) Transactions and Use Tax Codified Under Article V (Transactions and Use Tax) of Chapter 82 (Taxation) of the San Fernando Municipal Code to a New Increased Rate of Three-Quarters of One Percent (3/4%)”; and
- c. Adopt Resolution No. 8047 authorizing the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) to administer and collect the transaction and use tax on behalf of the City; and
- d. Adopt Resolution No. 8048 designating and authorizing the City Manager as the authorized representative to examine confidential transactions and use tax records collected by (CDTFA); and
- e. Authorize the City Manager to execute all related documents.

The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

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

Mayor Joel Fajardo and Councilmember Robert Gonzales left the meeting.

8) PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

The City Clerk presented Certificates of Election and administered the Oath of Office to newly elected officials: Mary Mendoza, Cindy Montañez, and Celeste Rodriguez.

9) ANNUAL REORGANIZATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL – SELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR

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

Councilmember Mendoza nominated Sylvia Ballin for Mayor and the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Pacheco.

There were no other nominations for Mayor.

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

For Sylva Ballin as Mayor, the motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Rodriguez, Montañez, Mendoza, Ballin, Pacheco - 5  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

City Clerk Fritz announced Sylvia Ballin as Mayor.

City Clerk Fritz opened nominations for Vice Mayor.

Mayor Ballin nominated Mary Mendoza for Vice Mayor.

There were no other nominations for Vice Mayor.

For Mary Mendoza as Vice Mayor, the motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Rodriguez, Montañez, Mendoza, Ballin, Pacheco - 5  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

City Clerk Fritz announced Mary Mendoza as Vice Mayor.

10) CONSIDERATION OF THE PRESENTATION BY VICE MAYOR HECTOR A. PACHECO RELATED TO CITYWIDE MAINTENANCE STANDARDS AND TRASH SERVICES

This item was placed on the agenda by Vice Mayor Pacheco.

Councilmember Pacheco presented information for discussion.

By consensus, members of the City Council directed staff to take the following actions:

- a. Develop and present recommendations to City Council at a future meeting to accomplish enhanced maintenance citywide, including the Downtown Mall, Maclay corridor, City parks and bike path. Include any enhancement recommendations for personnel and/or equipment that we need to better accomplish trash cleanup;
- b. Direct staff to draft a report for City Council consideration in January 2021 allocating Measure W funds toward a capital improvement project to construct new trash enclosures and other waste management improvements in the Downtown Mall area (approximately \$196,000 available); and

- c. Request an update on trash services from Republic Services at a meeting in January 2021.

**STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES**

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas provided information regarding upcoming City events, including but not limited to, the upcoming Virtual Tree Lighting event and progress on a community theater program.

Director of Finance Ibanez mentioned Measure “A” is being reviewed and will be presented during a prescheduled town hall meeting next year.

Director of Public Works Baumgardner talked about the resurfacing project for Glenoaks Boulevard is nearing completion and that staff has been diligently working on incidents caused by extreme winds.

Police Chief Vairo spoke about the Police Department’s Annual Christmas Basket Program give-away event.

City Clerk Fritz expressed congratulations to newly elected Councilmembers Cindy Montañez, Celeste Rodriguez and Mary Mendoza.

Deputy City Manager/Director of Community Development Hou announced that the City was awarded grant funds through the Department of Housing and Community Development for the Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) grant program in the amount of \$150,000.

City Manager Kimball reported that earlier today, he attended the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (L.A. Metro) Board meeting where the board approved the final Environment Impact Report (EIR) for the East San Fernando Valley Light-Rail Transit Project. He also extended congratulations to newly elected Councilmembers Cindy Montañez, Celeste Rodriguez and Mary Mendoza and newly appointed Mayor Sylvia Ballin.

**GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilmember Rodriguez expressed her appreciation and thanked constituents and her family for their support during her candidacy.

Councilmember Montañez expressed her appreciation and thanked constituents and her family for their support during her candidacy.

Councilmember Pacheco extended congratulations to newly elected City Councilmembers Cindy Montañez, Celeste Rodriguez and Mary Mendoza.

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Vice Mayor Mendoza expressed thanks to her constituents for their support during her candidacy and to Councilmembers for their vote as Vice Mayor.

Mayor Ballin express thanks to everyone for their support and suggested that recommendations regarding staffing needs, and an informational presentation regarding resources for mental health/illness and suicide prevention be brought back to the City Council at a future meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT (10:21 p.m.)**

Motion by Councilmember Pacheco, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza, 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 December 7, 2020 meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

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Julia Fritz, City Clerk