

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY
TO THE SAN FERNANDO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
MINUTES**

**APRIL 19, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING**

Teleconference Per Governor Executive Order N-29-20

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Sylvia Ballin called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

Present:

Council: Mayor Sylvia Ballin, Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza, and Councilmembers Cindy Montañez and Celeste T. Rodriguez

Staff: City Manager Nick Kimball, Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla, Chief of Police Anthony Vairo, Director of Finance Diego Ibañez, Director of Public Works Matt Baumgardner, Director of Recreation and Community Services Julian Venegas, and City Clerk Julia Fritz

Absent: Councilmember Hector A. Pacheco

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by City Clerk Fritz

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza to table Agenda Item 8 regarding City Council Strategic Goals to a date uncertain. Motion failed due to a lack of second.

Motion by Councilmember Montañez, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried with Councilmember Pacheco absent.

It was noted that Councilmember Hector A. Pacheco joined the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

- A) EDUCATION COMMISSION CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION - APRIL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH
- KAUSHIKI PRAJAPATI (San Fernando Elementary School)
 - LUIS ZELAYA (Academy of Scientific Exploration at Cesar E. Chavez Learning Academies)

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY

MINUTES – April 19, 2021

Page 2

B) PRESENTATION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ARBOR DAY

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

The following submitted public comments submitted via email stating opposition to the closure of St. Ferdinand Catholic School and requested City support:

Elizabeth Gutierrez
Benjamin Gutierrez
Jose B. Gutierrez
M. Lourdes Gutierrez
Jason Anderson
Hilda Gutierrez
Gina Franco
Martha Gill

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Councilmember Montañez, seconded by Councilmember Pacheco to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 5:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 5, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO 2021 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES FROM WONDRIES FLEET GROUP
- 4) SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 1701 APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 26, ARTICLE V (FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT) TO ADOPT FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS AND AN UPDATED FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY ISSUED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
- 5) CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO RENAME THE CDBG AD HOC COMMITTEE TO COVID-19 RELIEF PROGRAM AD HOC COMMITTEE TO BROADEN THE SCOPE OF DISCUSSIONS TO INCLUDE CDBG FUNDS AND THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS

The motion carried, unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Agenda Item No. 7 was moved up on the Agenda to be considered before Item No. 7.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY

MINUTES – April 19, 2021

Page 3

- 7) CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING DRAFTING AND SUBMITTING A LETTER TO THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES IN REQUESTING RECONSIDERATION OF THE DECISION TO CLOSE ST. FERDINAND CATHOLIC SCHOOL AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR

City Manager Nick Kimball presented the staff report and provided an update regarding communications that occurred subsequent to this meeting between school officials, Mayor Ballin and Vice Mayor Mendoza.

It was noted that Mayor Ballin left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Montañez to consider submitting a letter to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles requesting the Archdiocese reconsider their decision and keep St. Ferdinand Catholic School open and authorize the City Manager to draft and submit such letter on behalf of the City Council. The motion carried with Mayor Ballin absent.

- 6) PRESENTATION AND UPDATE REGARDING COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS

City Manager Kimball presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions. The City Council received and filed the presentation.

- 8) DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF REVISED CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC GOALS FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2021-2022 THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Montañez to approve the revised Five-year City Council Strategic Goals for Fiscal Year 2022–2027, as amended, to include an additional strategic goal under “Preserve Beautiful Homes and Neighborhoods”, listed as item one, as follows: “Facilitate common sense housing to preserve the charm of San Fernando”, reorder the strategic goals to move “Focus on Community First” as the first category and “COVID-19: Responding to a Pandemic” as the last category. The motion carried with Mayor Ballin absent.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas announced the annual reorganization of the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission appointing Jason Hayes as Chair and Reverend Sandy Richards as Vice Chair and mentioned the first meeting for Layne Park’s Revitalization Project seeking community input will be held via zoom on April 21, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY

MINUTES – April 19, 2021

Page 4

Director of Public Works Baumgardner provided an update on Measure W and will be meeting with a consultant and the San Fernando Mall Association regarding conceptual designs of the trash enclosures and disposals in the mall.

City Clerk Fritz had no updates to report.

Director of Finance Ibañez announced the proposed Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget will be presented at the next City Council meeting.

Police Chief Vairo announced National Night Out has been moved to October and read the following statement regarding a recent incident involving San Fernando Police Officers:

“The City takes the gravity and tragedy of officer involved shootings very seriously, especially when involves the loss of a life. The Police Department’s standard procedure and protocol in this type of incident’s is to request that the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department Homicide Division conduct an investigation, along with the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office. This ensures that the investigation will be handled in a transparent, objective, and professional manner. As there is an ongoing investigation, it would not be appropriate at this time for me or other representatives of the Police Department to offer comment or speculation regarding the incident. With this in mind, I ask for the public’s patience and understanding as well as patience from those family members directly impacted by these events.”

City Manager Kimball spoke about the City’s Housing Element, mentioned he held discussions with residents and businesses regarding a community meeting being held on May 6, 2021 receive feedback on the Parking Master Plan and reported on the recruitment status for the Director of Community Development.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Rodriguez suggested that an item be agendaized to discuss police protocols and procedures; and thanked staff for their hard work and Council for the collaboration.

Councilmember Pacheco spoke about having a high level of rapport and relationship with the Police Department and the community.

Councilmember Montañez thanked Chief Vairo for his statement regarding the incident, spoke about COVID-19 updates, and mentioned she is looking forward to hiring the new Director of Community Development.

Vice Mayor Mendoza thanked staff for all their work.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL/SUCCESSOR AGENCY

MINUTES – April 19, 2021

Page 5

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Mendoza adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m. to the next regular City Council Meeting of May 3, 2021.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of April 19, 2021, City Council meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk