

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**MAY 1, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING**

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
117 MACNEIL STREET
SAN FERNANDO, CALIFORNIA 91340**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Celeste Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present: Council: Mayor Celeste Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza, and Councilmembers Cindy Montañez, Joel Fajardo, and Mary Solorio

Staff: City Manager Nick Kimball, Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla, Police Chief Fabian Valdez, Director of Finance Erica Melton, Director of Recreation and Community Services Julian Venegas and City Clerk Julia Fritz

Absent: None

TELECONFERENCING REQUESTS/DISCLOSURE

No requests considered.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by BSA Troop 10

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve the agenda. The motion carried, unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN TONY CÁRDENAS, 29TH DISTRICT
- B. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 2023 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

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- C. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT BOARD CHAIR ADAN ORTEGA
- D. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO OUTGOING COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR SERVICE
- Parks, Wellness & Recreation Commission – Jason Hayes
 - Transportation and Public Safety Commission – Francisco Arrizon
 - Planning & Preservation Commission – Marvin R. Perez
- E. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE WEEK OF APRIL 30, 2023 TO MAY 6, 2023 AS PROFESSIONAL MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK

The City Council recessed the meeting at 7:07 p.m. and reconvened at 7:18 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

The following commented in support a Christian Flag flown at City Hall.

Victoria Garcia
Yolanda Haro
Martha Monge
Monica Lopez
Ingrid Avila
Richard Avila
Julie Cuellar
Rosanne Sias

Patty Lopez spoke about having translation services for meetings and suggested that the cost be discussed for this upcoming budget study session for FY 23-24.

Raul Barragan of Veterans of Foreign War Post 3834 spoke about veteran support resources.

Marcela Rodriguez spoke about having translation services for meetings.

Julissa Hernandez Senior Field Representative from the Office of Assemblymember Luz Rivas provided legislative updates.

Ricardo Benetez spoke in support of having translation services for meetings, commented on the hazardous road conditions at Arroyo and Fifth Street and about trees taking available spaces for businesses.

Ingrid Sandlow submitted correspondence regarding her concerns associated with future requests to fly an organizations flag at City Hall.

Gustavo Franco expressed his appreciation and thanked Chief Valdez, Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith and City Manager Kimball for their work.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve the Consent Calendar:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:
 - a. May 16, 2022 – Regular Meeting
 - b. June 13, 2022 – Special Meeting
 - c. March 3, 2023 – Special Meeting
 - d. April 17, 2023 – Special Meeting
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) RECEIVE AND FILE THE CITY MANAGER’S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 ANNUAL BUDGET
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A SECTION 115 TRUST FOR OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFIT (OPEB) LIABILITIES AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE UPDATED SANITARY SEWER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT THE UPDATED SANITARY SEWER MANAGEMENT PLAN TO THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
- 6) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH NORMAN A. TRAUB & ASSOCIATES, LLC, APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CHUCK THOMAS INVESTIGATIONS AND JL GROUP, LLC TO CONDUCT WORKPLACE INVESTIGATIONS; AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS

The motion carried, unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

- 7) A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. U-1716, MAKING FINDINGS AND EXTENDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS IN INTERIM URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. U-1715 ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE INSTALLATION OF ARTIFICIAL TURF AND SYNTHETIC GRASS IN THE CITY

Mayor Rodriguez opened the public hearing.

Associate Planner Marina Khurstaleva presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Metropolitan Water District (MWD) Board Chair Adan Ortega spoke about available resources, free consultation services and turf removal rebate programs offered through MWD.

Mayor Rodriguez called for public testimony.

IN SUPPORT

Sara Mgeni, submitted correspondence in support.

There being no further public comments, the public comment period was closed and Mayor Rodriguez closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Montanez, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to waive full reading, in title only, and adopt by a four-fifths vote Urgency Ordinance No. U-1716, “An Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California, making findings and extending for a period of 10 months and 15 days, regulations in Interim Urgency Ordinance No. U-1715 establishing temporary moratorium on the installation of artificial turf and synthetic grass in the City of San Fernando.” The motion carried, unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 8) CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT TO THE VERY CREATIVE FIRM TO MANAGE AND IMPLEMENT THE NORTHEAST VALLEY COMMUNITY STREET FESTIVAL A METRO OPEN STREETS EVENT

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Councilmember Solorio, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo to award a Professional Service Agreement (Contract No. 2154) to The Very Creative Firm, not to exceed \$487,563, to manage and implement the Northeast Valley Community Street Festival a Metro Open Street event; and authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive changes and execute all related documents. The motion carried, unanimously.

- 9) CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A CITY FLAG DISPLAY POLICY

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

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Mayor Rodriguez to adopt Resolution No. 8228 that establishes a City Flag Display Policy, as amended to incorporate previous resolutions regarding a flag display policy. The motion carried by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Solorio, Fajardo, Rodriguez - 3
NAYES: Montañez - 1
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: Mendoza - 1

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

City Clerk Fritz reported on the destruction of 138 boxes of records; mentioned that Deputy City Clerk Solis has registered to attend her second training session of 4 sessions towards her professional development to obtain the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation, and thanked City Council for recognition of Municipal Clerks week.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas reported on various upcoming events and activities, including the Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission will be meeting on Thursday, May 11, 2023 and noted the Commissions regular meeting day has changed from Tuesday to Thursday.

Executive Assistant to the City Manager Hernandez spoke about the range of services that were offered at the Homeless Connect Day event that occurred on April 20 at Las Palmas Park.

Director of Finance Melton reported that the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Proposed Budget in Brief document has been disseminated to the City Council, is available to view on the City's website, and noted a Virtual Town Hall Meeting regarding the proposed budget has been scheduled for May 10, 2023.

Police Chief Valdez mentioned tomorrow's culmination ceremony for participants of the Community Academy and reported on various upcoming Police Department related events.

City Manager Kimball stated the City's Annual Report was released for public review digitally and is available in both English and Spanish versions.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Fajardo thanked Mayor Rodriguez and Councilmember Solorio on their support for the newly adopted City Flag Policy.

Councilmember Montañez thanked City staff and spoke about the City's Annual Report.

Councilmember Solorio stated she had no comments.

Vice Mayor Mendoza reported she attended the Homeless Connect Day event and talked about the available services and resources that were offered, and expressed thanks to City staff, coordinators and to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) for their partnership and commented on the previous two Community Academy meetings she attended.

Mayor Rodriguez spoke about the City's Annual Report, noted she attended the San Fernando Food and Wine Festival; the Cities for Financial Empowerment Coalition meeting, thanked staff for participating in Denim Day recognizing sexual assault awareness; and commented on attending the Latina Action Day event.

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Additionally, Mayor Rodriguez mentioned she attended a meeting with California State Senator Alex Padilla and Assemblymember Luz Rivas and discussed the City’s Strategic Goals and Priorities; attended the San Fernando Outdoor Market; the Homeless Connect Day event; spoke briefly about translation services; noted she will be attending the upcoming Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) General Assembly meeting, the Metropolitan Water District “San Fernando Room” Dedication Ceremony and commented on the grand opening and ribbon cutting event for Gain Credit Union.

ADJOURNMENT (9:38 p.m.)

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the meeting to the next regular meeting.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the May 1, 2023, Regular meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk