

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**APRIL 17, 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 6:06 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 Community Development Kanika Kith, Director of Public Works Matthew Baumgardner, Director of Recreation and Community Services Julian Venegas and City Clerk Julia Fritz

Absent: None

TELECONFERENCING REQUESTS/DISCLOSURE

No requests to be considered.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by City Clerk Julia Fritz

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PRESENTATIONS

- A. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS LIBRARY MONTH
- C. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION COMMEMORATING THE VICTIMS OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE AND DECLARING APRIL 24, 2023 AS ARMENIAN GENOCIDE REMEMBRANCE DAY

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- B. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 28, 2023 AS ARBOR DAY
- C. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 22, 2023 AS EARTH DAY
- D. INTRODUCTION OF NEW CITY EMPLOYEES

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Charles Leone, representing SEIU Local 721 expressed thanks to City staff for their collaboration during contract labor negotiations.

Juan Salas, expressed thanks to City staff for their work during the SEIU Local 721 contract labor negotiations.

The following submitted comments in support of flying the Christian flag at City Hall:

Lupe Guerrero
Rhoda Suero
Sylvia Perez
Christine Granados
Marilyn Garcia
Ingrid Avila
Richard Avila
Rick Camberos
Victoria Ianni Garcia

Sylvia Ballin expressed appreciation to matt and his work for the city and wish him well in his endeavor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Fajardo requested to pull Consent Item No. 5 for discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve Item Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:
 - a. April 4, 2022 – Regular Meeting
 - b. March 20, 2023 – Regular Meeting
 - c. April 3, 2023 – Special Meeting
 - d. April 3, 2023 – Regular Meeting
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER

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- 3) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN OBSOLETE RECORDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY’S RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND DISPOSITION OF RECORDS

- 4) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH NORTH VALLEY CARING SERVICES TO PROVIDE STREET OUTREACH FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

- 6) CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT AB 481 APPROVAL OF THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY (GOVERNMENT CODE 7071) ANNUAL REPORT

The motion carried, unanimously.

Item Pulled for Discussion

- 5) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SAN FERNANDO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES’ ASSOCIATION AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 SALARY PLAN

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Montanez to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (Contract No. 2145) between the City of San Fernando and the San Fernando Public Employees’ Association for a five-year term (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027); adopt Resolution No. 8227 amending the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Salary Plan to include certain provisions in the approved MOU between the City of San Fernando and SFPEA; and authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive corrections and execute all related documents. The motion carried, unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Rodriguez declared she would recuse herself due to a potential conflict of interest associated with the proximity of her residence and left the dais at 6:51 p.m.

- 7) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DUDEK TO PREPARE THE DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN

Director of Community Development Kith presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Montañez to approve a Professional Services Agreement (Contract No. 2147) with Dudek in an amount not-to-exceed \$274,957 for preparation of the Downtown Master Plan; as amended to include the following components: door-to-door community outreach, temporarily delete the online survey, keep mailed surveys; staff to return with costs related to phone banking and tips on security for online surveys; authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive changes and execute the Agreement and all related documents.

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The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Fajardo, Solorio, Montañez, Mendoza - 4
NAYES: None
ABSENT: Rodriguez - 1
ABSTAIN: None

Mayor Rodriguez returned to the dais at 7:45 p.m. and called for a brief recess. The City Council reconvened the meeting at 7:58 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

8) CONSIDERATION TO APPOINT A PLANNING AND PRESERVATION COMMISSIONER

Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza presented the staff report.

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo to appoint Sylvia Ballin to the Planning and Preservation Commission. The motion carried, unanimously.

9) CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY COMMISSIONERS AND RELATED MATTERS

Councilmember Joel Fajardo presented the staff report. By consensus, the City Council directed staff to return to a future meeting with amendments to the City Council Procedure Manual to reflect processes for commissioner vacancies, appointments, and related matters. Staff stated a “Commissioner Handbook Guidelines” would be brought back for City Council consideration in the near future.

10) CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION AD HOC COMMITTEE

Mayor Celeste T. Rodriguez presented the staff report. Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to direct Staff to return with a City Flag Policy at the May 1, 2023 City Council meeting, and selected Councilmember Fajardo to serve on the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Ad hoc committee in lieu of Vice Mayor Mendoza. The motion carried, unanimously.

11) CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING ESTABLISHING A FOOD SECURITY AD HOC COMMITTEE

Mayor Celeste T. Rodriguez and Councilmember Mary Solorio presented the staff report. Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to establish a Food Security Ad hoc committee and selected Mayor Rodriguez and Councilmember Solorio to serve on the committee. The motioned carried, unanimously.

12) UPDATE ON THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING TRANSLATION SERVICES FOR CITY COUNCIL AND ALL COMMISSION MEETINGS

Councilmember Mary Solorio presented the staff report. Staff provided an updated information and stated that the matter would be considered as a potential enhancement during Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget Study Session discussions.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

City Clerk Fritz had no updates to report.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas provided information on various upcoming events including the Education Commission Student Scholarship awards event.

Director of Community Development Kith noted the San Fernando Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a seminar on customer service on Thursday, reported that during tomorrow's Planning and Preservation Commission meeting front yard wall design guidelines are being discussed, and Homeless Connect event is on Thursday.

Director of Finance Melton reported the draft proposed FY 2023-2024 Budget would be provided to the City Council prior to the May 15, 2023 Budget Study Session and commented on an upcoming virtual Town Hall meeting to occur on May 10, 2023.

Police Chief Valdez mentioned that a Parole Agent with the California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation, will be housed at the police department.

City Manager Kimball thanked Mr. Baumgardner for his work during his tenure with the City.

Director of Public Works Baumgardner reported on Phase 1 of the Slurry Seal project and anticipates work to be completed by the end of June, 2023 and mentioned his appreciation working with City staff during his tenure with the City.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Fajardo thanked Mr. Baumgardner for his work; spoke about the Earth Day Proclamation, mentioned representatives from Republic Services attend an upcoming Council meeting to provide information on SB 1383; commented on a resident experiencing tree roots affecting their sewer line and requested that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of victims from recent shootings that occurred in Baltimore and Louisville.

Councilmember Montañez thanked Mr. Baumgardner for his service.

Councilmember Solorio requested clarification on the date of the Student Scholarship Awards event; commented that the community be provided information via email, social media and mailers about the City's fence height regulations; mentioned an upcoming Odd Fellows Organization event, the May 10th Mother's Day Tea Party at Las Palmas Park; reported she attended the Spring Jamboree, an event at the San Fernando Recovery Center, the Valley Economic Alliance Gala; and noted she would be attending Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) 29th Latina Action Day conference in Sacramento.

Vice Mayor Mendoza reported she attended the last two Community Academy meetings, the Spring Jamboree event, and thanked Mr. Baumgardner for his service to the City.

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Mayor Rodriguez expressed thanks to Mr. Baumgardner for his service and wished him well with his future endeavors. She noted attending the San Fernando Recovery Center event, Valley Economic Alliance Gala, the Homeless Ad hoc committee meeting, a meeting with Los Angeles County 3rd District Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath and City of Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass and discussed resources to address homelessness, she attended the Spring Jamboree, and reported she would be attending the Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) 29th Latina Action Day conference in Sacramento.

ADJOURNMENT (9:39 p.m.)

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the meeting in memory to the victims of the recent shootings that occurred in Baltimore and Louisville, to the next regular meeting.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the April 17, 2023, Regular meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk