

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 2, 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 6:04 p.m. and noted the City Council would recess back into Closed Session at the conclusion of tonight's regular meeting.

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

Staff: City Manager Nick Kimball, Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla, Police Chief Fabian Valdez, Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kanika Kith, Director of Finance Erica Melton, and City Clerk Julia Fritz

Absent: Councilmember Cindy Montañez

TELECONFERENCING REQUESTS/DISCLOSURE

No requests considered.

City Manager Kimball noted that Councilmember Cindy Montañez contacted staff and reported that she would not be attending the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Explorer post

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

It was noted Councilmember Fajardo left the dais at 6:08 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION RECOGNIZING NEW SAN FERNANDO POST 521 POLICE EXPLORERS

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – Regular Meeting October 2, 2023

Page 2 of 5

- B. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 8, 2023 AS CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER APPRECIATION WEEK
- C. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER AS BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
- F. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER AS CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

Mayor Rodriguez announced that Presentation Item Nos. D and E would be re-agendized for the October 16, 2023 City Council meeting.

- D. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
- E. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION TO THE ORGANIZATION SPONSORS OF THE “COMMUNITY UNITED FOR HIGHER EDUCATION FORUM” IN HONOR OF SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Liana Stepanyan, San Fernando Library Manager provided an update regarding library activities.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice Mayor Mendoza requested to pull Item No. 4 for discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Solorio, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1, 2 and 3:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR:
 - a. January 3, 2023 – Regular
 - b. September 18, 2023 – Special
 - c. September 18, 2023 – Regular (as amended)
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS CITY-OWNED VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

The motion carried, with Councilmembers Fajardo and Montañez absent.

It was noted Councilmember Fajardo returned to the dais at 6:53 p.m.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – Regular Meeting October 2, 2023

Page 3 of 5

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve:

- 4) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE ODD FELLOWS OF SAN FERNANDO'S CASINO NIGHT AND POKER TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER EVENT AND USE OF THE CITY SEAL

The motion carried, with Councilmember Montañez absent.

PUBLIC HEARING

- 5) A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A ZONE TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE SAN FERNANDO MUNICIPAL CODE, SECTION 106-182, PROJECT NO. ZTA2023-002 TO GRANT DISCRETION TO THE PLANNING AND PRESERVATION COMMISSION OR THE CITY COUNCIL TO WAIVE OR MODIFY CERTAIN STANDARD CONDITIONS FOR THE APPROVAL OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Director of Community Development Erika Ramirez and Associate Planner Marina Khrustaleva presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Mayor Rodriguez opened the public hearing. There being no public testimony, Mayor Rodriguez declared the public hearing closed.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to introduce for first reading, in title only, and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1719 "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California, approving a Zoning Text Amendment (Project No. ZTA2023-002) to the San Fernando Municipal Code, Section 106-182, Standard Conditions, to grant discretion to the Planning and Preservation Commission or the City Council to waive or modify certain standard conditions for the approval of Conditional Use Permits authorizing the sale of alcoholic beverages." The motion carried, with Councilmember Montañez.

Mayor Rodriguez reported that she would recuse herself from Agenda Item No. 6 due to a potential conflict of interest with the proximity of her residence to the project and left the dais at 7:13 p.m.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 6) Discussion Regarding the Formation of a Community Advisory Committee for the Downtown Master Plan

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kanika Kith presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions. A representative of Dudek, the City's Downtown Master Plan consultant provided a presentation and responded to Councilmember questions.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – Regular Meeting October 2, 2023

Page 4 of 5

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza to approve staff’s recommendation regarding the formation of a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) as part of the Downtown Master Plan’s Community Outreach and Engagement Plan and exclude City Councilmembers appointment of a City Commissioner to the CAC. The motion carried by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES:	Solorio, Mendoza - 2
NOES:	Fajardo - 1
RECUSED:	Rodriguez
ABSENT:	Montañez

It was noted that Mayor Rodriguez returned to the dais at 7:37 p.m.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

City Clerk Fritz had no updates to report.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas reported on City events such as Move Your Way Open Streets Festival, Oktober Fiesta at the Lopez Adobe; Kidney’s Quest Foundation’s Health and Wellness Expo, noted the next Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commission meeting is October 12; and commented on the upcoming community engagement outreach meeting for the Pioneer Park rehabilitation project.

Director of Finance Melton commented on the federal Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) has extended the program through May 2024.

Director of Community Development Ramirez reported that she would be participating in Los Angeles County Assessor’s Office Homeowners Resource Fair where she will be presenting information about Accessory Dwelling Units and related topics, and noted the Town Hall meeting on homelessness is on October 18.

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith announced the recent opening of a new UPS Store.

Police Chief Valdez reported on Police Department events such as National Night Out, the Parent Academy held at Santa Rosa de Lima Catholic School, and spoke about mentors needed for at risk youth attending San Fernando Middle School.

City Manager Kimball mentioned the City Manager’s bi-weekly report has been distributed and the Quarterly Look Ahead Report would be forthcoming.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Fajardo had no updates to report.

Councilmember Solorio had no updates to report.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – Regular Meeting October 2, 2023

Page 5 of 5

Vice Mayor Mendoza mentioned she attended the Los Angeles County Library Commission meeting and reported on library budget needs in need of monetary contributions; commented on the Move Your Way Street Festival, noted she attended the City’s Annual Transaction Measure A/SF Town Hall meeting, mentioned she participated in the Inflation Reduction Act webinar, attended the Education Commission meeting, the Los Angeles County Business Federation 2023 BizFed Freshman Policymakers Reception at Union Station and acknowledged the new Police Explorers.

Mayor Rodriguez thanked staff for putting on all the City events, spoke about the Spanish language services offered at the Parent Academy, expressed thanks to staff for their work on the City’s new Community and Business Community Resource Center, commented on the Los Angeles County Assessor’s Office Homeowners Resource Fair and Kidney’s Quest Foundation’s Health and Wellness Expo, and announced Councilmember Solorio as the new Board Secretary for Independent Cities Finance Authority.

ADJOURNMENT (7:51 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 October 2, 2023, Regular meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk