

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO  
CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 5, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING**

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
117 MACNEIL STREET  
SAN FERNANDO, CALIFORNIA 91340  
TELECONFERENCE – PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF ASSEMBLY BILL 361**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Mary Mendoza called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: Council: Mayor Mary Mendoza, Vice Mayor Hector A. Pacheco and Councilmembers Sylvia Ballin, Cindy Montanez and Celeste Rodriguez

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

Absent: None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by City Clerk Julia Fritz

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

Juan Salas spoke in support of the General Unit Labor Unit and asked that the City Council continue to work with the union.

Charles Leone spoke on behalf of the General Unit Labor Unit and requested City Council to support union contract.

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Patty Lopez thanked City Council and staff for their work to improve the community with more community events and public safety.

Julissa Hernandez, Representative with Assemblywoman Luz Rivas Office, thanked the City for the invitation to the City’s Tree Lighting event and provided updates on community events.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Councilmember Montañez requested to pull Consent Item Nos. 4 and 6 for discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Ballin to approve Consent Item Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 8:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:
  - a. May 3, 2021 – Regular Meeting
  - b. May 17, 2021 – Regular Meeting
  - c. May 24, 2021 – Special Meeting
  - d. June 2, 2021 – Special Meeting
  - e. June 7, 2021 – Special Meeting
  - f. November 21, 2022 – Special Meeting
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS FOR THE PERIOD OF DECEMBER 11, 2022 TO JANUARY 10, 2023, OF THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO’S LEGISLATIVE BODIES IN COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(E) AND OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF ASSEMBLY BILL 361
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING A FINANCIAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD FOR FUNDING RELATED TO THE WELL NO. 2A AND WELL NO. 3 NITRATE REMOVAL TREATMENT SYSTEM PROJECT
- 7) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT SPECIFIED GRANT FUNDS FOR \$5,000,000 FROM THE 2022-2023 CALIFORNIA STATE BUDGET TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO FOR A ONE-TIME GRANT TO THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
- 8) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE CENTER FOR GEOSPATIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM SERVICES

The motion carried unanimously.

**Items Pulled for Discussion**

- 4) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CALENDAR YEAR 2023 BUSINESS PERMITS FOR CERTAIN BUSINESS ACTIVITIES AS REQUIRED BY THE CITY CODE

Director of Finance Erica Melton presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Councilmember Montañez, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to evaluate all businesses identified in the staff report, for code violations, service calls and police reports as of January 1, 2022; authorize the City Manager to approve business permits once those businesses have been evaluated; directed staff to return to Council with an updated application and to provide conditions for business permit suspensions, if any red flags arise. The motion carried unanimously.

- 6) CONSIDERATION TO REJECT CONSTRUCTION BIDS AND AUTHORIZE THE FORMAL SOLICITATION FOR THE PHASE 2, ANNUAL STREET RESURFACING PROJECT

Director of Public Works Matthew Baumgardner presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

By consensus, City Council directed staff to return to the January 3, 2023 City Council meeting with options to award a contract for the twelve (12) miles of street resurfacing.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 7) CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO SECURE THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF WRONGFULLY DETAINED UNITED STATES CITIZEN EYVIN HERNANDEZ FROM A VENEZUELAN MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON

Vice Mayor Pacheco presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Vice Mayor Pacheco, seconded by Councilmember Ballin to adopt Resolution No. 8200 calling on the Biden Administration to secure the immediate release of wrongfully detained United States Citizen Eyvin Hernandez from a Venezuelan Maximum Security Prison. The motion carried by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Rodriguez, Ballin, Pacheco, Mendoza - 4  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: Montañez – 1  
ABSENT: None

**STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES**

City Clerk Fritz had no updates to report.

Police Chief Valdez reported that a Recognition Dinner for National Night Out volunteers will be held December 14, 2022, noted registration is open for enrollment to the Community Academy, mentioned the Parent Academy will begin on January 18, 2023 and commented on a meeting with San Fernando Middle School faculty to discuss school safety.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas spoke about the City Holiday Tree Lighting Event, mentioned that the Lopez Adobe opened for tours, announced the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission meeting will be held on December 13, 2022, and announced upcoming winter activities.

Director of Public Works Baumgardner provided an update on Phase 1 Annual Street Resurfacing Project and the rebuild of Meyer Street and provided an update on the nitrate removal system and installation.

Director of Finance Melton reminded the community on the variety of programs for utility bill assistance that are available on the City's website.

Director of Community Development Kith announced the Legacy Business grant is still open and a second round would open on February 28, 2023, mentioned the December 12, 2022 Planning and Preservation Commission regular meeting would be cancelled and instead would hold a special meeting on December 19, 2022.

City Manager Kimball announced the swearing-in ceremony will be held on December 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers and commented that City Hall will be closed to the public during the week of December 26, 2022 through January 2, 2023.

**GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilmember Rodriguez thanked staff for the work and collaboration for the Tree Lighting event.

Councilmember Montañez commented on the street resurfacing project and the progress on street repairs; attended the Tree Lighting event; expressed her appreciation and support for Sylvia Ballin; and spoke about working with Vice Mayor Pacheco and thanked them for their service.

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Councilmember Ballin attended the Metropolitan Water Districts (MWD) trip to Fullerton; announced Adan Ortega would be sworn-in on January 10, 2023 as MWD’s Board of Directors Chairman, spoke about future Council collaboration and is looking forward to the ceremony for outgoing and incoming elected officials.

Vice Mayor Pacheco thanked staff and colleagues, reported he attended the Tree Lighting event, and mentioned looking forward to the ceremony of outgoing and incoming elected officials.

Mayor Mendoza thanked staff for their hard work this year.

Councilmember Ballin requested to adjourn the meeting in memory of Connie Cavalier who passed on Nov 25, 2022.

**ADJOURNMENT (7:50 p.m.)**

Mayor Mendoza adjourned the meeting in memory of Connie Cavalier, to the special meeting of December 12, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the December 5, 2022, regular meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

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Julia Fritz, CMC  
City Clerk