

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

**DECEMBER 12, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.  
SPECIAL 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 6:03 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 Public Works Matthew Baumgardner, Director of Recreation and Community Services Julian Venegas and City Clerk Julia Fritz

Absent: None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by San Fernando Police Department Law Enforcement Post 521

**INVOCATION & BLESSING**

Invocation led by Lieutenant Irwin Rosenberg

Blessing Ceremony by Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

- A) PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO AND TO THE COMMUNITY BY VICE MAYOR HECTOR A. PACHECO
- Planning and Preservation Commissioner Hector Pacheco Sr.
  - Education Commissioner Vice Chair Angel Zobel-Rodriguez
  - Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commissioner Natasha Sanchez-Brooks
  - Transportation and Public Safety Commissioner Nicole Mohr
- B) PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO AND TO THE COMMUNITY BY COUNCILMEMBER SYLVIA BALLIN
- Planning and Preservation Commission Chair Joel Fajardo
  - Education Commissioner David Govea
  - Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commissioner NinaMarie Julia Herrera Ballin
  - Transportation and Public Safety Commissioner Dee Akemon

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

Maritza Duarte thanked outgoing Councilmembers Hector A. Pacheco and Sylvia Ballin for their support with the Las Palmas Park Senior Club; thanked incoming Councilmember Joel Fajardo for welcoming and greeting them to Council meetings and supporting senior dances at Las Palmas Park.

Patty Lopez and partners in Mujeres Alfas thanked Mayor Mendoza for her support for the women in San Fernando.

Adan Ortega, Metropolitan Water District Board member, announced on January 10, 2023. San Fernando will gain a seat of the Chair of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

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

Mario Oporto congratulated Mary Mendoza on her re-election.

Julissa Hernandez, Representative with Assemblywoman Luz Rivas Office, invited the community to attend Assemblywoman's Luz Rivas' Holiday Mixer & Toy Drive at the district office, and on behalf of the Assemblywoman thanked the outgoing Councilmembers for their partnership and welcomed incoming Councilmembers and is looking forward to ongoing collaboration.

Victoria Garcia congratulated the three candidates who won the election and thanked the outgoing Councilmember for years of service to the City.

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION RECITING THE FACT OF THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022, DECLARING THE RESULTS THEREOF AND SUCH MATTERS AS ARE PROVIDED BY LAW

City Clerk Fritz presented the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Ballin, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to adopt Resolution No. 8201 reciting the fact of the November 8, 2022 General Municipal Election, declaring the results thereof and such matters as provided by law. The motion carried, unanimously.

- 2) RECOGNITION OF VICE MAYOR HECTOR A. PACHECO FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

Vice Mayor Pacheco spoke about his tenure on the City Council, thanked his colleagues for the collaboration, and thanked staff for their hard work and efforts.

- 3) RECOGNITION OF COUNCILMEMBER SYLVIA BALLIN FOR HER SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

Councilmember Ballin spoke about her eleven years as a Councilmember and accomplishments; and thanked City Manager Nick Kimball and staff for the hard work and respect she has received.

At this time, City Clerk Julia Fritz presented Certificates of Election and Administered Oaths of Office to Newly Elected Officials.

- 4) ANNUAL REORGANIZATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL - SELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR

City Clerk Fritz presented the staff report and opened nominations for Mayor.

Councilmember Fajardo nominated Councilmember Montañez for Mayor and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Mendoza. There were no other nominations for Mayor, by consensus, nominations were closed.

For Councilmember Cindy Montañez as Mayor, the motion carried by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Rodriguez, Solorio, Mendoza, Fajardo, Montañez - 5

NOES: None

City Clerk Fritz announced Councilmember Cindy Montañez as Mayor.

City Clerk Fritz opened nominations for Vice Mayor.

Councilmember Fajardo nominated Councilmember Mary Mendoza for Vice Mayor and the motion was seconded by Mayor Montañez.

Councilmember Mary Solorio nominated Councilmember Celeste Rodriguez for Vice Mayor and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Celeste Rodriguez.

There were no other nominations for Vice Mayor, by consensus, nominations were closed.

The nomination for Councilmember Celeste Rodriguez for Vice Mayor failed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Solorio, Rodriguez - 2

NOES: Montañez, Fajardo, Mendoza - 3

The nomination for Councilmember Mary Mendoza for Vice Mayor passed by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Montañez, Fajardo, Mendoza - 3

NOES: Solorio, Rodriguez - 2

City Clerk Fritz announced Councilmember Mary Mendoza as Vice Mayor.

Mayor Montañez declined nomination for Mayor and requested to reconsider nominations for Mayor.

Motion by Councilmember Solorio, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to reconsider nominations for Mayor. The motion carried, unanimously.

City Clerk Fritz re-opened nominations for Mayor.

Councilmember Fajardo nominated Councilmember Mendoza for Mayor, and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Montañez.

Councilmember Montañez nominated Councilmember Celeste Rodriguez for Mayor, and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez.

Councilmember Mendoza declined nomination for Mayor.

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There were no other nominations for Mayor, by consensus, nominations were closed.

For Councilmember Celeste Rodriguez as Mayor, the motion carried by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Rodriguez, Solorio, Mendoza, Montañez - 4

NOES: Fajardo - 1

City Clerk Fritz announced Councilmember Celeste Rodriguez as Mayor.

**STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES**

City Manager Kimball congratulated Mayor Rodriguez and Vice Mayor Mendoza on their new roles and welcomed Councilmembers Joel Fajardo and Mary Solorio to the San Fernando Family.

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

Councilmember Fajardo made comments about the election and will advocate for truth and transparency.

Councilmember Montañez thanked the community for attending.

Vice Mayor Mendoza welcomed Councilmembers Solorio and Fajardo and looks forward to working together; congratulated Mayor Rodriguez on her new role; thanked the community for the support and attending tonight's meeting; and thanked her family for all the support.

Councilmember Solorio thanked the community, Council colleagues and former Councilmembers Sylvia Ballin and Hector Pacheco for their support and dedication to the City.

Mayor Rodriguez thanked Council colleagues for nominating her for role as Mayor and looks forward to creating policy and programs that will benefit the community.

**ADJOURNMENT (8:38 p.m.)**

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the meeting to the next regular meeting of January 3, 2023.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the December 12, 2022, special meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

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Julia Fritz, CMC  
City Clerk