

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING**

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

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Celeste Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

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.

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, with Councilmember Montañez absent.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. PRESENTATION OF A LEGACY AWARD FROM THE VALLEY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE FOR THE CITY'S DEDICATION AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO FOSTERING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
- B. INTRODUCTION OF NEW CITY EMPLOYEES

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

The following speakers spoke in support of Agenda Item No. 6 regarding the trolley system:

Christina Bernal
Priscilla (Estrada) from San Fernando Fitness
Adriana Gomez
Natasha Madarian
Tom (Ross) from 451 S. Brand Blvd.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Fajardo requested to pull Agenda Item No. 5 and Mayor Rodriguez requested to pull Agenda Item Nos. 5 and 6 for discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1 through 4:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR:
 - a. October 12, 2005 – Regular
 - b. May 22, 2006 - Special
 - c. May 30, 2006 - Special
 - d. June 13, 2006 - Special
 - e. September 5, 2023 - Special
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) PRESENTATION OF THE CITY'S 2023 LOCAL TRANSACTION TAX ANNUAL REPORT FOR MEASURES "A" AND "SF"
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR THE LAS PALMAS PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT

The motion carried, with Councilmember Montañez absent.

Items Pulled for Discussion

- 5) CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY, ACCEPT PROJECT COMPLETION AND AUTHORIZE THE RECORDATION OF THE NOTICE OF COMPLETION FOR PHASE 1 OF THE ANNUAL STREET RESURFACING PROJECT

Management Analyst Kenneth Jones presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to Authorize construction contingency of \$361,612 (10 percent) of the contract amount for use to complete final project payments in Phase 1 of the Annual Street Resurfacing Project; Accept the improvements as constructed by Toro Enterprises, Inc., and consider the work completed; Authorize the issuance and filing of the “Notice of Completion” with the Los Angeles County Office of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk; and Authorize the release of the five percent retention amount (\$118,416.60) after the 35-day lien period from the date the Notice of Completion is recorded, with the provision that the City Manager follow up on resident complaints within the next week before signing off on filing the Notice of Completion. The motion carried, with Councilmember Montañez absent.

6) **CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH PARKING COMPANY OF AMERICA FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Management Analyst Jones presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

City Council directed staff to return at a future Council meeting to discuss trolley service options and the City’s procurement, purchasing and contract expiration management processes.

Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to Approve a Contractual Services Agreement (Contract No. 2197) with Parking Company of America in the amount of \$3,559,271 for a five-year term, with a City option to renew for two additional years for public transportation services ; and Authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement and all related documents. The motion carried with Councilmember Montañez absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Councilmember Fajardo requested Agenda Item No. 8 be heard before Agenda Item No. 7.

8) **DISCUSSION REGARDING CITY COUNCILMEMBERS’ STATUTORY MAXIMUM SALARY AND OTHER BENEFITS AND PROVIDE STAFF WITH DIRECTION, AS APPROPRIATE**

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

Councilmembers Fajardo, Solorio and Vice Mayor Mendoza directed staff to return to a future meeting with an ordinance reflecting desired salary increase option of up to \$950, staggered in half to be effective on January 1, 2025, and January 1, 2026.

Councilmember Fajardo, Vice Mayor Mendoza and Mayor Rodriguez directed staff to return to a future meeting with a resolution separating Council benefits from Department Head benefits; and include the budget impact information and comparative analysis with other cities.

It was noted that Councilmember Fajardo left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

- 7) Consideration to Award a Contract Services Agreement to Great Western Recreation for the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to Approve a Contract Services Agreement (Contract No. 2196) with Great Western Recreation, in an amount not to exceed \$362,863, for the Pioneer Park Playground Renovation Project through OMNIA Partners a Cooperative Purchasing Program; Authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive changes and execute all related documents; and include additional shading option over playground equipment.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

Deputy City Clerk/Management Analyst Solis reported completion of her second of four Technical Training for Clerks professional development courses.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas advertised park activities; announced the Education Commission meeting will be held on September 26, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.; and provided an update on the Liberty Bell Celebration & El Grito event.

Assistant to the City Manager Hernandez provided updates on City grants, announced upcoming Infiltration Project Ribbon Cutting event in mid-October and mentioned MoveYourWayLA event on Saturday, September 23, 2023.

Director of Finance Melton invited the community to attend the Annual Transaction Tax Town Hall meeting on Monday, September 25, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. and announced the state programs for water and energy assistance for low-income households.

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith spoke about the upcoming San Fernando Outdoor Market and beer garden and reported the Planning and Preservation Commission vote to recommend a zoning code amendment to bring to City Council on October 2, 2023.

City Manager Kimball announced he will be attending the League of California Cities Annual conference Wednesday through Friday.

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Police Chief Valdez announced upcoming Police Department events including the second session of the Community Academy, Business Watch meeting, Neighborhood Watch meeting, Parent Academy at Santa Rosa Church; and October 3, 2023, National Night Out. Police Chief Valdez requested to close in memory of LA County Sheriff’s Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Solorio reported she attended the Los Angeles Fire Department Annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony, the City of Los Angeles El Grito Ceremony, expressed thanks to staff for putting on the Liberty Bell event and invited Councilmembers to attend ICA’s Installation Ceremony on September 28, 2023, where she will be installed as the new Board Secretary.

Vice Mayor Mendoza spoke about the Dedication Ceremony for Cindy Montañez Natural Park, noted she attended the Hispanic Heritage Senior Dance at Las Palmas Park, the Liberty Bell event; and thanked everyone for sympathy and kindness extended on the passing of her brother, Arturo Chacon.

Mayor Rodriguez reported she was invited by Mayor Karen Bass to meet with Tom Perez, Senior Advisor and Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs for President Biden for discussions on coordinating around homelessness; commented on the Dedication Ceremony for Cindy Montañez Natural Park; participated in El Show de la Pachanga - Radio Ollin and provided City updates; met with LA County library staff; joined the Police Community Academy; attended the Higher Education Forum at LA Mission College and requested to recognize organizations that hosted the event at the next City Council meeting. Mayor Rodriguez commented on the Liberty Bell/El Grito event; mentioned she attended a BBQ hosted by a local Democrat Organization, and noted the Chair of the organization, Sean Rivas, announced a new paid fellowship program in honor of Councilmember Cindy Montañez; announced a new program called Pelota de Trapo by Pope Francis, a program that encourages soccer programming for different countries and mentioned she would like to connect the soccer league with Recreation and Community Services Department and lastly wished City Manager Kimball and Chief Valdez a happy birthday.

ADJOURNMENT (8:12 p.m.)

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the meeting in memory of LA County Sheriff’s Deputy Ryan Clinkunbroomer to the next regular meeting.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the September 18, 2023, Regular meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

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Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk