

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**JULY 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 6:01 p.m.

Present: Council: Mayor Celeste Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza, and Councilmembers Cindy Montañez (arrived at 6:08 p.m.), Joel Fajardo (arrived at 6:26 p.m.), 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: None

TELECONFERENCING REQUESTS/DISCLOSURE

No requests considered.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by City Clerk Julia Fritz

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Solorio, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to approve the agenda. The motion carried, with Councilmembers Montañez and Fajardo absent.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION IN LEADERSHIP IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TÍA CHUCHA'S CENTRO CULTURAL & BOOK STORE AND ARTES HIGH SCHOOL'S SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT FROM TRAUMA TO TRANSFORMATION ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY THROUGH ART
- Alexis Estrada
 - Juliana White
 - Katelynn Gallardo

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B. PRESENTATION OF A PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF JULY AS PARK AND RECREATION MONTH

It was noted that Councilmember Cindy Montañez arrived at 6:08 p.m., and Councilmember Joel Fajardo arrived at 6:26 p.m.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

The following spoke from Sylmar Foursquare Church at 13390 Beaver Street about building strong communities, offered their support, prayers and encouragement to the community:

Isabel Pleites	Oscar Bran
Teresa Cano	Jose Alvarado
Adriana Ortiz	Ulises Ortiz
Genoveva Trejo	Susana Bolanos
Shadey Morales	Ricardo Benitez
Hermile Jaimes	Maryella Driotez
Oscar Martinez	Maria Jose Castellano
Norma Infante	

Carolyn Urquidez, spoke in support of Agenda Item 14 and commented on the Health and Wellness Expo community event.

Patty Lopez expressed thanks to the City for acting quickly to her recent clean up service call and for bringing back interpretation services in Spanish for the entire duration of City Council and Commission meetings.

Victoria Garcia extended support and best wishes from the community to Councilmember Cindy Montañez.

Sylvia Ballin spoke in support of Agenda Item 14, Co-Sponsorship of the Kidney's Quest Foundation Event.

Julissa Hernandez, field representative for Assemblywoman, called in to provide an update on upcoming community events and a paid college internship program.

The City Council recessed the meeting at 7:27 p.m. and reconvened at 7:44 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to approve the Consent Calendar:

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- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR:
 - a. January 30, 2023 – Special
 - b. February 6, 2023 - Regular
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NOS. 23-071 AND 23-072 APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTERS OF JULY 3, 2023 AND JULY 17, 2023, RESPECTIVELY
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL AUDIT SERVICES
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A BINGO PERMIT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 10 ARTICLE II OF THE SAN FERNANDO CITY CODE FROM APPLICANT LAS PALMAS SENIOR CITIZEN CLUB AT 505 S. HUNTINGTON STREET
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT SPECIFIED GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000,000 FROM THE 2022-2023 CALIFORNIA STATE BUDGET TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO FOR A ONE-TIME GRANT TO THE NORTHEAST VALLEY HEALTH CORPORATION

The motion carried, unanimously.

City Manager Kimball stated Agenda Item No. 11 would be pulled from discussion and re-agendized to be heard at the August 7, 2023 City Council meeting due to a scheduling conflict with the mural artist.

Mayor Rodriguez requested that Agenda Item No. 14 followed by Agenda Item No. 9 be considered at this time.

- 14) CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION TO APPROVE CO-SPONSORSHIP OF KIDNEY’S QUEST FOUNDATION EVENTS AND USE OF THE CITY SEAL

Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to approve co-sponsorship of Kidney’s Quest Foundation events and use of the City seal. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Rodriguez stated she would be recusing herself from consideration on Agenda Item No. 9 due to a potential conflict of interest and left the dais at 7:46 p.m.

- 9) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith and representatives from Dudek presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

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Motion by Councilmember Montañez, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve a Community Outreach and Engagement Plan for the Downtown Master Plan. The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Solorio, Montañez, Mendoza - 3
NAYES: Fajardo - 1
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Rodriguez - 1

Mayor Rodriguez returned to the dais at 8:36 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The following Agenda Items were considered before Agenda Item No. 6.

- 7) A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A ZONE TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE SAN FERNANDO MUNICIPAL CODE, SECTION 106-970, PROJECT NO. ZTA2023-001 TO UPDATE REGULATIONS FOR WALLS AND FENCES

Mayor Rodriguez opened the public hearing.

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kanika Kith and Associate Planner Marina Khrustaleva presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Mayor Rodriguez called for public testimony. There being none, the public comment period was closed and Mayor Rodriguez closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Solorio, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to introduce for first reading, in title only, and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1717 “An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California, approving a Zoning Text Amendment (Project No. ZTA2023-001) to the San Fernando Municipal Code, Section 106-970, Walls and Fences, to update regulations for walls and fences.” The motion carried with the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES: Solorio, Mendoza, Rodriguez - 3
NAYES: Fajardo, Montañez - 2
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

It was noted, Councilmember Montañez left the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

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- 8) A CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE AMENDING DIVISION 6 (PURCHASING) OF ARTICLE IV (FINANCE) OF CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE SAN FERNANDO CITY CODE RELATING TO THE PROCEDURES FOR PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING

Mayor Rodriguez opened the public hearing.

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

Mayor Rodriguez called for public testimony. There being none, the public comment period was closed and Mayor Rodriguez closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to introduce for first reading, in title only, and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1718 “An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California, amending Division 6 (Purchasing of Article IV (Finance) of Chapter 2 (Administration) of the San Fernando City Code Relating to the Procedures for Purchasing and Contracting.” The motion carried with Councilmember Montañez absent.

- 6) A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS TO CONTINUE MAINTENANCE OF THE CITY’S STREETLIGHTS, CONFIRMING THE ANNUAL ASSESSMENT, AND APPROVING THE FINAL ENGINEER’S REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT
(THIS ITEM WAS CONTINUED FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 3, 2023)

Mayor Rodriguez stated the public hearing

City Clerk Department read and confirmed publication and the affidavit of publication is on file in the City Clerk department. Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to receive and file the affidavit of publication.

Assistant to the City Manager Hernandez presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Mayor Rodriguez called for public testimony. There being none, the public comment period was closed and Mayor Rodriguez closed the Public Hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to adopt Resolution No. 8248 ordering the continued maintenance of the City’s streetlights and confirming the annual assessment; and adopt Resolution No. 8249 approving the Final Engineer’s Report for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Landscaping and Lighting Assessment District. The motion carried with Councilmember Montañez absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 10) UPDATE ON THE APPLICATION OF THE CITY’S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
(This item was continued to the August 7, 2023 City Council meeting.)
- 11) UPDATE AND DISCUSSION OF THE WOMEN SUFFRAGE MURAL COMMEMORATING THE 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN’S RIGHT TO VOTE *(This item was continued to the August 7, 2023 City Council meeting.)*
- 12) DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT WORK PLANS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 *(This item was continued to the August 7, 2023 City Council meeting.)*
- 13) CONSIDERATION TO APPOINT A PLANNING AND PRESERVATION COMMISSIONER

Councilmember Fajardo presented the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to appoint Cecilia Martinez to the Planning and Preservation Commission. The motion carried with Councilmember Montañez absent.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

City Clerk Fritz had no updates to report.

Director of Finance Melton had no updates to report.

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith invited the community to the Turf Replacement Rebate Workshop; and invited City Council to Grand Opening for Los Toxico Mariscos.

City Manager Kimball provided an update on the cooling centers through Thursday.

Police Chief Valdez acknowledged the Police Departments from mutual aid area for their assistance; and requested to close in memory of Jesse Paderez 21st anniversary, former San Fernando Police Officer.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Fajardo spoke on comments made during public comments regarding the LGBTQ youth; and commented on recent victims killed/injured by gun violence.

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Councilmember Solorio announced the Council of Government secured a grant for San Fernando and Santa Clarita for \$583,182 and thanked staff for securing the grant to use towards updating the City's zoning code.

Vice Mayor Mendoza attended the Red, White, and Lights event; attended the Business Watch meeting, and attended the NALEO conference.

Mayor Rodriguez attended Santa Rosa graduation performances; the Neighborhood Watch meeting; the Pride Parade and Outdoor Market; the 50s club inauguration of their new board; the San Fernand Quinceñera Expo; the Odd Fellows Scholarship Dinner; grand openings for GAIN and DIY Girls; Northeast Valley Community Outreach meeting at Las Palmas Park; the Red, White, and Lights event; the NALEO conference; announced that Supervisor Lindsey Horvath visited Pueblo Y Salud to discuss San Fernando community issues, and announced upcoming events and meetings.

ADJOURNMENT (9:59 p.m.)

Police Chief Valdez closed the meeting in honor and memory of Jesse Paderez 21st anniversary, former San Fernando Police Officer. 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 July 17, 2023, Regular meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk