

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING**

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

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

It was noted that the City Council recessed from Closed Session and would be returning back into Closed Session at the conclusion of the Regular Meeting.

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

Present: Council: Mayor Celeste Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza, and Councilmembers Cindy Montañez, 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, Director of Community Development Erika Ramirez, 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 Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve the agenda. The motion carried, unanimously.

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PRESENTATIONS

- A. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION HONORING THE MODUGNO FAMILY FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE, SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY, AND GENEROUS DONATION OF AN OIL PAINTING OF MISSION SAN FERNANDO, EXHIBITED IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL

- B. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION HONORING VICE CHAIR COMMISSIONER YVONNE MEJIA FOR HER SERVICE ON THE PLANNING AND PRESERVATION COMMISSION

- C. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Miguel Leon, member from Las Palmas Senior Club, requested to upgrade the HVAC system at Las Palmas Park.

Estela Lugo and Irene Tovar invited City Council and the community to an Affirmative Action Workshop at LA Mission College on September 15, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to walk-on an agenda item, “City Co-Sponsorship of the Affirmative Action Workshop hosted at LA Mission College”. Motion carried, unanimously.

Pilar Almeida, representative with Republic Services, provided updates regarding SB 1383 Education Workshops and Assessments.

Cristina Vargas, representative with Republic Services, introduced herself and provided her City Hall schedule at the public counter.

Briana Solis, Republic Compliance Monitor, introduced herself and described her job duties regarding route compliance and on the Organics Program.

Julissa Hernandez, field representative for Assemblywoman Luz Rivas, provided updates on secured funding for San Fernando Community Hospital and El Centro Amistad.

Carolyn Urquidez invited the community to Kidney Quest Health & Wellness Expo on October 7, 2023.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 5:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR:
 - a. August 21, 2023 – Regular
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO DESIGNATE A VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE(S) FOR THE 2023 LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH FS CONTRACTORS, INC. FOR RESERVOIR NO. 2A/5 SITE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, JOB NO. 7611, PLAN NO. P-738

The motion carried, unanimously.

PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

- 4) CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO A & M CATERING FOR CATERING SERVICES FOR THE CITY’S LAS PALMAS PARK SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB DINNER DANCES

Community Services Supervisor Juan Salas presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve a Professional Services Contract (Contract No. 2195) with A & M Catering, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000, to provide onsite catering at the Senior Club’s dinner dances held in Fiscal Year 2023-2024; and authorize the City Manager to make non-substantive changes and execute all related documents. The motion carried, unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- 6) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION RENAMING THE PACOIMA WASH NATURAL PARK TO CINDY MONTAÑEZ NATURAL PARK LOCATED AT 801 EIGHTH STREET, IN HONOR OF HER ACHIEVEMENTS, DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

City Manager Nick Kimball presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to adopt Resolution No. 8259 approving renaming the Pacoima Wash Natural Park to Cindy Montañez Natural Park Located at 801 Eighth Street. The motion carried, unanimously.

7) UPDATE ON THE APPLICATION OF THE CITY’S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

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

City Council received and filed an informational update.

It was noted that City Council recessed at 7:36 p.m. and reconvened at 7:46 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

8) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR THE LAS PALMAS PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve the conceptual design of the Las Palmas Park Revitalization Project, as amended to include Councilmember recommendations; authorize RJM Design Group, Inc. to start developing bid documents for the construction of the project; and authorize staff to prepare and release a Notice Inviting Bids and Request for Proposals for the construction of the Las Palmas Revitalization Project. Councilmember Solorio withdrew her second to the motion. The motion failed due to lack of second.

Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to return to the September 18, 2023 City Council Meeting, post the Las Palmas Park conceptual design on the City’s website and social media and ask residents to make a public comment, and send the conceptual design to stakeholders who participated in the outreach meetings for additional comment. The motion carried by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

AYES:	Solorio, Fajardo, Montañez, Rodriguez - 4
NAYES:	None
ABSTAIN:	Mendoza - 1
ABSENT:	None

9) CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HOMELESS ACTION PLAN AND THE PROPOSED HOMELESSNESS TOWN HALL

Housing Coordinator Kenya Marquez presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

City Council directed staff to host the Homelessness Townhall on October 18, 2023, prepare postcards and utilize Walking Man to deliver to each household, distribute through local organization, schools, churches, and at City events, prepare a radio announcement, Sun newspaper publication, and advertise through the City’s social media and email outlets.

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10) CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CITY’S COMMUNITY PRESERVATION EFFORTS

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kanika Kith and Interim Community Preservation Officer Connie Negrete presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

It was noted that Councilmember Montañez left the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

City Council directed staff to return with additional information regarding residential pre-sale inspections, property maintenance through CDBG, and other methods of enforcement for compliance.

11) CONSIDERATION TO APPOINT A TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSIONER

Councilmember Mary Solorio presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Councilmember Solorio, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo to appoint Zoe Rodriguez to the Transportation and Public Safety Commission. The motion carried with Councilmember Montañez absent.

WALK ON ITEM

12) CITY CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION WORKSHOP HOSTED AT LA MISSION COLLEGE

Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo, to co-sponsor the Affirmative Action Workshop, promote on social media and City calendar. The motion carried with Councilmember Montañez absent.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas announced the Parks, Wellness, and Recreation Commission will meet on September 14, 2023; invited the community to the Liberty Bell/El Grito event on September 16, 2023 and Move Your Way LA event on September 23, 2023; announced the City’s birthday was a success and well attended; lastly announced his retirement at the end of the day.

Director of Community Development Erika Ramirez announced the Planning and Preservation Commission will be held on September 11, 2023.

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith announced the City received a Legacy Award for partnership and dedication to driving economic growth from The Valley Economic Alliance.

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Director of Finance Melton announced the next Local Transaction Tax Townhall meeting on September 25, 2023.

Police Chief Valdez announced the Police Department began the Parent Academy at San Fernando Middle School and will host another Parent Academy at Santa Rosa on September 21, 2023; announced Police Department is taking proactive traffic enforcement in front of schools; invited community to attend Citizen Academy; invited the community to attend National Night Out;

Assistant to the City Manager Hernandez invited residents to attend the Cindy Montañez renaming event and community clean-up on September 9, 2023.

City Manager Kimball notified Councilmembers a zoom link for the IMRCA Board Meeting was emailed to them.

City Clerk Fritz had no updates.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Fajardo commended Supervisor Horvath, she was proactive to ensure there were resources for the community.

Councilmember Solorio thanked staff and Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas on his retirement and hard work.

Vice Mayor Mendoza had no updates to report.

Mayor Rodriguez acknowledged and thanked Director of Recreation and Community Services Venegas for his work; requested the Republic Services workshops are sufficiently promoted; attended Coffee with the Chief, the City's birthday celebration; commented that City received State funding from Senator Menjivar for \$3 million for water treatment system; met with Congressman Cardenas staff regarding Metro projects; attended LAs best annual celebration; the Los Angeles City Council meeting where they recognized Councilmember Montañez; the youth rally to encourage community to civically engage; the Vita Mobile Clinic had presentation of issues impacting the community; spoke about Assemblywoman Luz Rivas' secured funding for Centro de Amistad; the Los Angeles County Financial Capability Submit; acknowledged the Valley Economic Alliance award and requested to promote the recognition; recognized a recent visit from LA City Attorney Hydee Feinstein and Supervisor Lindsey Horvath to San Fernando; and lastly noted that the Veterans of Foreign Wars partnered with employment agency to host a career expo where the San Fernando Police Department would be recruiting candidates for employment.

ADJOURNMENT (10:42 p.m.)

Vice Mayor Mendoza requested to adjourn the meeting in memory of her brother, Arturo Chacon, and spoke about his life and legacy.

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the meeting in memory of Arturo Chacon, to the next regular meeting.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the September 5, 2023, Regular meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council.

Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk