

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2024 – 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 6:04 p.m.

Present: Council: Mayor Celeste Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza, and Councilmembers Mary Solorio and Joel Fajardo

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, Director of Public Works Wendell Johnson, 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, as amended to walk on a Presentation of a Certificate of Recognition to Eric Perez for his support to the Friends of the San Fernando Library. The motion carried, unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. PRESENTATION OF EDUCATION COMMISSION CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR FEBRUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH (KINDNESS)
Aaliyah Delgado (Gridley Street Elementary School)
Sarahi Barrientos (CCLA Social Justice Humanitas Academy)

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- B. PRESENTATION OF EDUCATION COMMISSION CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FOR TEACHER SPOTLIGHT AWARD
Alex Reza (Retired from San Fernando High School)

- C. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION TO OUTGOING AND INCOMING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD MEMBERS

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Maria Carrillo, representative with the Friends of the San Fernando Library asked for support from the City Council regarding the organization’s efforts on behalf of the library.

Irene Galvan spoke in support of the Friends of the San Fernando Library and the organizations efforts.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:
 - a. December 4, 2023 – Regular
 - b. January 16, 2024 – Regular

- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER

- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A SECOND READING TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 1721 ADOPTING A MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE POLICY GOVERNING THE USE OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 481

- 4) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH OMNIGO SOFTWARE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES, LLC FOR HOSTED COMPUTER AIDED DISPATCH, RECORDS MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE, MOBILE SERVICES, AND AUTO-TAGGING

- 5) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION AMENDING FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE MARCH 5, 2024 CITY SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO FILL AN UNSCHEDULED COUNCILMEMBER VACANCY

- 6) CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO ALFARO COMMUNICATIONS CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODIFICATIONS – 9 LOCATIONS HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, FEDERAL PROJECT NO. HSIPL-5202(019), JOB NO. 7598, PLAN NO. P-722; AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS

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- 7) CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO NATIONAL COATING & LINING COMPANY FOR ROOF REPAIRS FOR RESERVOIR NOS. 2A AND 5, JOB NO. 7622
- 8) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ZETROC ELECTRIC, LLC FOR THE INSTALLATION AND LICENSING OF TWO EMERGENCY BACKUP POWER GENERATORS FOR LAS PALMAS AND RECREATION PARKS; AND ADOPT A BUDGET APPROPRIATING THE FUNDS
- 9) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION INITIATING PROCEEDINGS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 LEVY OF ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT AND ORDERING THE ENGINEER’S REPORT
- 10) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER LOS ANGELES AND APPROVE A CO-SPONSORSHIP AND USE OF THE CITY SEAL FOR THE POWER WOMEN, POWER TOOLS EVENT
- 11) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE SAN FERNANDO CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS AND USE OF THE CITY SEAL
- 12) CONSIDERATION TO AUTHORIZE SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS FOR FUNDING SUPPORT OF THE MARIACHI MASTER APPRENTICE PROGRAM

The motion carried, unanimously.

Item pulled out of order

- 19) DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT A DONATION FROM FRIENDS OF THE SAN FERNANDO LIBRARY

Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to accept the donation of a miniature replica of the historic Casa de Lopez Adobe; directed staff to work with Friends of the San Fernando Library to find a place (City Hall preferred) to display the replica to be used as a “little library”; authorized co-sponsorship for the use of the City seal and use of the City’s social media outlets to promote the library’s art contest. The motion carried, unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

- 13) A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE NO. 1722 AMENDING THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO’S WATER POLICIES TO COMPLY WITH SENATE BILL 998 AND SENATE BILL 3, AMENDING PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 94-151 THROUGH 94-164 OF DIVISION I, CHAPTER 94 (UTILITIES), ARTICLE III (WATER) OF THE SAN FERNANDO MUNICIPAL CODE CONCERNING THE DISCONTINUATION OF RESIDENTIAL WATER SERVICE FOR NONPAYMENT

Mayor Rodriguez opened the Public Hearing.

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

Mayor Rodriguez called for public testimony. There being no public testimony, Mayor Rodriguez closed the public comment period.

City Council directed staff to return to a future meeting with additional details on outstanding accounts, plans regarding community outreach related to the City's proposed revised water service discontinuation policy, and specific procedures prior to water service discontinuation.

The City Council recessed the meeting at 7:42 p.m. and reconvened at 7:57 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

14) DISCUSSION AND UPDATES ON THE 2024 INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVAL

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

Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo to direct staff to: name the event Independence Day Festival; host the event on July 4 at SF Recreation Park with Plan A: Sky Elements (100 Drones); waive formal bid requirement and appropriate \$17,000 towards the event costs; apply for Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) related permits, and work to secure additional sponsorships. If the FAA permit is not approved, proceed with Plan B: Laser Light Show. The motion carried, unanimously.

15) PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE HOME REHABILITATION LOAN PROGRAM

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

The City Council directed staff to return to the next Council meeting to discuss Housing Set Aside funds; provide clarification on whether ARPA funds were in addition to the Housing Set Aside funds; and provide an analysis with 0% interest loans with Housing Set Aside funds.

16) PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING COMPLETION OF PHASE I OF THE CLIMATE ACTION AND RESILIENCE PLAN

City Council received and filed a presentation.

- 17) DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT AN INTERIM URGENCY ORDINANCE INCLUDING ESTABLISHMENTS SELLING ALCOHOL TO BUSINESSES REQUIRING BUSINESS PERMITS AND ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENTS SELLING ALCOHOL

Director of Community Development Ramirez presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Fajardo, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to waive full reading, in title only and adopt Interim Urgency Ordinance No. U-1723, titled, “An Urgency Ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California amending Chapter 22 (Businesses) of the San Fernando Municipal Code, requiring businesses selling alcohol onsite to obtain a Business Permit and adding Article X (on-site alcohol sales establishments) to establish interim regulations relating to operational requirements and incidental live entertainment in accordance with Government Code Sections 36934 and 36937”; correct section 9 to specify that this would sunset in 18 months and not 24 months; and when applicable, provide a report to Council on businesses with business permit compliance issues. The motion carried, unanimously.

- 18) DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE 2024 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM AND LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION REQUESTS

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

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo to approve the 2024 Legislative Platform; approve the 2024 Legislative Appropriation requests; and authorized the City Manager to take certain related actions to execute and implement the procedures in the Legislative Advocacy Policy. The motion carried, unanimously.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

City Clerk Fritz provided elections activities updates regarding the March 5, 2024 Special Election.

Director of Public Works Johnson mentioned the availability of sandbags and spoke about potholes being filled once the storm passes.

Director of Community Development Ramirez had no updates to report.

Director of Finance Melton informed Council about a residential low-income utility bill assistance program and that business license renewals are due February 29, 2024.

Recreation Services Supervisor Salas reported on upcoming recreation activities.

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith announced the launch of the Pledge to Shop Local campaign.

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Police Chief Valdez announced the next session of the Parent Academy would be at the San Fernando Middle School.

City Manager Kimball thanked the City Council for the Study Session discussion held on February 13, 2024, regarding Strategic Goals and Budget Priorities for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Fajardo spoke about the water policy; requested that staff provide an update regarding Republic’s outreach to date via email; spoke about the Downtown Master Plan; review Athen’s and Republic’s services through the City’s survey questionnaire; suggested that during an election month that the City Council meeting be postponed allowing for democratic engagement; and commented on the trash enclosures.

Councilmember Solorio had no updates to report.

Vice Mayor Mendoza participating in the book launching celebration for the anthology created by the 9th grade ethics class from Social Justice Humanitas Academy that featured 72 student authors; announce new scholarship opportunities in collaboration with former Councilmember Sylvia Ballin and Councilmember Fajardo through Los Angeles Mission College’s 2024-2025 Scholarship program, the Cindy Montañez Inspiration Scholarship in her memory and in addition, the Margarita Montañez Inspirational Scholarship in her honor, which is also funded by former Councilmember Ballin along with Metropolitan Water District Board Chair Adan Ortega.

Mayor Rodriguez reminded Councilmembers that staff has reached out to each Councilmember to begin scheduling Ad Hoc Committee meetings.

ADJOURNMENT (9:57 p.m.)

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the meeting in memory of Elvira Camarillo Orozco and Elias Rodriguez to the next regular meeting.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the February 20, 2024, Regular meeting as approved by the San Fernando City Council at the meeting of May 20, 2024.

Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk