

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO
CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING – 5:15 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 P.M.
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024**

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

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – SPECIAL MEETING 5:15 P.M. (CLOSED SESSION)

Mayor Celeste T. Rodriguez called the Special Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Present:

Council: Mayor Celeste T. Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza and Councilmembers Joel Fajardo, Mary Solorio and Victoria Garcia

Staff: City Manager Nick Kimball, City Attorney Richard Padilla

Absent: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilmembers Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve the agenda. The motion carried, unanimously.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS None

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION (5:16 P.M.)

By consensus, Councilmembers recessed to Closed Session.

A) **CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(D)(2) –
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNCIL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION:**

Two (2) Matters

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RECONVENE FROM SPECIAL MEETING AND REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Padilla stated no reportable action as a result of the Closed Session meeting of November 18, 2024 at 5:15 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT (6:06 p.m.)

The City Council adjourned the special meeting to the regular meeting.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – REGULAR MEETING **6:00 P.M. (OPEN SESSION)**

Mayor Celeste Rodriguez called the regular meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Present: Council: Mayor Celeste T. Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza and Councilmembers Joel Fajardo, Mary Solorio and Victoria Garcia

Staff: City Manager Nick Kimball, Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kanika Kith, City Attorney Richard Padilla, Police Chief Fabian Valdez, Director of Finance Erica Melton, Director of Community Development Erika Ramirez, Director of Public Works Wendell Johnson, Director of Recreation and Community Services Julio Salcedo and City Clerk Julia Fritz

Absent: None

TELECONFERENCING REQUESTS/DISCLOSURE None

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 pull Agenda Item No. 24 from consideration. The motion carried, unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

- A. PRESENTATION OF EDUCATION COMMISSION CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR GIVING BACK

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Madeleine Hernandez (Vaughn Next Century Learning Center G3)
Mia Tobar (Social Justice Humanitas Academy)

- B. PRESENTATION OF EDUCATION COMMISSION CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION TO SOCIAL JUSTICE HUMANITAS ACADEMY STUDENT CLUB, PANCHE BEH, FOR ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING A FOOD PANTRY
- C. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO HEAVENLY PANCAKES FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE TIP-A-COP FUNDRAISER ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024 **(Continued to the next regular meeting)**
- D. PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION TO PLANNING AND PRESERVATION COMMISSIONER SYLVIA BALLIN FOR HER SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO AND TO THE COMMUNITY BY VICE MAYOR MARY MENDOZA **(Continued to the next regular meeting)**
- E. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO AND TO THE COMMUNITY BY MAYOR CELESTE T. RODRIGUEZ
 - Planning and Preservation Commissioner Sean M. Rivas
 - Education Commissioner Olivia Robledo
 - Parks, Wellness and Recreation Commissioner Robert Gonzales
 - Transportation and Public Safety Commissioner Rudy Trujillo
- F. ANNUAL PROCLAMATION
 - NATIONAL VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES MONTH – NOVEMBER 2024
- G. INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Dr. Chavez submitted a speaker card, was called but did not speak.

Marcos Tapia submitted a speaker card, was called but did not speak.

Margarita Montañez expressed appreciation to the City Council for their continued support in recognizing Cindy Montañez.

Anita Saldana expressed concerns regarding code enforcement citations.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Garcia requested to pull Consent Calendar Item Nos. 11 and 12 for discussion.

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Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve the Consent Calendar excluding Item Nos. 11 and 12:

1. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:
 - a. August 6, 2007 – Special Meeting
 - b. August 6, 2007 – Regular Meeting
 - c. November 5, 2007 – CC & RA Special Meeting
 - d. March 7, 2011 – CC 7 RA Special Meeting
 - e. March 9, 2011 – RA Adjourned Meeting
 - f. September 17, 2012 – Regular Meeting
 - g. May 28, 2024 – Special Meeting
2. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NOS. 24-111 AND 24-112 APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTERS OF NOVEMBER 4, 2024, AND NOVEMBER 18, 2024, RESPECTIVELY
3. RECEIVE AND FILE STATUS UPDATES FOR ENHANCEMENTS, PROJECTS, AND CITY COUNCIL PRIORITIES
4. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH TYLER TECHNOLOGIES FOR ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SOFTWARE AND IMPLEMENTATION SERVICES, AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDING FOR ERP IMPLEMENTATION COSTS
5. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIDE LETTER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND SAN FERNANDO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION/SEIU LOCAL 721 AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION RELATED TO PAID PARENTAL LEAVE FOR DEPARTMENT HEAD EMPLOYEES
6. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE JOB SPECIFICATION FOR A WATER SYSTEM OPERATOR AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE SALARY PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
7. CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO R.C. BECKER, INC. FOR THE BUS SHELTER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, JOB NO. 7609
8. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH UNITED MAINTENANCE SYSTEMS EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE EXISTING JANITORIAL CONTRACT, AND APPROVE A CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH JJ PROPERTY MAINTENANCE NETWORK INCORPORATED FOR JANITORIAL SERVICES
9. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT TO ACCEPT PHASE 3 URBAN AND MULTIBENEFIT DROUGHT RELIEF PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS FOR WELL 3 NITRATE REMOVAL TREATMENT SYSTEM RELATED PROJECTS AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS
10. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ENVIROGEN TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE ION EXCHANGE NITRATE REMOVAL TREATMENT SYSTEMS FOR WELL 7, PLANT 1, WELL 3, AND PLANT 2

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13. CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING AND RECOVERY GRANT FUNDS FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 SENATE BILL 1383 LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM (OWR-4) FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CITY'S SENATE BILL 1383 PROGRAM, AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING FUNDS
14. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE COLOR SCHEME FOR EXTERIOR PAINTING OF CITY HALL AND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
15. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF FOUR POLICE VEHICLES AND INSTALLATION OF REQUIRED EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT, ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS, AND APPROVE DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS CITY-OWNED VEHICLES
16. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LOS ANGELES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LOW INCOME FARE IS EASY PROGRAM
17. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MILLER CAREER AND TRANSITION CENTER FOR A WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
18. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BEAR COMMUNICATIONS, INC., DBA BEARCOM TO UPDATE, REPLACE, AND INCREASE SECURITY MEASURES FOR THE SAN FERNANDO POLICE FACILITY
19. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TURBO DATA SYSTEMS, INC., TO PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE CITATIONS, PARKING CITATIONS, NOTICE TO APPEAR PROCESSING, AND RACIAL AND IDENTITY PROFILING ACT REPORTING
20. CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TOBACCO GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE UNDER-AGE TOBACCO PURCHASE PREVENTION PROGRAM, AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS

The motion carried, unanimously.

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

11. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH YUNEX TRAFFIC LLC, FORMERLY SIEMENS MOBILITY, INCORPORATED FOR ON-CALL TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The motion carried, with Councilmember Fajardo absent.

12. CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH WEST COAST ARBORISTS, INC. FOR CITY-WIDE TREE MAINTENANCE SERVICES

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Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to direct staff to continue the month-to-month contract through Spring and to direct staff to come back to the next Council meeting with updates on a Request for Proposal process. The motion was not voted on due to the secondary motion offered by Councilmember Garcia.

Secondary motion by Councilmember Garcia, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to approve the item as presented to: approve a Professional Services Agreement with West Coast Arborists, Inc. (Contract No. 2320) for city-wide tree maintenance services in an amount not-to-exceed the annual fiscal year budget appropriation, for a term of three years with two optional one-year extension; authorize the City Manager, or designee, to make non-substantive changes and execute the agreement and to direct staff to begin a Request for Proposal process to return to the City Council at a future date uncertain. The motion carried, by the following vote:

ROLL CALL

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

Item heard out of order

22. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO APPOINT A COUNCILMEMBER TO SERVE THE REMAINDER OF A TWO-YEAR TERM EXPIRING ON MAY 4, 2025 AS THE REGIONAL COUNCIL DISTRICT 67 REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

City Clerk Fritz presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to appoint a Councilmember Victoria Garcia to the Southern California Association of Governments Regional Council District 67 to fill the remaining term expiring May 4, 2025. The motion carried, unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Rodriguez and Vice Mayor Mendoza stated that due to the distance of the project from their homes, they would be recusing from discussion on the public hearing and left the dais at 7:37 p.m.

Councilmember Fajardo was selected as the presiding officer regarding the public hearing discussion.

21. A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 106 (ZONING) OF THE SAN FERNANDO MUNICIPAL CODE TO ESTABLISH THE MIXED USE OVERLAY ZONE IN DESIGNATED AREAS OF THE CITY AND AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO TO ADD THE MIXED-USE OVERLAY TO CERTAIN PROPERTIES IN THE C-1 AND C-2 ZONE DISTRICTS; ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SAN

FERNANDO CORRIDORS SPECIFIC PLAN (SP-5) FIGURE 4.1 – CITY LAND USE DISTRICTS AND OVERLAYS MAP TO ADD THE DOWNTOWN RESIDENTIAL OVERLAY AND FLEX USE OVERLAY TO 11 PARCELS; AND ADOPTING MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION ADDENDUMS

Councilmember Fajardo opened the public hearing.

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

Councilmember Fajardo called for public comments.

The following spoke in opposition:

Brent Bell
Bob Williamson

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to close public comments. The motion carried, with Mayor Rodriguez and Vice Mayor Mendoza absent.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to continue the public hearing to the next City Council meeting and bring back additional information to include: 1) Better aerial view showing the maximum number of units and lot sizes; 2) What other cities have done to push back on RHNA numbers and what can be done by our city; 3) Examples on how commercial and residential (mixed-use) can co-exist (i.e. Design and Landscape Standards, etc.); 4) What the consequences are for not approving the rezone/mixed-use overlay; and 5) Number of jobs along First Street. The motion carried, with Mayor Rodriguez and Vice Mayor Mendoza absent.

The City Council recessed the meeting at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 8:54 p.m. with Vice Mayor Mendoza absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

23. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ALLOCATING THE BALANCE OF UNUSED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS TO THE SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 AND APPROVE UPDATED PROGRAM GUIDELINES

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

Motion by Councilmember Solorio, seconded by Mayor Rodriguez to adopt Resolution No. 8351 appropriating \$235,800 of the Community Development Block Grant funds in the City's Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Adopted Budget including allocating \$64,506 from the unallocated CDBG funds in FY 2023-2024 to the Small Business Assistance Program, increasing total funding for the SBAP to \$210,110; and approve the updated Small Business Assistance Program Guidelines. The motion carried by the following vote:

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ROLL CALL

AYES: Solorio, Fajardo, Rodriguez - 3
NAYES: Garcia - 1
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Vice Mayor Mendoza

24. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION REGARDING CREATION OF A DOMESTIC ABUSE RESPONSE TEAM (DART) TO RESPOND TO NEEDS IN THE COMMUNITY

Mayor Celeste T. Rodriguez pulled the item from consideration.

25. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION REGARDING COMMISSIONER SELECTION PROCESS, APPLICATION UPDATES, AND CONDUCT STANDARDS

Councilmember Joel Fajardo presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

By consensus, the City Council directed staff to come back to the next City Council meeting to work with Councilmember Fajardo on presenting a revised Commissioner Application to include questions specific to applicant's background and qualifications.

STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES

City Clerk Fritz had no updates to report.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Salcedo provided updates on programming activities including the upcoming Tree Lighting event on December 7.

Director of Public Works Johnson reported that he visited the San Fernando Mission Trail, Pacoima Wash Trail, and Cindy Montañez Natural Park by bicycle to experience the city at night from a cyclist's perspective. He also commented on the upcoming pre-construction meeting with Precision Concrete to address the city's sidewalk trip hazards. Additionally, he invited community members to participate in three events: the parking survey, the Las Palmas Park residential community meeting (Meeting #1), and the December 3 Zoom meeting. Lastly, he noted that the on-site facility condition assessment will begin on December 5.

Director of Community Development Ramirez highlighted the upcoming Special Neighborhood Watch meeting being held on November 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. that will provide general housing related information and noted that Spanish translation services will be offered.

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith announced that December 6 marks the one-year anniversary of the opening of the Business & Community Resource Center and will be hosting a anniversary open house celebration event on December 5.

Director of Finance Melton urged residents to set up payment arrangements regarding their past due water billing accounts and noted that staff will be available on Saturday, December 7 to assist residents with enrolling in a payment arrangement program.

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Police Chief Valdez reported on recent police operations related to shoplifters, DUI checkpoint statistics; and on planned safety enforcement operations for the holiday shopping season.

City Manager Kimball commented on the agenda packet, staff's work and noted that the contract management list will be included as an attachment to the Enhancement and Priorities staff report.

GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES

Councilmember Fajardo requested to close the meeting in memory of Nevaeh Crain; extended congratulations to Mayor Rodriguez regarding her election to the State Assembly and talked about the last two years of the City Council and its functionality. He also commented on conditions at the Cindy Montañez Natural Park noting missing fencing. In addition, he spoke about the Presidential election and requested that staff return to a future Council meeting with information on Proposition 36 and its effects to the community.

Councilmember Garcia extended congratulations to Mayor Rodriguez on her election to the State Assembly, mentioned having discussions with public works staff, and thanked staff for their work.

Councilmember Solorio extended congratulations to Mayor Rodriguez on her election to the State Assembly and reported her recent appointment as Vice President on the Board of Directors for Independent Cities Association.

Mayor Rodriguez mentioned that this would be the last City Council meeting she would be presiding over as a member of the San Fernando City Council, expressed thanks to staff and colleagues for all their work and wished Councilmember Solorio a Happy Birthday.

ADJOURNMENT (9:56 p.m.)

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the meeting in memory of Nevaeh Crain to the regular meeting of December 2, 2024.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the November 18, 2024, Regular meeting and approved by the San Fernando City Council at the meeting of December 2, 2024.

Julia Fritz, CMC
City Clerk