

**CITY OF SAN FERNANDO  
CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING – 5:00 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 P.M.  
MONDAY, JULY 1, 2024**

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

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – SPECIAL MEETING 5:00 P.M. (CLOSED SESSION)**

Mayor Celeste T. Rodriguez called the Special Meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Present:

Council: Mayor Celeste T. Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza, and Councilmember Joel Fajardo

Staff: City Manager Nick Kimball and Assistant City Attorney Richard Padilla

Absent: Councilmembers Mary Solorio and Victoria Garcia

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS** None

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION (5:03 P.M.)**

By consensus, Councilmembers recessed to Closed Session.

Councilmember Garcia arrived directly into Closed Session at 5:13 p.m.

**A) CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.8 – CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR**

Subject Property: City owned parcels at Assessor Identification Numbers (APN): 2521-031-901, 902, and 903

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Party Negotiation with: Aaron Aszkenazy, Aszkenazy Development and Rudy J. Ortega, Jr.,  
Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians  
City Representative: Nick Kimball, City Manager and Kanika Kith, Deputy City  
Manager/Economic Development

**B) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR PURSUANT TO G.C. §54957.6:**

Designated City Negotiators: City Manager Nick Kimball  
Employees and Employee Bargaining Units:  
San Fernando Management Group (SEIU, Local 721)  
San Fernando Public Employees’ Association (SEIU, Local 721)  
San Fernando Police Officers Association  
San Fernando Police Officers Association Police Management Unit  
San Fernando Police Civilian Association  
San Fernando Part-Time Employees’ Bargaining Unit (SEIU, Local 721)  
All Unrepresented Employees

**C) CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6 – CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR:**

City Representative: City Attorney Richard Padilla  
Unrepresented Employee: City Manager

**D) CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(D)(4) – INITIATION OF LITIGATION:**

One (1) Matter

**RECONVENE FROM SPECIAL MEETING AND REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

City Attorney Padilla stated there was no reportable action as a result of the Closed Session meeting held on July 1, 2024.

**ADJOURNMENT (6:13 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 6:13 p.m.

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

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

Absent: Councilmember Mary Solorio

**TELECONFERENCING REQUESTS/DISCLOSURE**

Councilmember Mary Solorio requested to participate remotely using the teleconferencing rules of AB 2449. Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to approve Councilmember Solorio’s request. The motion carried, unanimously.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by City Clerk Julia Fritz

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

- A. ANNUAL RECOGNITIONS  
Parks and Recreation Month – July 2024
- B. Introduction of New Employees

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

The following spoke in support of Agenda Item No. 15:

Marcos Tapia  
Javier Sarmiento  
Patty Lopez  
Eriona Giabocka  
Joseph Diaz

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Julie Cuellar

Ricardo Benitez

Marcela Rodriguez

Teresa Carlos

David Bolog questioned eligibility requirements regarding the selection of certain homes that were chosen for rehabilitation through the Habitat for Humanity Power Woman Power Tools Home Rehabilitation project.

Councilmember Fajardo left the dais at 7:15 p.m.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to approve:

- 1) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
  - a. January 22, 2007 – Special
  - b. June 4, 2007 – Special
- 2) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NOS. 24-062 AND 24-071 APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTERS OF JUNE 17, 2024, AND JULY 1, 2024, RESPECTIVELY
- 3) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION – 2024 CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE LOCAL AGENCY BIENNIAL NOTICE REQUIREMENT
- 4) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AND GIVING NOTICE OF HOLDING A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024, REQUEST TO CONSOLIDATE THE ELECTION WITH THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION, AUTHORIZE THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICIAL TO PERFORM ELECTION SERVICES, AND ADOPTING REGULATIONS PERTAINING CANDIDATE STATEMENTS AND RELATED MATERIALS SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE
- 5) CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS APPROVING THE SALARY PLAN AND TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
- 6) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A SPECIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH LIEBERT CASSIDY WHITMORE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
- 7) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE LOS ANGELES REGIONAL FOOD BANK FOR A 2024 SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM, AND APPROVE THE USE OF THE CITY SEAL
- 8) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A NON-EXCLUSIVE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR USE OF PARK FACILITIES, AND APPROVE USE OF THE CITY SEAL
- 9) CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A CONTRACT FOR TO WILLDAN ENGINEERING FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, INSPECTION, LABOR COMPLIANCE AND MATERIALS

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TESTING SERVICES FOR THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODIFICATIONS – 9 LOCATIONS HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: FEDERAL PROJECT NO. HSIPL-5202(019)

- 10) CONSIDERATION TO AWARD A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO EUROFINS EATON ANALYTICAL, LLC FOR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM LABORATORY AND ANALYTICAL SERVICES
- 11) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BRIGHTLY SOFTWARE INC. FOR CITYWIDE FACILITY CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONSULTING SERVICES CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WARRANT REGISTER

The motion carried, with Councilmember Fajardo absent.

Councilmember Fajardo returned to the dais at 7:17 p.m.

Item heard out of order

- 15) DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

Vice Mayor Mary Mendoza presented the staff report.

Motion by Vice Mayor Mendoza, seconded by Councilmember Solorio to adopt Resolution No. 8320 affirming the City’s support for comprehensive immigration reform. The motion carried, unanimously. The motion carried, unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 12) A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 ANNUAL BUDGET

Mayor Rodriguez opened the Public Hearing.

City Manager Kimball and Director of Finance Melton presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

Motion by Mayor Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Fajardo to adopt Resolution No. 8318 adopting the FY 2024-2025 Budget and; a) Approved to separate the San Fernando Mile/Day of dead for future events; b) use balance of ARPA curb painting funds towards beautification of City (i.e. trees, sidewalks, signs etc.); c) directed staff to bring back to the July 15, 2024 meeting a discussion on reallocating existing Mural funds; and to bring back at a future Council meeting additional information regarding:

- a. Discussion of existing solid waste and street sweeping contract services in the next quarter;
- b. Informational presentation on OPEB actuarial report and related investments from financial advisor; and

- c. Information on the approved budget enhancement project proposed completion date.

The motion carried, unanimously.

Councilmember Solorio left the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

- 13) A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTING AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE SAN FERNANDO MUNICIPAL CODE, ADDING ARTICLE VII OF CHAPTER 74 TO PROHIBIT ENCAMPMENTS AND STORAGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY IN PUBLIC PLACES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF SAN FERNANDO

Chief Valdez presented the staff report.

Mayor Rodriguez inquired whether there was any input from Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the County homeless services or any other organizations on how agencies can address the encampment issue with homelessness across the region.

Mayor Rodriguez requested that staff return to the City Council with presentations from LAHSA, the County and other applicable organizations on their coordination efforts addressing the June 28, 2024 decision by the United States Supreme Court’s decision that cities should have the ability to use a variety of tools to address its challenges, including the ability to criminally enforce where other less punitive efforts have failed.

Chief Valdez stated that City staff will bring back to a future City Council meeting informational presentations from LAHSA, the County and other applicable community organizations.

Motion by Councilmember Fajardo, seconded by Vice Mayor Mendoza to introduce for the first reading, in title only, and waive further reading of Ordinance No. 1726 titled, “An ordinance of the City Council of the City of San Fernando, California, approving an amendment to the San Fernando Municipal Code Chapter 74, adding Article VII, to prohibit unlawful encampments and storing of personal property on public property within the City limits of San Fernando.” as amended to add “Section 74-282 – Enforcement Violations of this Article may be prosecuted as misdemeanors under Article II of Chapter 1 or as public nuisances under Article III of Chapter 1. The enforcement procedures of these Articles are in addition to any specific enforcement procedures set forth in this Article. Unless otherwise expressly provided, the remedies and penalties provided by this Chapter are cumulative to each other, and to the remedies and penalties available under any other provision of this Code and any other laws”, and directed staff to:

- a. Continue to provide resources to unhoused individuals with information on medical facilities, housing agencies, and transportation services;
- b. Come back to a future City Council meeting with suggestions to send out letters of agency to either businesses or property owners and on how to give public notice of the new rules to inform and educate the community; and

- c. Continue to follow up with community partners/organizations throughout the year to collaborate on the issue.

The motion carried as follows:

**ROLL CALL**

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 14) DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO ASSESS REAL PROPERTY FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

Director of Public Works Johnson and representatives from Republic Services presented the staff report and responded to Councilmember questions.

City Council directed staff to come back to the July 15 meeting with a clear collections procedure/process for delinquent accounts and discuss a draft contract amendment to eliminate Republics ability to discontinue service.

- 16) DISCUSSION ON CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

Councilmember Joel Fajardo presented the staff report.

City Council directed staff to bring back to a future meeting an analysis of other cities contribution limits and suggested increasing the City’s campaign contribution limits to \$750; include information on self-funded candidates; and include effective date of changes, as applicable.

**STAFF COMMUNICATION INCLUDING COMMISSION UPDATES**

City Clerk Fritz had no updates to report.

Director of Recreation and Community Services Salcedo spoke about activities and programming.

Director of Public Works Johnson mentioned the playground equipment is being installed at Pioneer Park, noted that most of the solar lights lighting fixtures have been installed at the Pacoima Wash bikeway path; and provided tree trimming, cutting and stump grinding statistics YTD for 2024.

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Director of Community Development Ramirez spoke about the ability to apply for solar permits through the City’s online permit counter and talked about receiving raw data from Los Angeles Housing Services Authority.

Director of Finance Melton spoke about the adopted Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget.

Deputy City Manager/Economic Development Kith mentioned the opening of two new restaurants in the San Fernando Mall.

Police Chief Valdez had no updates to report.

City Manager Kimball had no updates to report.

**GENERAL CITY COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND LIAISON UPDATES**

Councilmember Fajardo spoke about the home rehabilitation loan funds and inquired on LAUSD’s enrollment process.

Councilmember Garcia thanked staff for their work on the budget and spoke about the Habitat to Humanity Pink Project’s home rehabilitation eligibility requirements.

Vice Mayor Mendoza spoke about the importance of transparency to the residents, notes she attended the NALEO annual conference and wished everyone a happy fourth of July.

Mayor Rodriguez spoke about the Habitat to Humanity Pink Project and about the recent Family Resource Fair.

**ADJOURNMENT (11:17 p.m.)**

Mayor Rodriguez adjourned the meeting to the regular meeting of July 15, 2024.

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the July 1, 2024, Regular meeting and approved by the San Fernando City Council at the meeting of January 6, 2024.

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Julia Fritz, CMC  
City Clerk