

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**TELECONFERENCE/VIRTUAL MEETING**

January 28, 2021

**MCFARLAND CITY COUNCIL**  
**MCFARLAND SUCCESSOR AGENCY**  
**MCFARLAND PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY**  
**MCFARLAND IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY**  
**MCFARLAND PARKING AUTHORITY**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. via teleconference/virtual meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Members Present: Gonzalez (Mayor), Pérez, Rodriguez, Ayon, Cano

Council Members Absent: None

**OFFICIALS PRESENT**

City Manager Lara, Assistant City Manager Hanlon, City Attorney Schroeter, HR Attorney Che. Johnson, City Clerk Alvarado, Public Works Director Gonzales, Accounting Supervisor Lara, Acting Community Development Director Ronk, and Acting Chief of Police Helton,

**INVOCATION**

Council Member Rodriguez

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member Cano

**PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Rosa Lopez, 247 E. Perkins Ave. McFarland- Stated she is very concerned with the abuse of power from the Police Department. She would like the Community to be considered and involved when choosing our next Chief of Police.

Officer George Alwaw, President of the McFarland Police Officers Association- Stated they are looking forward to working with Staff and Council they are looking to a bright future with the citizens and City altogether. They would have like to have participated in the selection process of the next Chief of Police.

Jim White, 364 Cliff Ave. McFarland- Stated he is looking forward to more Police Officers for protection and for a new Chief for guidance. People need to abide by the law and conform to the law. He stated he is standing by our Police Officers. And looks forward to meeting our new Chief of Police.

Closed Public Comments at 6:19 p.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Motion was made by: Council Member Rodriguez to approve the warrant register for \$418,662.80 from January 07, 2021 through January 19, 2021; 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member Cano**  
**Vote: 4-0**  
**Ayes: Rodriguez, Cano, Pérez, Ayon**  
**Nays: None**  
**Absent: None**  
**Abstentions: Gonzalez (Mayor)**  
\*Mayor Gonzalez recused herself from item #1 due to marriag
- 2. Motion was made by: Council Member Rodriguez to approve minutes of Regular City Council Meeting of January 14,2021; 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member Cano**  
**Vote: 5-0**  
**Ayes: Rodriguez, Cano, Pérez, Ayon, Gonzalez (Mayor)**  
**Nays: None**  
**Absent: None**

**Abstentions:** None

3. **Motion was made by:** Council Member Rodriguez to approve **Resolution No. 2021-0003 Adopting the City of McFarland COVID-19 Prevention Program; 2<sup>nd</sup> by:** Council Member Cano  
**Vote:** 5-0  
**Ayes:** Rodriguez, Cano, Pérez, Ayon, Gonzalez (Mayor)  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

4. **Motion was made by:** Council Member Rodriguez to approve **Resolution No. 2021-0004 Adopting an Emergency Telecommuting Policy; 2<sup>nd</sup> by:** Council Member Cano  
**Vote:** 5-0  
**Ayes:** Rodriguez, Cano, Pérez, Ayon, Gonzalez (Mayor)  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

5. Public Hearing for Community Development Block Grant Program- Coronavirus Response Round 2 and 3 (CDBG-CV2 and CV2).  
a. Take Public Testimony – Opened at 6:29 p.m.

Sally Gonzalez- The grant means we do not have to pay anything back? (Answer: Maria Lara, stated that the grant is 100 percent reimbursable.)

Ron Woods- Asked about the offset cost? (Answer: Mario Gonzalez stated that we would roughly be saving 2,500 to 5,000 dollars)

Danny Sanchez 512 10<sup>th</sup> Street McFarland- Asked that if in the long run it would cost the city more money than it would save us with the maintenance cost, repair and the wear and tear versus contracting out? He also wanted to know if other cities in the surrounding areas have a piece of equipment similar or like this one? (Answer: Mario Gonzales stated that other cities in the surrounding areas do have one they called it a collection system. He is excited for this grant because if it were not for this grant, we would not be able to purchase one.)

D-Garcia wrote is there a committee that exists to help the city identify priorities maybe you should have one that includes us. (Answer: Maria Lara stated that the city often held public workshops that involved the community but due to COVID-19 we are now having public hearings thru Zoom to obtain the public input that is needed to obtain these grants. She also stated that when applying for grants having community input is a state requirement to apply for the grant.

Maria Pérez agreed that before COVID-19 a lot of different public workshops were held to obtain community input. And that we appreciate community input.

Eric Rodriguez thanked the team that puts the grant applications together. He is thankful for these different grant opportunities that can help different sections of the city.

Ron Woods- Stated that maybe for future reference it would be appropriate to put in the proposal what it is currently costing the city to have an outside company come in and do the work for us versus us having the equipment and doing it ourselves. That would help the community understand better why the equipment is needed.

Public comment closed at 6:52 p.m.

## **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

- a. **Administration** – Maria Lara stated that the grant department and the finance department have been very busy and working hard she thanked her team for doing a great job. She thanked all the department for doing there best with the limited resources.  
Council Member Rodriguez asked for an update on the audits.

Accounting Supervisor Fernando Lara replied to Council Member Rodriguez and informed that at this point we have a scheduled telephone meeting with the auditors Monday February 1, 2021 and

that should wrap up 17/18 audit, then we would move on to 18/19 audit. He stated that he is confident that once we have the structure, we are going to be able to complete the remainder of the audits a lot faster.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if there would be a presentation done once the audit was complete?

City Manager Maria Lara replied yes.

- b. **Police Department** – Acting Chief of Police Helton stated that the McFarland Police Department acknowledges and understands the feelings and concerns of the protestors regarding the incident that recently happened. He assured that they will continue to provide quality services with professionalism and dedication to the City of McFarland.

Council Member Ayon stated that he supports McFarland Police Department.

- c. **Public Works- Mario Gonzales** stated that road improvements for Valencia and San Jose adjacent to the new Villa Del Caribe Park are being completed. The water department just finished meter reading. Streets department have been cleaning up the sumps and street sweeping. He informed that he has been monitoring Poso Creek and everything looked good for now. He informed that BHT is currently working on Davis Ave Road design/estimate 25-30 percent into the project assessment.

## ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

- 6. **Motion was made by:** Council Member Cano to approve Resolution No. 2021-0002 Designating Confidential Officers; 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member Ayon  
**Vote:** 5-0  
**Ayes:** Cano, Ayon, Pérez, Rodriguez, Gonzalez (Mayor)  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** None  
**Abstentions:** None
- 7. **Motion was made by:** Council Member Rodriguez to award contract to Superior Construction in the amount of \$459,691.09 for the Electric Vehicle Charging Station at 100 E. Industrial Street – CML 5343 (014) Project and Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Agreement; 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member Pérez  
**Vote:** 3/2  
**Ayes:** Rodriguez, Pérez, Gonzalez  
**Nays:** Cano, Ayon  
**Absent:** None  
**Abstentions:** None
- 8. **Motion was made by:** Council Member Ayon to approve agreement between City of McFarland and Image Source for the Maintenance of a 63-Month Lease of Xerox Altalink C8155 copier for Department- Wide Use at City Hall; 2<sup>nd</sup> By: Council Member Rodriguez  
**Vote:** 5-0  
**Ayes:** Ayon, Rodriguez, Cano, Pérez, Gonzalez (Mayor)  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** None  
**Abstentions:** None
- 9. **Motion was made by:** Council Member Ayon to approve change order #01R in the amount of \$78,390.40 for Superior Construction for the irrigation system for Villa Del Caribe; 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member Cano  
**Vote:** 5-0  
**Ayes:** Ayon, Cano, Rodriguez, Pérez, Gonzalez (Mayor)  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

## ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON COMMITTEES

- a. Delano Mosquito Abatement District (DMAD) – Council Member Cano – Currently in the process of preparing for the Mosquito season.
- b. Kern Council of Governments (KCOG) – Mayor Sally Gonzalez – Good resources for grants

- c. McFarland Tri-Agency Partners (MTAP) – Council Member Pérez – None to report.
- d. Kern Economic Development Corporation (KEDC) – None to report.
- e. Kern County Association of Cities (KCAC) – None to report.
- f. Poso Creek IRWMP- February 2, 2021 meeting cancelled.

**COUNCIL STATEMENTS**

Council Member Ayon

Contacted local doctor offices and agency to see if we could COVID-19 vaccine available to McFarland residents.

Council Member Rodriguez

Thanked everyone for their hard work and dedication he appreciates the community input and involvement.

Council Member Cano

Thanked the city employees for their hard work. He would like the street sweeper schedule on our city website.

Council Member Pérez

Thanked the community members for contributing to the topics. She would like new committees with more community involvement.

Mayor Gonzalez

Thanked all the staff and administrators for their hard work and the community for reaching out. She encourages the community to reach out to them and voice their concerns.

Regular Agenda adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

1. Motion was made by: Council Member Pérez to approve the closed session minutes held on January 14, 2021; 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member Ayon  
 Vote: 5-0  
 Ayes: Pérez, Ayon, Rodriguez, Cano, Gonzalez (Mayor)  
 Nays: None  
 Absent: None  
 Abstentions: None
2. Conference with Real Property Negotiators  
 Property: APN 060-050-24  
 Agency Negotiator: City Manager  
 Negotiating Parties: Greenlight Enterprises, LLC  
 Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment  
**Action:** No reportable action
3. Public Employment Appointment  
 Title: Chief of Police  
**Action:** No reportable action
4. Conference with Labor Negotiators  
 Agency designated Representatives: Mayor Gonzalez/ Che Johnson, City Attorney  
 Unrepresented Employee: City Manager  
**Action:** No reportable action
5. Public Employee Performance Evaluation  
 Title: City Manager  
**Action:** No reportable action

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Francisca Alvarado, City Clerk

