

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
January 16, 2020

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cantu called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the McFarland Council Chambers, 103 W. Sherwood Ave, McFarland, CA 93250

ROLL CALL

Council Member Present: Cantu, McFarland, Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez
Council Member Absent: None

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Interim City Manager Pennell, City Attorney Schroeter, Interim Chief of Police/Interim Assistant City Manager Davis, City Clerk Ceja, Administrative Services Director Mosqueda, Community Development Director Lara, and Public Works Director Gonzales

INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem McFarland

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Rafael Melendez

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Cantu recognized the McFarland Leos Club and presented a proclamation declaring "McFarland Leos Club Day".

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Esmeralda Gonzalez, no address provided. Ms. Gonzalez asked council what is going to happen with the water rates. She asked if the rates will be reduced or not and mentioned that the community needs an answer. Mayor responded by saying that the water and sewer rates will be reviewed in May.

Lana Fain, 681 4th St. Ms. Lain expressed her concern with police protection. She asked council to do whatever the city needs to do to protect the police officers and residents.

Kern County Fire Chief expressed his support for the McFarland Police Department and hopes the community really considers a measure to help the community.

Audience member, no name or address provided. He voiced his agreement with the ICE Facility coming to McFarland.

Alex Gonzalez, no address provided. He voiced his concern with building a police station and doesn't agree with that. He also voiced his concern regarding the ICE Facility and does not agree with it coming to McFarland.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Motion by Council Member McFarland, seconded by Council Member Melendez, and unanimously carried to approve the warrant register for \$674,636.72 from December 04, 2019 through January 07, 2020.

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: McFarland, Melendez, Perez, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: Gonzalez

Note: Council Member Gonzales recluses herself from item #1 due to conflict of interest.

2. Motion by Council Member McFarland, seconded by Council Member Melendez, and unanimously carried to approve Payroll register for \$129,217.65 for December 2019.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: McFarland, Melendez, Perez, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: Gonzalez
Note: Council Member Gonzales recluses herself from item #1 due to conflict of interest.

3. Motion by Council Member McFarland, seconded by Council Member Melendez, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of regular City Council meeting of December 12, 2019.
Vote: 5-0
Ayes: McFarland, Melendez, Gonzalez, Perez, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

4. Motion by Council Member McFarland, seconded by Council Member Melendez, and unanimously carried to approve the appointment of Mr. Marco Martinez as Planning Commissioner for a four-year term.
Vote: 5-0
Ayes: McFarland, Melendez, Gonzalez, Perez, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

5. Motion by Council Member McFarland, seconded by Council Member Melendez, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution No. 2020-001, Resolution of the City Council of the City of McFarland Amending the City of McFarland 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan.
Vote: 5-0
Ayes: McFarland, Melendez, Gonzalez, Perez, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

6. Motion by Council Member McFarland, seconded by Council Member Melendez, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution No. 2020-002, Resolution of the City Council of the City of McFarland Authorizing Application for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program.
Vote: 5-0
Ayes: McFarland, Melendez, Gonzalez, Perez, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

7. Motion by Council Member McFarland, seconded by Council Member Melendez, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution No. 2020-003, Resolution of the City Council of the City of McFarland Declaring its Intentions to Annex Territory (Annexation No. 1) to Community Facilities District No. 2017-1 (Police Services), Establishing a Date for the Public Hearing, and Authorizing the Levy of Special Taxes Therein and adopt Resolution No. 2020-004, Resolution of the City Council of the City of McFarland Declaring its Intentions to Annex Territory (Annexation No. 1) to Community Facilities District No. 2017-2 (Landscaping and Street Maintenance), Establishing a Date for the Public Hearing, and Authorizing the Levy of Special Taxes Therein.
Vote: 5-0
Ayes: McFarland, Melendez, Gonzalez, Perez, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

PUBLIC HEARING

8. Mayor opened the public hearing at 6:32, Mr. Robert Kuhs gave a presentation regarding the Groundwater Sustainability Plan and Mayor asked if anybody from the audience had any comments. There were no comments. Mayor closed public hearing at 6:55 pm.

Motion by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Council Member Melendez, and unanimously carried to approve the Southern San Joaquin Municipal Utility District's Chapter of the Kern Water Authority Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Vote: 5-0

Ayes: Gonzalez, Melendez, McFarland, Perez, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

- a. Administration – Mr. Pennell announced the resignation of Interim Chief Janet Davis and the promotion of Deputy Chief of Police Laura Hanlon to the position of Interim Chief of Police/Interim City Manager. Mr. Pennell mentioned that he and Ms. Lara met with LAFCO and they were advised that the City of McFarland's turn is coming up for the membership on the commission. Mr. Pennell asked council to start thinking of appointing a member from McFarland to serve a four-year term.

Interim Chief of Police Davis thanked the council and the community for welcoming her and accepting her.

- b. Community Development Department- Ms. Lara reported that the department received an award letter from the Department of Conservation for an element to the general plan, an urban water management plan, and to update the development impact fees. She mentioned that the animal shelter is 90% complete and is hoping to do the ribbon cutting in 4 weeks. The next planning commission is next Tuesday at 6 pm.
- c. Public Safety Department – Chief Davis presented a life-saving merit to Officer Helton, Corporal Hankins, Corporal Wilson, Officer Hernandez, Jessica Lopez, and Elizabeth Lopez for their great work.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

9. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to approve the recommended changes in spending priorities for FY 2019-2020 to include:
 - a. Postpone building a New City Hall and City Museum.
 - b. Build a new police building adjacent to City Hall.
 - c. Approve retention bonus plan for city employees.
 - d. Approve sale of 5-acre parcel on Elmo Hwy and use proceeds for police building.
 - e. Once Annexation 18 is approved to Whisler Rd., retain consultant to assist with industrial development in the area.

Vote: 5-0

Ayes: Perez, Gonzalez, Melendez, McFarland, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: None

10. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem McFarland, seconded by Mayor Cantu, and unanimously carried to approve the R&F Franchise Agreement for residential and commercial solid waste services.

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: McFarland, Cantu, Gonzalez, Perez

Nays: Melendez

Absent: None

Abstentions: None

Note: Council Member Melendez expressed his concern and disagreement with this item.

ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON COMMITTEES

- a. Delano Mosquito Abatement District (DMAD) – None to report.
- b. Kern Council of Governments (KCOG) – None to report.
- c. McFarland Tri-Agency Partners (MTAP) – Mayor mentioned that the Tri-Agency is looking for ways to continue to operate the Tri-Agency financially.
- d. Kern Economic Development Corporation (KEDC) – None to report.

- e. Kern County Association of Cities (KCAC) – Next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 2020.
- f. Poso Creek IRWMP- None to report.

COUNCIL STATEMENTS

Council Member Melendez – Thanked everyone and thanked Chief Davis for coming in at the right time and starting a plan to the right direction.

Council Member Gonzalez – Thanked the community for voicing their concerns, staff, and Chief Davis for everything they do.

Mayor Pro Tem McFarland – Thanked everyone for voicing their opinion and appreciates all the work the police does and for not giving up.

Council Member McFarland – Thanked everyone for being at the meeting, appreciates Mr. Pennell’s transparency, and thanked Chief Davis for all the hard work she contributed to the community.

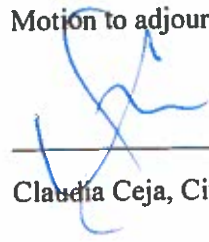
Mayor Cantu – Thanked the community, asked for the community’s patience, and asked for continued prayer.

CLOSED SESSION

1. Motion by Council Member Gonzalez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the the closed session minutes held on January 16, 2020.
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: one potential case. None to report.
3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 54956.9: one potential case. None to report.
4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 54956.9: one potential case. None to report.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 pm.



Claudia Ceja, City Clerk

