

MINUTES

CITY OF MCFARLAND REGULAR MEETING JUNE 13, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cantu called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. in the McFarland Council Chambers, 103 W. Sherwood Ave, McFarland, CA 93250

ROLL CALL

Council Member Present: McFarland, Perez, Cantu
Council Member Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Interim City Manager Tooley, 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

Mr. Bobby Sharp

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Perez

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Maria Figueroa, 673 10th St., McFarland. She is concerned about the water bill because her water bill went up about \$40.00. She wants to know if the rates will be increasing or stay the same. She asked if the water rate will be fixed or is it depending on usage.

Mayor Cantu responded by letting Ms. Figueroa know that it has been since 2001 that the rates had not been increased therefore the city had a study done and the study showed that the City has to do an increase to keep the water department afloat. Mayor mentioned that all the surrounding cities have raised rates or are in the process of raising rates and McFarland is in the middle of all cities.

Mrs. Mosqueda mentioned that there was various ways that the residents were informed such as a notice mailed out to all residents in English and Spanish, it was posted in the city website, and it was put in the city newsletter. Mrs. Mosqueda invited anyone in the audience to come in to City Hall so that she can explain the study. She also mentioned that the authority to raise rates will be for 5 years but it is to council's discretion to review rates every year and decide if they will raise rates or lower rates.

Maria Jacinto, 343 Mt. Arbor St., McFarland. She mentioned that it was a surprise to her when she received her utility bill and she does not understand why the increase if we are in a drought and she cannot water or use too much water and she does not see any projects in progress.

Mayor Cantu responded that the city had to raise rates because expenses have gone up and the council had to make a decision whether to raise rates and continue with running the city or not raise rates and cut the services.

Council Member Perez mentioned that the community was invited to the meetings and she wants to know that the process was done months ago and all Council Members were present and all voted to increase the rates.

Mr. Jeff Nickell, 100 S. Second St., McFarland. He invited all council and residents to the 4th of July celebration on July 3, 2019, the grand opening ceremony for the baseball/softball/tea ball season on June 15, and cougar camp is open and is \$20 a week for ages 5-13. He thanked the staff and especially Mr. Gonzalez for working hard at Blanco Park and getting it ready for the Parks and Recreation District to take over.

Mayor Cantu asked if anybody in the audience would like to have live music at the July 4 celebration and members of the audience agreed.

Mayor Cantu asked what the status of the Villa del Caribe is, Mr. Gonzales said that all bids were rejected and it is going out for re-bid.

Ms. Figueroa asked if the restrooms at Blanco Park are open because there is kids who need to use the restrooms and they are closed. Mr. Gonzales mentioned that restrooms are open from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm. Mrs. Figueroa said that 5:00 pm is too early to close restrooms and asked if they can be closed later. Mayor Cantu said that the city would meet with Parks and Recreation District to come up with a time to close the restrooms at Blanco Park. Mrs. Woods mentioned that the reason why the restrooms are closed early is the vandalism.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the warrant register in the amount of \$204,474.12 from May 16, 2019 through June 03, 2019.
Vote: 3-0
Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez
Abstentions: None
2. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the pre-issued payroll in the amount of \$134,462.28.
Vote: 3-0
Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez
Abstentions: None
3. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of special City Council meeting of May 16, 2019.
Vote: 3-0
Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez
Abstentions: None
4. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of regular City Council meeting of May 23, 2019.
Vote: 3-0
Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez
Abstentions: None
5. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of special City Council meeting of May 23, 2019.
Vote: 3-0
Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez
Abstentions: None
6. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of special City Council meeting of May 28, 2019.
Vote: 3-0
Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez
Abstentions: None
7. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. 2019-020, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of McFarland Authorizing the Federal Funding Under FTA Section 5311 (49 U.S.C. Section 5311) with California Department of Transportation and authorization for City Manager to sign the Federal Fiscal Year 2019 FTA Certifications and Assurances signature page.

Vote: 3-0

Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez

Abstentions: None

8. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the Third Amendment Agreement for Clinic Sierra Vista to renew the five-year lease as of June 1, 2019 and continuing until June 1, 2024 for the city property located at 209 West Kern Ave.

Vote: 3-0

Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez

Abstentions: None

9. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve a donation to the McFarland Recreation and Parks District for \$5,000.00 for this year's firework show.

Vote: 3-0

Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez

Abstentions: None

10. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve a waiver fee request from the Greater McFarland Chamber of Commerce to waive the 2019 business license fee of \$50.00 for their firework booth.

Vote: 3-0

Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez

Abstentions: None

PUBLIC HEARING

11. Mayor opened up the public hearing for the Landscaping and Lighting Assessment District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 at 7:09 pm and closed at 7:16 pm. No comments were made.

Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve and adopt Resolution No. 2019-018, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of McFarland, California, Amending and/or Approving the Final Engineer's Report Regarding the Landscaping and Lighting Assessment District No. 1, and the Levy and Collection of Annual Assessments Related Thereto for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 and approve and adopt Resolution No. 2019-019, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of McFarland, California Ordering the Levy and Collection of Assessments within the Landscaping and Lighting Assessment District No. 1 for Fiscal Year 2019/2020.

Vote: 3-0

Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: Gonzalez, Melendez

Abstentions: None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

12. a. Administration – Interim City Manager Tooley thanked council for allowing him to serve the community and thanked staff as well for all the help. He mentioned to council that Garzoli project is moving forward and crews are working hard.

Note: Audience member Mr. Jose Hernandez asked Mr. Tooley for a little background about himself. Mr. Tooley responded by letting him know where he was born and how long he has been in the public management field. Mr. Hernandez welcomed him to the community.

- b. Finance Department – Mrs. Mosqueda mentioned that staff has been working hard with the rate increases, welcomed Mr. Tooley on Monday and he's been pretty busy, the staff is diligently working on budget and finances, and business licenses with new rates will go out to businesses next week.
- c. Public Works Department – Mr. Gonzalez mentioned the Garzoli Overlay project is fully grinded and paved, the ADA ramp project in front of the fire department is in progress now,

the crack sealer was delivered 6/13/19 and the crew was in training, the Hot Box for blacktop was not delivered because it didn't pass inspection, and lastly the demolition of the library will be starting soon.

Note: Ms. Lara mentioned that there is funding that is coming in monthly from SB1 for roads.

Note: Council Member Perez expressed her concern about the marquis sign not being updated. Mr. Gonzalez mentioned that he is waiting on a representative of the company to come in and fix the switchboard in the marquis because it is not working.

Note: Mr. Jose Hernandez requested a sidewalk be installed at Mrs. Socorro Munoz's house as it was promised to her when she was a Council Member.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

None

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) – None to report.
- d. Kern Economic Development Corporation (KEDC) – Mayor Cantu expressed that he would like to sit as a Board Member to replace Mr. Wooner
- e. Kern County Association of Cities (KCAC) – None to report.

COUNCIL STATEMENTS

McFarland – Is thankful that were still a float and we are continuing to move forward. He believes there is a lot of potential with the city and knows that the city will accomplish a lot by the end of the year. He mentioned that he appreciates everyone who is present.

Perez – Thanked everyone for being at the meeting and welcome Mr. Tooley. She thanked Interim Chief Davis and knows that she and Mr. Tooley will do a good job.

Mayor – Thanked everyone at the meeting and expressed that he welcomes all the concerns. He mentioned that unfortunately, things change and change is not always easy and it is unfortunate but he wants to stay positive and wants to move forward with the growth of the city. He mentioned that unfortunately, Mr. Wooner is still missing and Mr. Wooner will always be remembered as the champion for the City of McFarland but he believes that the city has been blessed with Mr. Tooley and Interim Chief of Police and believes they were sent to continue with the growth of the city.

CLOSED SESSION

1. On motion by Council Member McFarland, seconded by Perez, and unanimously carried to adopt the minutes of the closed session held on May 23, 2019.
2. No reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.



Claudia Ceja, City Clerk

