

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
TELECONFERENCE/VIRTUAL MEETING

August 27, 2020

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 6:01 p.m. via teleconference/virtual meeting.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Gonzalez (Mayor), Rodriguez, Melendez, and Perez

Council Members Absent: McFarland

OFFICIALS PRESENT

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

INVOCATION

Council Member Melendez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Perez

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Saul Ayon, 1015 Kala Loop, McFarland, CA – Mr. Ayon asked what was the outcome of the August 20, 2020 closed session meeting.

City Attorney Schroeter responded that Maria Lara was appointed City Manager and Laura Hanlon was appointed Assistant City Manager.

Margie Martinez, 212 7th St, McFarland, CA – Mrs. Martinez invited council, staff and residents to the “Stuff the Bus” event on September 6, 2020 at the Dollar General Store. She asked if the women’s facility is closing down and if it is how it will affect the city’s financial status.

Isaac Garza, 1152 Moscato St, McFarland, CA – Mr. Garza would like to ask for councils permission to repair the refrigerator and freezer at the Veteran’s Hall. The Lions Club will repair it as a community project.

Public Works Director Gonzales will meet with Mr. Garza to coordinate the repairs.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Motion was made by: Council Member Rodriguez to approve the warrant register for \$226,870.17 August 05, 2020 through August 17, 2020; 2nd by: Perez**

Vote: 3-0

Ayes: Rodriguez, Perez, Melendez

Nays: None

Absent: McFarland

Abstentions: Gonzalez (Mayor)

***Mayor Gonzalez recused herself from item #1 due to marriage.**

2. **Motion was made by: Council Member Rodriguez to approve the minutes of Regular City Council Meeting of August 13, 2020; 2nd by: Perez**

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: Rodriguez, Perez, Melendez, Gonzalez (Mayor)

Nays: None

Absent: McFarland

Abstentions: None

3. **Motion was made by: Council Member Rodriguez to approve Resolution No. 2020-0036 adopting the city's Title VI Program and authorizing staff to submit the necessary documentation to the Federal Transit Administration for review and approval; 2nd by: Perez**

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: Rodriguez, Perez, Melendez, Gonzalez (Mayor)

Nays: None

Absent: McFarland

Abstentions: None

Item #4 pulled by Council Member Melendez for discussion.

4. Mrs. Lara briefed council on the item. Council had no comments.

Motion was made by: Perez to approve Resolution No. 2020-0037 naming the City Manager as the signing authority for a Public Benefit Grant Program Application to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District; 2nd by: Rodriguez

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: Perez, Rodriguez, Melendez, Gonzalez (Mayor)

Nays: None

Absent: McFarland

Abstentions: None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

City Manager reported the following:

She is meeting with each department head and will be meeting with each council member as well.

Finance Department is working hard on budget and audit.

City offices will be closed Monday, September 7, 2020 due to Labor Day holiday.

City offices still closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council Member Melendez mentioned the public's concern of being closed on Friday's and asked when the city can go back to being open 5 days a week.

City Manager Lara will check with employees to hear their thoughts.

Council Member Perez asked when is transit running again.

Public Works Director Gonzales said it will be about 2-3 weeks to open transit due to safety supplies on back order.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

5. **Motion was made by: Council Member Rodriguez to approve Resolution No. 2020-0038 adoption to continue Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020-2021; 2nd by: Melendez**

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: Rodriguez, Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez (Mayor)

Nays: None

Absent: McFarland

Abstentions: None

Council Member Rodriguez asked if budget will be done within this month and if Finance Director feels comfortable with the Chief of Police salary due to city's financial stability right now.

Finance Director Mosqueda responded that she is working on completing the budget and she feels the city can proceed with advertising for the Chief of Police position.

6. **Motion was made by: Council Member Rodriguez to introduce Ordinance No. 008-2020 for first reading by title only; 2nd by: Council Member Perez**

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: Rodriguez, Perez, Melendez, Gonzalez (Mayor)

Nays: None

Absent: McFarland

Abstentions: None

7. Council consideration to proceed with advertisement to accept bids for the construction of the electric vehicle charging station located at 100 E. Industrial Street.

Council Member Melendez requested more information on this project.

Public Works Director Gonzales will do some research on the questions Council Member Melendez has and will bring back item for discussion.

This item was tabled until further notice.

8. **Motion was made by: Council Member Rodriguez to approve the advertisement of the Chief of Police recruitment without the salary range; 2nd by: Council Member Melendez**

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: Rodriguez, Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez (Mayor)

Nays: None

Absent: McFarland

Abstentions: 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) – None to report.
- e. Kern County Association of Cities (KCAC) – None to report.
- f. Poso Creek IRWMP- None to report.

COUNCIL STATEMENTS

Council Member Perez

Thanked the police department for taking her on a ride along. She would like the city to focus on cleaning up the East side of town and focus on removing the abandoned cars. She is looking forward to working with City Manager Lara and thanked staff for taking care of cleaning the Kendrea area.

Council Member Melendez

Welcomed City Manager Lara, happy there will be stability and expressed that he has confidence in her.

Council Member Rodriguez

Welcomed City Manager Lara and appreciates the hard work she's done. Welcomed Laura Hanlon as Assistant City Manager and appreciates the guidance she will provide to the police department.

Mayor Gonzalez

Commended City Manager Lara for taking on the City Manager position and look forward to all the great things that are coming. Thanked all the employees for all the hard work.

Regular Agenda adjourned at 7:35 pm.

CLOSED SESSION – REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Motion was made by: Council Member Perez to approve the closed session minutes held on August 20, 2020; 2nd by: Council Member Perez**

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: Perez, Melendez, Rodriguez, Gonzalez (Mayor)

Nays: None

Absent: McFarland

Abstentions: None

2. **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**

Agency Designated Representative: Mayor Sally Gonzalez

Unrepresented Employee: City Manager, Maria Lara

Action: No reportable action.

CLOSED SESSION – SPECIAL AGENDA

1. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)

Name of case: Jane Doe et al v. City of McFarland;

Immigrant Legal Resource Center et al. v. City of McFarland

Action: No reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm



Claudia Ceja, City Clerk

