

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

JULY 19, 2004 – 6:00 P.M.

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE CITY COUNCIL. AUDIO CASSETTE TAPES OF THE ACTUAL MEETING ARE AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Maribel De La Torre called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT:

Council: Mayor Maribel De La Torre, Mayor Pro Tem Julie Ruelas, Councilmembers Nury Martinez, and Steven Veres

City Treasurer: Elvira Orozco

Staff: José E. Pulido, City Administrator; Michael Estrada, City Attorney; and, Elena G. Chávez, City Clerk

ABSENT: Councilmember José Hernández, Ph.D.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor De La Torre led the pledge.

INVOCATION

Mayor De La Torre called for a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Veres pulled Item #11 and asked to reschedule it to the next City Council meeting. Motion by Councilmember Veres, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, to approve the agenda with the change. The motion carried unanimously.

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PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Mike Weisberg, Fidelity & Trust Mortgage, introduced himself and said that they are looking forward to continued community involvement including community clean up, homebuyer seminars, and various charity events.

Ed Bañuelos, 22944 Keswick Ave., Fidelity & Trust Mortgage, reported that they want to help and contribute to the community, and he talked about clean-up days and said that their main goal is to affect every household.

Linda Chávez, W.A.V.E., said that they submitted a proposal for funding and highlighted what the organization has done the past year.

Elizabeth Rodriguez, 13975 Rex St., Sylmar, San Fernando Sharks Swim Team, asked for continued support, and said that funds would be used for swim suits and other necessary materials.

Sister Carmel Somers, Valley Family Center, reported that the Center provides counseling services to families in the City (most are not able to pay) and asked for continued support.

Jacqueline Cano, 600 N. Huntington St., is happy to be a part of the newly formed Youth Council, thanked the City Council for the opportunity to serve, and asked for support.

Manuel Godoy, 551 Griswold Ave., Historical Commissioner, talked about the joint Historical and Cultural Arts Commission meeting regarding the use of Old Fire Station.

Ilce Salazar, 1508 Seventh St., spoke in favor of the Pacoima Beautiful Youth Environmentalists Program, said local residents will be involved in planning improvements to the Pacoima Wash and asked for approval of the funding request.

Naomi Delgado, 13424 Desmond St., Pacoima, said that our community needs more opportunities for people to get involved and the Pacoima Beautiful Youth Environmentalists Program is a good example.

Liz Schiller, 11243 Glenoaks Blvd., requested support for funding of the Pacoima Beautiful Youth Environmentalists Program to help the City improve the Pacoima Wash and thanked Councilmembers for their consideration.

Baltazar Martinez, 20750 Ventura Blvd., Fidelity & Trust Mortgage, asked for an opportunity to give back by proposing community clean-up events to improve the quality of life for City residents.

Fernando Miranda reported that during Fiscal Year 2003-2004, Police Explorers contributed 7,800 hours of community service totaling more than \$156,000 and asked for continued support of the Program.

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Yvette Robles reported that the Junior Explorer Program has benefited her in numerous ways and thanked the Police Explorer Advisors and the Chief of Police.

Maria Gomez reported that the Junior Explorer Program has helped her bring her grades up and made her more responsible.

Sergio Alonzo, Cultural Arts Commissioner and instructor for the Mariachi Master Apprentice Program said that the Program is very successful (nationally recognized) and asked for continued support.

Liliana Castrellon, 652 Chatsworth Drive, member of the Mariachi Master Apprentice Program said that the Program has given them opportunities that could not have been accomplished without the City's support.

Guillermo Acuña, member of Mariachi Master Apprentice Program, said that the Program gives them the opportunity to master their music skills with some of the best mariachi musicians in the area.

Martin Padilla, 726 Jackman Ave., moved here from Texas, said it is incredible to see the level of talent in this community and the Mariachi Master Apprentice Program has given the students many opportunities.

Richard Arroyo, Historical Commissioner, said that he would appreciate Councilmembers' support by allowing the Historical and Cultural Arts Commissions to go through a due process and work with the Pioneer Parents group.

Ray Groff, 327 N. Alexander, said that he went to the intersection of Library and Alexander Streets (where a young man died) and that there was a memorial set up and empty glass beer bottles.

Rachel Montesdeoca, 11875 Sproule Ave., Pacoima, asked for City Council support of the SFETT Program and the Fifth Annual I-Can Film Festival.

Elizabeth Ruvalcaba, 722 Kewen St., said that students put a lot of dedication and effort into the films and asked for support of the SFETT Program.

Rosa Ruvalcaba, 722 Kewen St., graduated from the SFETT Program, is currently studying in San Francisco, and said that she could not wait to return and be a part of the community again.

Angelina Garcia, 12971 Borden Ave., Sylmar, reported that the SFETT has been beneficial to her and said that it is time to invest in the youth and programs such as the I-Can Film Festival.

Ernesto Hernández, 1315 Philippi St., requested City Council support for the I-Can Film Festival and the SFETT Program.

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Ruben Rodriguez, Cultural Arts Commission Chair, 10909 Tamarack Ave., Pacoima, asked that the City Council give the Cultural Arts and Historical Commissions time to finish the task that they were given regarding the Old Fire Station and the museum.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas removed Items #1, #2, #3, and #8 for further discussion. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Mayor De La Torre, to approve the remainder of the Consent Calendar items. The motion carried unanimously.

- 4) DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (DUI) INTERDICTION PROGRAM GRANT
- 5) EMBEDDED SEQUENTIAL CROSSWALK LIGHTING SYSTEM PROGRAM GRANT
- 6) UNDER AGE ALCOHOL PURCHASE PREVENTION PROGRAM GRANT
- 7) APPROVAL OF THE AREA C JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

Items Removed for Further Discussion:

- 1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2004

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas said that she wanted to discuss a point of information on Page #3 further (at a later time) but the minutes were correct.

She made a correction on Page 4, Item #6 (“qualify”, should read “quality”).

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas requested an additional sentence be included on Page 5, Item #7, after “Discussion ensued...” She would like to add: “Mayor Pro Tem Julie Ruelas pointed out a discrepancy in the balance on the Water Fund and that Ms. Quijano agreed to provide a corrected draft.”

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Councilmember Veres, to approve the minutes with corrections. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2) APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER NO. 04-072

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas’ question, City Engineer David Lawrence stated that payment to Bernards Bros. are based on the contract awarded on January 5, 2004, for

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construction management services. He said that the contract is through July 2, 2004, and most likely is not the final payment because all invoices have not been received.

She inquired about a \$4,000+ payment to the Daily News and Mr. Lawrence reported that he was uncertain what it was for but that staff would follow up and report back.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas' inquiry, Community Development Director Paul Deibel said that he would report back and provide information regarding the \$11,000+ payment for Housing Services.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, to approve Warrant Register No. 04-072. The motion carried unanimously.

3) UTILITY RATES

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas explained that she pulled this item to vote "No" as she did on the first reading of the Ordinance.

Motion by Councilmember Veres, seconded by Mayor De La Torre, to adopt Ordinance No. 1550 (second reading). Title: "An Ordinance of the City of San Fernando Amending Portions of Chapter 94, Utilities, to Increase Water and Sewer Service Charges and to Increase Water and Sewer Capital Facility Charges". The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: De La Torre, Veres, Martinez – 3
NOES: Ruelas – 1
ABSENT: Hernández - 1

8) WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM FY 2003-2004 - RESOLUTION CONFIRMING COSTS AND ASSESSMENTS

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas' question regarding the \$10,000 assessment, Mr. Lawrence explained that the cost to each resident is based on the square footage they are required to clean and that a lien will be placed against their property if they do not pay.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Mayor De La Torre, to receive and file the Public Works Director's Program Cost Summary Sheet, adopt a Resolution confirming the itemized assessments, and direct staff to send a certified copy to the Los Angeles County Assessor. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

9) FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2004-2005 COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS (CBO) FUNDING REQUESTS

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Each Councilmember announced their CBO allocations (see attachment).

Mayor De La Torre and Councilmember Veres reported that if the East L.A. Classic Theatre does not reach their minimum amount after Councilmember Hernández announces his allocations (at the next meeting), their funds would be redistributed to other organizations.

Councilmembers thanked the organizations and speakers.

Motion by Mayor De La Torre, seconded by Councilmember Martinez to approve the allocations. The motion carried unanimously.

10) **PARKING METERS**

Mr. Lawrence presented the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Veres, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, to introduce, by title only, and waive further reading of “An Ordinance of the City of San Fernando Adopting Rates for Parking Meters in the Mall and Civic Center Areas, and Directing the Replacement of the Parking Meters in Parking Lot 6N, Located at 1000 First Street, with an Automated Self-Dispensing Ticket Machine.” The motion carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS

11) **SABOR BOOKS AND PARENT PIONEER INTERIM USE OF THE OLD FIRE STATION**

(This item was pulled under Approval of Agenda by Councilmember Veres.)

12) **CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE SAN FERNANDO EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY TEAM FIFTH ANNUAL I-CAN FILM FESTIVAL**

Councilmember Veres talked about the Festival and said they will need assistance in facilitating the use of the County parking lot (Third and Maclay streets), closing the alley (behind the Library Plaza), and they are requesting use of chairs.

In response to questions from Councilmembers, Mr. Lawrence reported that the cost would be minimal (setting up barricades to close the alley).

Motion by Councilmember Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Veres, to approve the co-sponsorship of the San Fernando Education Technology Team I-Can Film Festival. The motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Martinez thanked staff for attending the Orange Grove Neighborhood Watch meeting and she said that the meeting allowed for a good exchange of ideas.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas thanked audience members for attending the City Council meeting and said she was very pleased with the outcome of neighborhood meeting that occurred on Orange Grove Ave.

Councilmember Veres: 1) reported that staff did a great job regarding the Neighborhood Watch meeting (is hopeful there will be resolution); 2) thanked the students for attending tonight's meeting; and 3) is looking forward to the Fifth Annual SFETT I-Can Film Festival on August 7, 2004 (he thanked everyone).

Mayor De La Torre: 1) reported that \$41,000 was raised from the American Cancer Society Relay for Life event and that staff did a tremendous job; 2) is concerned about unhitched trailers and commercial vehicles on residential streets; and 3) requested that the meeting adjourn in memory of Johnny Perez.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT (7:50 P.M.)

Motion by Mayor De La Torre, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, to adjourn in memory of Johnny Perez. The motion carried unanimously.