

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

OCTOBER 18, 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 Pro Tem Julie Ruelas called the meeting to order at 6:22 p.m.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT:

Council: Mayor Maribel De La Torre (arrived at 6:32 p.m.), Mayor Pro Tem Julie Ruelas, Councilmembers Steven Veres, Nury Martinez, and José Hernández, Ph.D.

City Treasurer: Elvira Orozco

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas led the pledge.

INVOCATION

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas called for a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – October 18, 2004

Page 2

Manny Godoy, Historical Commissioner, spoke in support of Item No. 7 (Old Fire Station) and mentioned that both Historical and Cultural Arts Committees dedicated many hours toward this project.

Richard Arroyo, Historical Commissioner, agreed with Mr. Godoy and is glad that we are moving forward with a cultural arts center and history museum that our community will enjoy.

Marlene Grossman 11243 Glenoaks Blvd., Executive Director for Pacoima Beautiful, requested that the City Council provide a letter of support regarding Item No. 10 - Trust for Public Land (TPL) Soccer Field grant proposal.

Cindy Montañez, 39th District Assemblymember, reported that her office has been working with TPL and urged partnership in this excellent opportunity for the City.

Beverly DiTomaso, 718 Meyer St., spoke in support of Item No. 7 and said it was a wonderful project.

Joyce Gaynor, President of the San Fernando Woman's Club, supports a cultural center at the Old Fire Station.

Silvia Ballin, Champion Barber Shop, said that a museum at the Old Fire Station is a great idea for our children.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas removed Item #2 for further discussion. Motion by Councilmember Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Veres, to approve the remainder of the Consent Calendar items. The motion carried unanimously.

- 1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2004
- 3) RESOLUTIONS REQUIRED FOR THE MARCH 8, 2005, GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Items Removed for Further Discussion:

- 2) APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER NO. 04-102

In response to Councilmembers' questions, Public Works Director Edwin Galvez said that tires for the backhoe are a special order item and that the trailer hitch is being replaced on a vehicle involved in an accident and he said that both items are not out of line in pricing.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Councilmember Hernandez to approve Warrant Register No. 04-102. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- 4) ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE SALARY RANGE SCHEDULE AND PLAN TO INCLUDE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES' COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA)

Personnel Manager Michael Okafor presented the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, to adopt a Resolution amending the Salary Range Schedule and Plan to include a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all part-time employees to be consistent with other regular full-time and certain part-time employees. The motion carried unanimously.

- 5) ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE SALARY RANGE SCHEDULE AND PLAN TO INCLUDE MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES' COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA)

Mr. Okafor presented the staff report.

Motion by Mayor De La Torre, seconded by Councilmember Veres, to adopt a Resolution to amend the Salary Range Schedule and Plan to include a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all Management employees to be consistent with other regular full-time and certain part-time employees. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: De La Torre, Veres, Martinez, Hernández – 4
NOES: Ruelas - 1

- 6) COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION (CBO) GUIDELINES

Director of Recreation & Community Services Dan LaBrado presented the staff report.

In response to Councilmember Hernández' question regarding local non-profit organizations applying for funds for other service groups, Mr. LaBrado reported that there are instances where non-profits join together. The lead non-profit organization is obligated to comply with contractual requirements.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas stated that some of the groups applying for CBO monies are City programs and would like to propose that funding for those programs be discussed and included during the budget process.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – October 18, 2004

Page 4

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas that staff screen applications, and, after providing an opportunity to finalize an incomplete application, that those that do not qualify be removed before being forwarded to the City Council for review.

There was no second to the motion.

Mr. LaBrado stated that the recommendation is that staff work with past and current recipients, (implement a survey/questionnaire) for input. Staff would then work with the Recreation & Community Services Commission and report back to the City Council within 60-90 days regarding the findings.

Atty. Estrada reported that he could work with staff (there are ways to protect client confidentiality and get reassurance that San Fernando residents are being served).

Motion by Councilmember Martinez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, to move forward with staff's recommendation, include a detailed look at the program, provide comments from staff and Commissioners and bring back to the City Council for discussion within the next 60-90 days. The motion carried unanimously.

7) OLD FIRE STATION

Mr. LaBrado presented the staff report.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas stated that there would be no cost to the City; in fact, the City would be gaining approximately \$4,120 annually.

Councilmember Veres is concerned that a fair market value analysis on the property had not been done. He is also concerned about the appearance of conflict and wants to ensure that there is no payment for services to those serving on the Board. Lastly, he hopes that no other City projects are in competition for grants with the Lopez Adobe.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas reported that Beverly DiTomaso (Friends Secretary) would be the lead negotiator for the Friends of the Lopez Adobe.

In response to questions from Atty. Estrada, Mr. LaBrado stated that the agreement will be based on the formation of a new non-profit organization developed for the operation and management of the Old Fire Station.

For clarification purposes, Atty. Estrada stated, and Mr. LaBrado confirmed, that that this would be a one-year agreement with the Friends of the Lopez Adobe and the objective is for the Friends to form a new organization, identify the initial Board of Directors, and eventually there will be an agreement between the City and the new entity. He stated that that during this formation period, the Friends would be the lead organization operating the museum.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – October 18, 2004

Page 5

Atty. Estrada asked Mr. LaBrado why this would happen during the formation period as opposed to once the new entity was created. Mr. LaBrado reported that due to the proposed aggressive timelines the new entity/non-profit will not be developed in time.

Atty. Estrada stated that as long as everyone was clear that the primary objective is to form this new entity.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, to approve the plan submitted by the Historical and Cultural Arts Commissions, that the Friends of the Lopez Adobe serve as the lead organization and responsible party for all negotiations, that the agreement be based on the formation of a new non-profit organization developed for the operation and management of the Old Fire Station. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Ruelas, Martinez, Hernández - 3

ABSTAIN: Veres, De La Torre - 2

8) MUNICIPAL CODE AMENDMENT TO SIGN REGULATIONS IN THE ZONING CODE

Atty. Estrada presented the staff report.

Discussion ensued and, by consensus, Atty. Estrada was directed to bring back and place on the next agenda.

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS

9) VIDEOS/FILMS PROMOTING THE CITY

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Councilmember Hernández, that the City Council appoint staff members to appear in the promotional video/DVD being designed by the San Fernando Technology Team Pro and that no candidate running for office in March 2005 should appear on the video promoting the City.

Mr. LaBrado said that, at this time, it is unclear who would be running for City Council, but that staff will continue filming and the City Council may choose to edit after reviewing the video/DVD.

The above motion carried with the following vote;

AYES: Ruelas, Martinez, Hernández – 3

NOES: De La Torre, Veres - 2

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – October 18, 2004

Page 6

10) **SOCCER FIELD OPPORTUNITY**

Councilmember Veres reported that Assemblymember Montañez's office and the Trust for Public Land (TLP) have approached the City with an opportunity to establish a non-regulation City-operated soccer facility within close proximity to San Fernando Recreation Park. He is recommending that the City accept the opportunity and provide a letter of support and commitment to the Trust for Public Land.

In response to questions from Councilmembers, Councilmember Veres and Mr. LaBrado reported that this could be a self-sustaining operation and would not require any on-site staff.

For clarification purposes, Atty. Estrada reported that the park would be owned by the City of San Fernando (although in the City of Los Angeles) and the City would have all the obligations and liabilities.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Councilmember Veres, to accept the soccer field opportunity as indicated in the letter from Assemblymember Montañez's office, and that a letter of support and commitment be provided to the Trust for Public Land. The motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Martinez: 1) said she was excited about the Cesar Chávez Monument unveiling event; 2) reported that the Menudo Festival was successful; and 3) congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas on the Japanese-American photo exhibit.

Councilmember Hernández thanked the Recreation & Community Services Dept. and City staff for a successful Menudo Festival.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas: 1) reported that the 5K Run was successful; 2) said that the Menudo Festival was very nice; and 3) encouraged everyone to visit the photo exhibit at Las Palmas Park.

Mayor De La Torre: 1) congratulated staff on the successful 5K Run; 2) heard many positive comments regarding the Menudo Festival; 3) attended a Los Angeles Unified School District event and their representatives spoke highly of our City and staff; and 4) mentioned items that were placed in the San Fernando Sun newspaper time capsule.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Mr. Deibel reported that the Specific Plan draft will be distributed to the City Council, Planning Commissioners, and the community and the item will be scheduled for the November 15, City Council meeting.

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES – October 18, 2004

Page 7

Mr. LaBrado invited everyone to the Cesar Chávez Monument unveiling event.

Mr. Okafor reminded everyone of Lesley Littlefield's retirement at the Odyssey Restaurant.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION (8:52 P.M.)

Motion by Councilmember Martinez, seconded by Mayor De La Torre, to recess to the following Closed Session, as announced by the City Attorney, thereafter to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (G.C. 54957)

Title: City Administrator

No reportable action.