

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

JULY 5, 2005 – 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 Julie Ruelas called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT:

Council: Mayor Julie Ruelas, Mayor Pro Tem Nury Martinez, Councilmembers Steven Veres, José Hernández, Ph.D., and Maribel De La Torre (arrived at 6:52 p.m.)

City Treasurer: Margarita Solis

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senior Board Member Joe Lozano led the pledge.

INVOCATION

Mayor Ruelas gave the invocation.

PRESENTATIONS

A) PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH – JULY

Mayor Ruelas presented the proclamation to Recreation & Community Service and Cultural Arts Commissioners, Senior Board Members and staff members present.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez requested that the Closed Session item be removed from the agenda since the Ad Hoc Committee has not had the opportunity to meet.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Veres, to approve the agenda with the change. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Martinez, Veres, Ruelas, Hernández – 4

ABSENT: De La Torre – 1

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Ray Groff, 327 Alexander St., said that Councilmember Veres is not qualified to be on the City Council, many people are coming into this country too fast and said that the U.S. should do more to protect its borders.

Katrina Ireland and Antoinette Walker requested support for agenda Item No. 6 regarding a resolution to Support In-home Supportive Services Program.

Chokri Bensaïd, SEIU Local 347 representative, thanked the bargaining team members and asked that City Councilmembers vote in favor of the new contract (he was told that this had already been approved at the last meeting).

Jerry Seliger gave an update regarding the Mission Community Hospital construction, is excited that it's moving forward, and thanked staff and City Councilmembers.

Richard Arroyo, 11264 Bartee Ave., Mission Hills, talked about various items including the public's right to talk during Public Statements and that Councilmembers should speak during City Council Comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Ruelas removed Item No. 2 for further discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez, to approve the remaining Consent Calendar items.

- 1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF:
 - A) JUNE 6, 2005 – REGULAR MEETING
 - B) JUNE 20, 2005 – REGULAR MEETING

- 3) FIRST AMENDMENT TO MISSION COMMUNITY HOSPITAL LEASE AGREEMENT

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The motion carried with the following vote:

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

Items Removed for Further Discussion:

2) APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER NO. 05-071

Mayor Ruelas asked about a payment regarding an autopsy and Chief Anthony Alba responded.

Motion by Mayor Ruelas, seconded by Councilmember Hernández, to approve the Warrant Register. The motion carried with the following vote:

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

PUBLIC HEARING

4) RELOCATION OF THE LOPEZ-VILLEGAS HOUSE TO THE LOPEZ ADOBE SITE AT 1100 PICO STREET; APPROVE DESIGNATION OF THE LOPEZ-VILLEGAS HOUSE AS A CITY HISTORIC LANDMARK

Mayor Ruelas declared the Public Hearing open.

Community Development Director Paul Deibel presented the staff report and responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Councilmember De La Torre arrived at this time (6:52 p.m.).

Mayor Ruelas called for public testimony in favor of the project.

Ray Groff, 327 Alexander St., inquired about the clearance of the structure and the ground, and the elevated foundation and plumbing.

Richard Arroyo, 11264 Bartee Ave., Mission Hills, Historical Commissioner, said that it would be great if City Council approved this item so they can move forward, get everything addressed and in place so they can begin to seek funding.

Mayor Ruelas called for comments in opposition of the project.

There being no further comments, Mayor Ruelas closed the public portion of the Hearing.

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In response to questions from Councilmembers, Senior Planner Fred Ramirez reported that the Lopez Adobe Preservation Plan was made available to the public at various locations (Las Palmas Park, Cesar Chávez Park, San Fernando Library and City Hall) for 45 days (beyond the minimum requirement). He stated that the Plan calls for an ancillary building (to include offices, restrooms, kitchen facilities) and this building would fulfill that. The consultant and state concurred that there is a record that at one time there was another residential structure, comparable in size, at the same approximate location.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez commended the Friends of the Lopez Adobe and said that if we all work together to address issues and concerns, as well as seek necessary funding, we could get it done, and it will be a beautiful facility.

In response to questions from Councilmember Veres regarding resource funding and prioritizing, Mr. Ramirez stated that they are being considered as two separate endeavors. The Lopez Adobe Preservation Plan looks at the ancillary facility as kind of the last part of the process. As far as seeking funding, he stated that the City has \$149,000 from Save America's Treasurers, receiving a \$250,000 implementation grant from the Getty, and is seeking additional funds from the Federal government to do the remaining work.

Mayor Ruelas closed the Public portion of the hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Veres to:

- a) Adopt a Resolution subject to: the move of the house not occurring until landscape improvements are done; and the funding for the exterior along with the foundation of the Lopez Adobe is acquired; and that the focus of funding remain on the Lopez Adobe first, then on finishing the interior of Lopez-Villegas house;
- b) Approve the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration, and
- c) Mitigation Monitoring Program; and approve designation of the Lopez-Villegas House as a City Historic landmark.

The motion died due to a lack of a second.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez, to approve staff's recommendation to:

- a) Adopt a Resolution, subject to any revisions noted by the City Council, approving relocation of the Lopez-Villegas House to the Lopez Adobe Site at 1100 Pico Street;
- b) Approve the Initial Study, Mitigated Negative Declaration, and Mitigation Monitoring Program; and
- c) Approve designation of the Lopez-Villegas House as a City Historic landmark.

The motion carried with the following vote:

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AYES: Ruelas, Hernández, Martinez – 3
NOE: Veres – 1
ABSTAIN: De La Torre – 1

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS

Due to audience members awaiting discussion of this item, Councilmembers agreed to discuss Item No. 6 before Item No. 5.

6) RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) PROGRAM

Motion by Councilmember Veres, seconded by Councilmember Hernández, to adopt a Resolution supporting IHSS providers, seniors and people with disabilities and opposing proposed state funding reductions. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

5) VEHICLE LICENSE FEE GAP RECEIVABLE FINANCING PROGRAM (TAXABLE PROCEEDS)

Finance Director Lorena Quijano presented the staff report and responded to questions from Councilmembers

At this time, Councilmember Veres left the meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez, to adopt a Resolution Approving, Authorizing, and Directing Execution of an Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Relating to the California Statewide Communities Development Authority.

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

Ms. Quijano responded to various questions from the Councilmembers.

RECESS (8:30 P.M.)

Mayor Ruelas recessed the meeting at this time so that, per City Council direction, Ms. Quijano contact the consultant.

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RECONVENE (8:46 P.M.)

At this time, the Mayor Ruelas reconvened the City Council meeting.

Ms. Quijano reported that during the break, staff spoke with a Senior Consultant with the firm of De La Rosa and stated that if approved, the City would have until Friday morning to retract from going further with the process.

Atty. Estrada stated that the documents could be approved, executed, and transmitted under a cover letter stating that we are investigating it further, and reserve the right to cancel by close of business Friday (assuming we get answers by then).

Motion by Councilmember De La Torre, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez, to adopt a Resolution Approving the Form of and Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Purchase and Sale Agreement and Related Documents With Respect to the Sale of the City's Vehicle License Fee Receivable from the State; and Directing and Authorizing Certain Other Actions in Connection Therewith. Direct the City Administrator and Finance Director to transmit the documents to the bond underwriter and appropriate individuals reserving the right to withdraw the documents up to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, July 8, 2005.

The motion carried with the following vote:

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

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember De La Torre thanked Dan LaBrado and staff for the great fireworks show.

Councilmember Hernández congratulated staff and the Police Explorers on the successful show and thanked the City Council for continued support of the 4th of July celebration.

Mayor Ruelas: 1) thanked Recreation staff for putting together a beautiful and well organized show; 2) reported that the grand opening of the San Fernando Museum of Art & History has been moved July 30 and hopes that everyone stops by; 3) reminded everyone of the Relay for Life event; and 4) reported that last week, the Governance Commission was sworn in for the LAUSD and they will begin meeting regularly.

Mayor Pro Tem Martinez reported that she could see and enjoy the fireworks show from her home but expressed concern regarding illegal fireworks taking place.

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STAFF COMMUNICATION

Mr. Pulido: 1) congratulated everyone that was promoted; and 2) thanked Mr. Deibel and Mr. Ramirez for all the work they put into the Lopez Villegas House and issues regarding historic preservation.

CLOSED SESSION

The following Closed Session item was removed by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez during Approval of the Agenda.

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (G.C. 54957.6)

City Representatives: Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem
Unrepresented Employee: City Administrator

ADJOURNMENT (9:11 P.M.)

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Hernández, to adjourn. The motion carried with the following vote:

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