

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

JUNE 5, 2006 – 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 Nury Martinez called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

The following persons were recorded as present:

PRESENT:

Council: Mayor Nury Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem Julie Ruelas, and Councilmember Dr. José Hernández

City Treasurer: Margarita Solis

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Maribel De La Torre (called in earlier to state she would not attend the meeting because she would be attending her son's championship Santa Rosa Little League game) and Steven Veres

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Martinez led the pledge.

INVOCATION

Mayor Martinez called for a moment of silence.

PRESENTATIONS

A) NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

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Mayor Martinez reported that the family she invited to accept the certificate was unable to attend and the certificate would be forwarded to them.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Martinez reported that there were two items that needed to be added to the agenda.

She stated that due to the recent tragic accidents involving the Metrolink train, immediate action needed to be taken to investigate the situation and work with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and other agencies to address safety crossing measures.

Motion by Mayor Martinez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, to add Item No. 10 (mentioned above) to the agenda as the matter arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda and must be acted upon prior to the next meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Martinez, Ruelas, Hernández – 3

ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

Community Development Director Paul Deibel reported that received a late request from Salomon Faisal Financial Corp. for an amplified sound permit at 504 N. Maclay Ave. for June 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, and 16, and asked to add this item to the agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, to add Item No. 11 to the agenda (mentioned above) as the matter arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda and must be acted upon prior to the next meeting. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Martinez, Ruelas, Hernández – 3

ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

PUBLIC STATEMENTS – WRITTEN/ORAL

Adriana Gomez, 615 N. Workman, expressed her disappointment with three Councilmembers and people who signed a letter of support for a candidate for senate. She said it was misleading and made to appear as if the City was supporting this candidate.

Gustavo Sandoval, 504 N. Maclay Ave., asked for support of the promotional event that his office along with ESPN Radio is having.

John Garcia, Payless Foods, provided Councilmembers information regarding their promotional event and asked for approval of this item.

Ruben Sandoval Jr. 1623 Coronel St., submitted a petition for speed humps signed by residents in his neighborhood.

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Mayor Martinez asked that Public Works Director Ron Ruiz meet with Mr. Sandoval to discuss this issue.

Angel Granados, 611 Orange Grove Ave., Chair of the Transportation and Safety Commission, asked about operating funds for the City Trolley.

Beverly Di Tomaso, 718 N. Meyer St., said that a flyer which was given to her stated that an event that Tia Chucha's was having was made possible by a City grant and inquired about that.

Director of Recreation & Community Services Dan LaBrado responded that it had to do with a CBO grant and he could meet with Ms. Di Tomaso to provide her with more information.

Richard Arroyo, 11264 Bartee Ave., Historical Commissioner, talked about his concern regarding the June 30th deadline regarding CBO funds appropriated for the Lopez Villegas house.

Mayor Martinez asked that staff work with Mr. Arroyo regarding this and possibly report back with a deadline extension.

Mike Majers, 1648 San Fernando Road, said that the Police Department is one of the finest in the state but said that the City is not business friendly.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas pulled Item Nos. 2, 3, and 4 for further discussion.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Mayor Martinez to approve the remaining Consent Calendar Items.

- 1) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF:
 - A) MAY 2, 2005 – REGULAR MEETING
 - B) MAY 16, 2005 – REGULAR MEETING
 - C) JULY 28, 2005 – SPECIAL MEETING
 - D) MAY 15, 2006 – REGULAR MEETING

- 5) AMPLIFIED SOUND PERMIT REQUEST – PAYLESS FOODS, 757 S. WORKMAN STREET

The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Hernández, Martinez, Ruelas – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

Items Pulled for Further Discussion:

2) APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER NO. 06-061

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas' question regarding auto expenses, Mr. Ruiz replied that three to four individuals (including himself) review those.

3) EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN – PHASE I

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas' question, Director of Recreation and Community Services Dan LaBrado stated that the consultant indicated he will be working out of his office but when working with departments, he may use a conference room in the City.

4) ADOPTION OF NEW JOB SPECIFICATION FOR SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas' questions, staff responded that there will be a salary savings and that the Accounting Manager position is being deleted and the Senior Accountant position is a brand new position.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Councilmember Hernández, to approve Consent Calendar items No.s 2, 3 and 4. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Ruelas, Hernandez, Martinez – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

PUBLIC HEARING

6) FY 2005-2006 WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM

Mayor Martinez declared the Public Hearing open.

City Clerk Chávez announced that this was the time and place for the Hearing, and that the notice had been legally published.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Mayor Martinez, to receive public comments regarding the Weed Abatement Program. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Ruelas, Hernandez, Martinez – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

City Clerk Chávez announced that no written protests were received.

Mayor Martinez asked for public comments regarding the Weed Abatement Program.

Daniel Guardado, 669 S. Brand Blvd., said that he received a letter but did not understand what it

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referred to because he does not have weeds on his property.

Mayor Martinez asked that Mr. Ruiz meet with Mr. Guardado.

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

Motion by Mayor Martinez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, to order the Public Works Department to proceed with the FY 2005-2006 Weed Abatement Program. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Ruelas, Hernandez, Martinez – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

5) FY 2006-2007 LANDSCAPING & LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

Mayor Martinez declared the Public Hearing open.

City Clerk Chávez announced that this was the time and place for the Hearing, and that the notice had been legally published.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Mayor Martinez, to receive and file the affidavit. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Ruelas, Hernandez, Martinez – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

Mr. Ruiz made a presentation of the Engineer's Report and gave an explanation as to the method of assessment for the annual levy.

City Clerk Chávez announced that no written protests were received.

Mayor Martinez asked for public testimony, either in favor or opposed.

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

Mr. Ruiz responded to an inquiry from Councilmember Hernández and stated that staff would call Edison on behalf of the residents.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Mayor Martinez, to adopt a Resolution ordering continued maintenance of the City's streetlights and confirming the annual assessment. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Ruelas, Hernandez, Martinez – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS

- 8) CONSIDERATION OF SUPPORT REGARDING INITIATIVE TO REFORM THREE STRIKES BILL

Mayor Martinez reported that in response to a call from Senator Gloria Romero, she will not be requesting that the City take a position on this matter at this time

- 9) RESOLUTION APPOINTING STANDBY OFFICERS

In response to a question from Councilmember Hernández, Atty. Estrada stated that this is only an interim measure in case of an emergency/disaster where a Councilmember is injured or otherwise temporarily unavailable.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas encouraged her colleagues to provide names to be included in the resolution and said that this could be re-agendized for July or August.

- 10) IMMEDIATE ACTION TO INVESTIGATE SITUATIONS REGARDING THE METROLINK

Motion by Mayor Martinez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, that staff prepare and send a letter to the Metrolink (MTA) officials requesting a meeting to address concerns including security crossing measures for pedestrian and passengers in the City (copies to be provided to elected officials and L.A. County Supervisor who sits on the MTA board). The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Martinez, Ruelas, Hernández – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

- 11) AMPLIFIED SOUND PERMIT REQUEST – SALOMON FAISAL FINANCIAL CORP., 504 N. MACLAY AVENUE

Community Development Director Paul Deibel gave information regarding the promotional event to be held in conjunction with ESPN Radio and responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, to approve the amplified sound permit subject to the applicant working with staff to address any remaining questions as to the operation with the understanding that if there are noise nuisances or lack of response, that the event would be cancelled at the City's request. The motion carried with the following vote:

AYES: Hernández, Ruelas, Martinez – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Hernández reminded everyone to vote tomorrow.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas: 1) brought copies of a report from the LAUSD Governance subcommittee regarding mayoral involvement in the LAUSD Governance; 2) mentioned a post card that City Council received from a San Fernando resident who is serving duty in Iraq; 3) thanked staff in putting together the contract with Roger Mason; and 4) urged that staff act quickly regarding the request for speed bumps.

Mayor Martinez: 1) said that on Wednesday, she will be attending a reception for the new LAUSD District No. 2 Superintendent that will be replacing Sue Shannon; 2) reported that the San Fernando Valley Fair will be this weekend at Hansen Dam; and 3) said she plans to attend the criterion state championships bike race on Saturday.

STAFF COMMUNICATION

Mr. LaBrado invited everyone to participate in the first community ride to take place during the championships and said that the bike race will take place between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Mr. Ruiz stated that the Transportation and Safety Commission meeting will be held on June 21 to discuss the Trolley and invited everyone to attend.

In response to an earlier statement made regarding operating costs for the Trolley, Mr. Pulido reported that staff will be addressing those issues (premature at this time).

ADJOURNMENT (7:24 PM)

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

AYES: Ruelas, Hernández, Martinez – 3
ABSENT: De La Torre, Veres – 2