

SAN FERNANDO CITY COUNCIL

**SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES**

AUGUST 14, 2006 – 5:00 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 5:08 p.m.

PRESENT:

City Council: Mayor Nury Martinez, Mayor Pro Tem Julie Ruelas, Councilmembers Steven Veres (arrived at 5:40 p.m.), Maribel De La Torre (arrived at 5:15 p.m.) and Dr. José Hernández

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas, seconded by Mayor Martinez, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Carolina Perez, 12301 San Fernando Rd., talked about parents struggling to find good schools for their children.

Mario Rodriguez, 429 Griswold, does not see anything positive coming out of AB1381 and strongly suggested that the City Council not go along with it.

Patty Lopez, 423 N. Brand Blvd., provided a letter from residents supporting L.A. Mayor Villaraigosa's plan in creating a better school system.

Angel-Zobel Rodriguez, 429 Griswold, expressed concern that if AB1381 passes, LAUSD schools will be in jeopardy.

NEW BUSINESS

1) CITY COUNCIL POSITION REGARDING AB1381

Mayor Martinez gave an update regarding her meeting with L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and talked about the letter presented to him from the City Council outlining the City's demands and recommendations.

She reported that at this time, Mayor Villaraigosa had agreed to amendments including considering 90% approval of the Council of Mayors and selection of Superintendent, a provision regarding giving each local district a breakdown of receipts and expenditures, and considering changing the name of Council of Mayors to Council of Cities.

Mayor Pro Tem Ruelas talked about the recommendations made by the LAUSD Governance Commission

Councilmember De La Torre wants to make sure that if this legislation goes through, it includes language that will protect the City of San Fernando.

Atty. Estrada provided suggested language such as changing all references to Council of Mayors to Council of Cities; that the Council of Cities be established and comprised of one designee each approved by majority of the city council of each city; and that the appointment, removal, contract renewal etc. of the district Superintendent be ratified by the Council of Mayors (90% approval).

Councilmember Veres arrived at this time (5:40 p.m.).

Discussion ensued regarding school clusters, review period for the Council of Mayors, school performances, and continued individual relationships with schools and principals.

Motion by Councilmember Hernández to support AB1381, in addition, that the expressed concerns of Councilmembers be passed on to elected officials in Sacramento. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Motion by Councilmember De La Torre to oppose AB1381 altogether. The motion died due to a lack of a second.

Motion by Councilmember Veres, seconded by Mayor Martinez, that the City issue a statement indicating that we cannot support AB1381 unless San Fernando is included in the 10% veto/vote

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authority to hire the Superintendent and secondly that the City's statement/position does not mean that we support/agree with the status quo of LAUSD.

The motion carried with the following vote:

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

Motion by Councilmember De La Torre, seconded by Mayor Martinez, recommending that the language be strengthened in AB1381 to read as the City Attorney has clarified. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Hernández suggested that we send the motion to our elected officials. Mayor Martinez suggested to also send to L.A. Mayor Villaraigosa's office, Senate Appropriations and to the author of the bill.

ADJOURNMENT (5:57 P.M.)

By consensus, the meeting was adjourned.