

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

December 12, 2019

**McFARLAND CITY COUNCIL
McFARLAND SUCCESSOR AGENCY
McFARLAND PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY
McFARLAND IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY
McFARLAND PARKING AUTHORITY**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem McFarland called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the McFarland Council Chambers, 103 W. Sherwood Ave, McFarland, CA 93250

ROLL CALL

Council Member Present: McFarland, Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez
Council Member Absent: Cantu

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Interim City Manager Pennell, City Attorney Schroeter, Interim Chief of Police/Interim Assistant City Manager Davis, City Clerk Ceja, Administrative Services Director Mosqueda, Community Development Director Lara, and Public Works Director Gonzales

INVOCATION

Mrs. Pam McFarland

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Sally Gonzalez

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Eric Rodriguez, 1111 Moscato St., McFarland. Mr. Rodriguez informed council that he was appointed as the head coach for the varsity baseball team. He would like to invite the council to the ribbon cutting ceremony of the new baseball field.

Margie Martinez, 212 7th St, McFarland. Mrs. Martinez asked the city council if it would be ok for the Lions Club to fundraise for the purchase of a Christmas tree. She mentioned to council that the tree will be donated to the city and it would be the city's discretion where they would like to place the tree. City Manager will add this item to the next council agenda for discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA

Note: Items #5, 6, and 7 Pulled by Council Member Melendez For Discussion.

1. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve the warrant register for \$595,481.35 from November 06, 2019 through December 02, 2019.

Vote: 3-0

Ayes: Melendez, Perez, McFarland

Nays: None

Absent: Cantu

Abstentions: Gonzalez

Note: Council Member Gonzales recluses herself from item #1 due to conflict of interest.

2. Motion by Council Member Melendez, second by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve Payroll register for \$130,154.84 for November 2019.

Vote: 3-0

Ayes: Melendez, Perez, McFarland

Nays: None

Absent: Cantu

Abstentions: Gonzalez

Note: Council Member Gonzales recluses herself from item #2 due to conflict of interest.

3. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of regular City Council meeting of November 14, 2019.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez, McFarland
Nays: None
Absent: Cantu
Abstentions: None
4. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve the request to change the January 9, 2020 City Council meeting to January 16, 2020.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez, McFarland
Nays: None
Absent: Cantu
Abstentions: None
5. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Gonzalez, and unanimously carried to approve the agreement between the City of McFarland and Laura Hanlon for the appointment of Deputy Chief of Police.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: Melendez, Gonzalez, Perez, McFarland
Nays: None
Absent: Cantu
Abstentions: None
Note: Council Member Melendez asked if her position will be full time or part time. Chief Davis responded that it will be a part time position and will be working the days that Chief Davis is off.
6. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve a two year renewal agreement between the City of McFarland and Ronald Brummet Community and Transportation Planning to continue providing consultant services for planning.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez, McFarland
Nays: None
Absent: Cantu
Abstentions: None
Note: Council Member asked why we need to continue with his services. City Manager Pennell responded to Council Member Melendez and said he has a lot of knowledge and his help is very valuable for the South East annexation and the Sphere of Influence expansion.
7. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve to solicit Request for Proposals (RFP) for the selection of a consultant to assist with CDBG Economic Development Over-the-Counter (OTC) projects.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez, McFarland
Nays: None
Absent: Cantu
Abstentions: None
Note: Council Member Melendez asked what Over-the-Counter funds? Community Development Director Lara explained these are CDBG funds for disadvantage communities to develop economic development and they give \$35,000 per job generated.
8. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve the second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 003-2019, Ordinance of the City Council of the City of McFarland Acting in its Capacity as the Legislative Body of City of McFarland Community Facilities District No. 2019-1 (Fire Protection Services) Authorizing the Levy of a Special Tax Therein.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez, McFarland
Nays: None
Absent: Cantu
Abstentions: None

9. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve the agreement between the City of McFarland and Langan Environmental Services to conduct a geologic study of the underground formations of the property located near the wastewater treatment plan to determine whether the property is sufficient for injection of carbon dioxide and sequestration.

Vote: 4-0

Ayes: Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez, McFarland

Nays: None

Absent: Cantu

Abstentions: None

PUBLIC HEARING

10. Mayor Pro Tem McFarland opened the public hearing at 6:30 pm, introduced Ordinance No. 004-2019 for first reading and read as follows:

An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of McFarland Amending Chapter 15.30 "Landscape Water Conservation" of the McFarland Municipal Code to Adopt by Reference the California Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.

Mayor Pro Tem McFarland asked if the audience wished to comment. There were no comments from the audience. He closed the public hearing at 6:35 pm.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

11.

- a. Administration – Mr. Pennell stated that he has been spending the last three weeks reviewing the financial strengths and weaknesses of the city. Mr. Pennell mentioned that the department heads and himself have been working diligently to find solutions and he informed council that he will be bringing a financial plan to the January 16 meeting with a recommendation by council to change course regarding the financial situation. Mr. Pennell wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- b. Finance Department- Mrs. Mosqueda reported that she has lost her Accounting Clerk to City of Wasco. She mentioned that the health benefits were completed last month and new cards will be sent out. She reminded council and audience that City Hall will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day.
- c. Public Works Department – Mr. Gonzales informed council that construction of ATP Project on 5th St will begin beginning of next year, the animal shelter building is up, and the lights at the walking bridge are being repaired. He reminded council that the Christmas Parade will be held this Saturday, December 14.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

None

ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON COMMITTEES

- a. Delano Mosquito Abatement District (DMAD) –Council Member Melendez mentioned there has been 36 cases of Niles and encourages residents to call if they have problems with mosquitos.
- b. Kern Council of Governments (KCOG) – Nothing to report.
- c. McFarland Tri-Agency Partners (MTAP) – Nothing to report.
- d. Kern Economic Development Corporation (KEDC) – Nothing to report.
- e. Kern County Association of Cities (KCAC) – Nothing to report.
- f. Poso Creek IRWMP- Nothing to report.

COUNCIL STATEMENTS

Council Member Perez – Thanked Mr. Gonzales for taking care of the lights at the walking bridge. She mentioned that 2nd St looked really nice with all the Christmas lights. She thanked Chief Davis for

bringing on a new member to the police department and thanked all staff for all their hard work. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Council Member Gonzalez – Thanked the residents for coming out and thanked Chief and all staff and welcomed Deputy Chief Hanlon.

Council Member Melendez – Thanked everyone and is looking to see what Deputy Chief Hanlon has to offer.

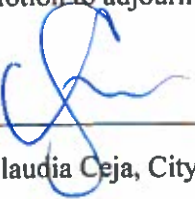
Mayor Pro Tem McFarland – Mentioned that despite what the city has gone through the city hasn't given up and knows that god will meet the needs for the city. He thanked each and every person at the city for all they do.

CLOSED SESSION

1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 54956.9: one potential case. – No Reportable Action.
2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
Name of Case: City of McFarland v. Ballesteros – No Reportable Action

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 pm.



Claudia Ceja, City Clerk

