

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
IN PERSON MEETING
September 16, 2021

MCFARLAND CITY COUNCIL
MCFARLAND SUCCESSOR AGENCY
MCFARLAND PUBLIC FINANCE AUTHORITY
MCFARLAND IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY
MCFARLAND PARKING AUTHORITY

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mayor Gonzalez, Mayor Pro Tem Pérez, Councilmember Ayon
Councilmember Cano

Council Members Absent: Councilmember Santillano

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Chief of Police/Interim City Manager Williams, City Attorney Hodges, Community Development
Director Lara, Finance Director Lara, Public Works Director Gonzales, Interim City Clerk Drake

INVOCATION

Councilmember Cano

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Ayon

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Public Comments closed at 6:02 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Motion was made by: Councilmember Cano to approve Warrant Register for \$1,087,800.19 from August 16, 2021, through August 31, 2021.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None

2. Motion was made by: Councilmember Cano to approve Payroll Report for \$206,316.43 from August 1, 2021, through August 31, 2021; 2nd by: Mayor Pro Tem.
Vote: 3/0
Ayes: Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: Gonzalez

**Mayor Gonzalez recused herself from item #2 due to marriage.*

3. Motion was made by: Councilmember Cano to approve August 26, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes; 2nd by: Mayor Pro Tem.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None

4. Motion was made by: Councilmember Cano to approve August 31, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes; 2nd by: Mayor Pro Tem.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None
5. Motion was made by: Councilmember Cano to approve September 9, 2021, Special Meeting Minutes; 2nd by: Mayor Pro Tem.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None

PUPBIC HEARINGS

6. Public Hearing to discuss Second and Final Reading of City Council Ordinance No. 0006-2021 an Uncodified Ordinance of the City of McFarland approving A Development Agreement Between the City of McFarland and LeOra, LLC., for the development of Tract 7393 and 7394, (APN 060-090-29) Southwest of Intersection Taylor Ave/Garzoli.

- a. Mayor Gonzalez opened the Public Hearing to receive public testament. Community Development Director Lara summarizes Ordinance No. 0006-2021 and recognizes Developer Dr. Hair. Director Lara inquires as to whether the Council has any questions about the Ordinance. There Council does not have any questions.
- b. Mayor Gonzalez opened the Public Hearing to the public to make comments and introduce Ordinance No. 0006-2021 for a second reading.

No comments.

Public comments Closed at 6:06 pm.

- c. Motion was made by Coucilmember Cano to adopt Ordinance No. 0006-2021. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MCFARLAND, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING AN UNCODIFIED ORDINANCE, APPROVING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF MCFARLAND AND LEORA LLC FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRACT 7393 AND 7394 LOCATED AT APN (060-090-29) SOUTHWEST OF INTERSECTION TAYLOR AVE/GARZOLI AVE; 2nd by Councilmemeber Ayon.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. **Administration** – Chief of Police Williams- The new Human Resources Manager will be starting October 4th. Movie in the park was a success and great for the community. The City's website has been updated and is more user friendly. The microphone system at the City Council Chamber is being evaluated for a better quality sound system. The animal shelter's Facebook page has pictures of the animals in the shelter for the purpose of adoption and reuniting pets and owners. A new transit operator has been hired.
- b. **Police Department** – Chief of Police Williams- A new dispatcher has completed their background check and will start October 4th. Assistance from citizens with Crime Watch has aided police in finding and returning car parts, as well as finding the allegedly guilty parties. The police force is now fully staffed. Positions of Sargent and Corporal are vacant. A background check is currently in the process for another dispatcher. McFarland will have around the clock police coverage for the first time since 2019. The Halloween event will be happening. The Police Department website has been updated.
- c. **Finance Department** – Finance Director Lara- The Finance Department is continuing its audit. After meeting with an auditor, it was concluded bank reconciliation needs to be done. A person to perform bank reconciliation is needed. A virtual meeting with auditors will be held, and the results will be reported back to the Council. The method used by the Finance Department is of

good quality. However, being understaffed and having a backlog of work from years past has hindered the process. The Finance Department will be able to meet its September 30th deadline.

- d. **Public Works Department** – Public Works Director Gonzales- Road work is being completed which will last for a long time. Solar powered blinking stop signs will be put by schools. The department is working to install more cameras with the goal of having cameras throughout the city. The department is working with code enforcement to remove vandalism, and they are removing trash and debris for the city to be up to code. The transit audit was satisfactory. There will be curb pick up available for the disabled and elderly.
- e. **Community Development** – Community Development Director Lara- The department is working with code enforcement to keep the city up to date. To help businesses, increase sales tax, and improve overall quality of life, the department is working with a sign company. Grants are in their final processes. The fence around I-5 is letting the landscape mature and help prevent vandalism. Building inspections are ongoing and the department is looking to into reopening locations. EV charging stations are being built in McFarland. As of now, one needs to go to Bakersfield for the closest EV charging station.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

- 1. Motion was made by: Councilmember Ayon to approve Contract Change Order #4 with Superior Construction for Electric Vehicle Charging Station at 100 E. Industrial Street Project and authorize the Public Works Director to execute change order; 2nd by: Councilmember Cano.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None
- 2. Motion was made by Councilmember Cano to approve approval of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of McFarland establishing A City Council Ad Hoc Committee to review City Ordinances and Business Development Opportunities; 2nd by Councilmember Cano.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None
- 3. Motion made by Councilmember Ayon to approve the City of McFarland Facility Use Agreement for Veteran's Hall for non-profit organizations; 2nd by Councilmember Cano.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None
- 4. Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Pérez to approve changing the Regular City Council Meetings for November 2021 from November 11th to the 10th and November 25th to the 24th, 2nd by Mr. Ayon.
Vote: 4/0
Ayes: Gonzalez, Pérez, Ayon, Cano
Nays: None
Absent: Santillano
Abstentions: None

REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON COMMITTEE/SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETINGS

- a. Delano Mosquito Abatement District (DMAD) – Council Member Ricardo Cano- None to report
- b. Kern Council of Governments (KCOG) – None to report
- c. McFarland Tri-Agency Partners (MTAP) – None to report
- d. Kern Economic Development Corp. (KEDC) – None to report
- e. Kern County Association of Cities (KCAC) – None to report
- f. Poso Creek IRWMP – None to report

COUNCIL STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Ayon addressed a complaint against the Police Department. Mr. Ayon stated that the Council meetings and public comments have a system which needs to be followed. Additionally, there must be evidence for accusations.

Mayor Pro Tem expressed she is looking forward to the upcoming events and conference and thanked the public's involvement in their community.

Councilmember Cano wanted to thank everyone for their work, especially those with animal control. He appreciates updating the Facebook page and trying to reunite pets with their owners as quickly as possible. Mr. Cano is pleased with changes in the community and recognized how the citizens are making an effort. If any citizen needs assistance, he encouraged them to reach out to him.

Mayor Gonzalez expressed her appreciation towards the staff, those at the animal shelter, and the public. Mrs. Gonzalez is especially appreciative of Catalina Nunez, assistant to the Chief of Police, for organizing and updating the Police's website.

CLOSED SESSION

1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (§ 54956.9) - Morales v. City of McFarland, et al. United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:21-CV-00995-DAD-JLT

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.



Sarah Drake, Interim City Clerk

Sally Gonzalez, Mayor