

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 22, 2019**

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Cantu called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. in the McFarland Council Chambers, 103 W. Sherwood Ave, McFarland, CA 93250

ROLL CALL

Council Member Present: Cantu, McFarland, Melendez, Perez, Gonzalez
Council Member Absent: None

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Interim City Manager Tooley, 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

Mayor Pro Tem McFarland

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Perez

PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Jose Hernandez, 602 7th St, McFarland, Mr. Hernandez asked for permission to hold a Veteran's Parade which will be hosted by the McFarland Lions Club. Mayor Cantu asked Mr. Hernandez to meet with Interim City Manager Tooley to discuss the parade.

Laura Melendez, 1201 E. California Ave, Bakersfield, Ms. Melendez thanked council for allowing Senator Hurtado's office to use the Veteran's Hall for their workshop and invited the public to attend the Scam Stopper workshop.

Pam McFarland, 1169 Burgundy McFarland, Mrs. McFarland suggested to council that the flashing speed limit sign be positioned at Mast so that it can be a deterrent to speeders and also Garzoli be a 35 mph beyond the school zone instead of 25. Mayor Cantu asked Interim City Manager to evaluate the possibilities.

Israel Perez, 2508 Vista Ct, Delano, Mr. Perez addressed his concern with the potholes on 6th Street behind the continuation school. Mayor Cantu asked Public Works Director Gonzales to go out and evaluate.

Jesse Ramos, Delano, Mr. Ramos expressed is concern with Davis Rd. He feels that street is very bad and needs to be repaired. Public Works Director Gonzales explained that he understands Davis Rd is a main artery but at this time, there is no money to repair the road as it is badly damaged and it will be expensive to repair.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Motion by Council Member Melendez, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve the warrant register for \$633,715.45 from July 30, 2019 through August 13, 2019.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: Melendez, Perez, McFarland, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: Gonzalez

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

2. Motion by Council Member Gonzales, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of regular City Council meeting of August 8, 2019.
Vote: 5-0
Ayes: Gonzalez, McFarland, Perez, Melendéz, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: None

PUBLIC HEARING

None

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

3. a. Administration – Mr. Tooley reminded council of the water rate listening session taking place August 27.
- b. Finance Department – Mrs. Mosqueda informed council that staff has been working on budget presentation as well as coordinating the 2017-18 and 2018-19 audit. In addition, staff has been working on explaining to customers the new water and sewer rates. Mrs. Mosqueda expressed her appreciation towards her staff for handling the concerns of upset customers.

Council Member Melendez asked Interim City Manager as well as staff to send out a press release to the media regarding the water rate listening session.

- c. Public Works Department – Mr. Gonzales informed council that the old library is now demolished, the weeds at the Mr. Arbor well has been cleaned, the letter at the monument on Elmo is repaired, the procedures and policies for the cooling center will be brought to the next council meeting, he is waiting on a response to get the marquee sign back up, and the landscape on the housing tract on Elmo will be cleaned. In addition, Kern Ave between 5th and 6th St will be repaired with SB1 funding. Public Works has evaluated 6th St but unfortunately, there is no funding to repair all of 6th St.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA

4. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem McFarland, seconded by Council Member Perez, and unanimously carried to approve the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Annual Operating and Capital Budget and adopt Resolution No. 2019-030.
Vote: 4-0
Ayes: McFarland, Perez, Melendez, Cantu
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstentions: Gonzalez

Note: Council Member Gonzalez excused herself from the city council chambers due to conflict of interest due to her husband currently employed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Interim City Manager Tooley explained to council where the city stands now. He informed council that there is a possibility that there will be police services cut, he gave an alternative to water and sewer rates, and he also mentioned that the City Manager position as well as the Interim Chief of Police position will be reduced to 3 days of week in order to save the city some money.

Council Member Melendez is happy to know that there is an alternative to lowering water and sewer rates.

Council Member Perez thanked Interim City Manager for being transparent and appreciates that he is keeping council informed.

Mayor Cantu expressed his concern with giving the residents a false sense of hope by lowering the rates and having to increase them again next year. He feels this will confuse the residents.

Mayor Pro Tem McFarland agrees that rates need to stay the same due to the city's financial status.

All council agrees to leave rates the same.

Finance Director Mosqueda gave a detail budget presentation to council.

Mayor Cantu asked why the Tri-Agency Partners Grant Write position was cut since it's a collaborative between the city, school district, and the recreation and parks. He mentioned the Grant Writer position would be brought to the next Tri-Agency meeting to discuss the advertisement of the position. Mrs. Mosqueda explained to council that if they want to move forward with hiring a grant writer there would need to be an amendment to the budget.

Council Member Gonzalez stepped back in to the council chambers to continue with the meeting.

5. Motion by Council Member Perez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem McFarland, and unanimously carried to approve engineering services agreement with Cannon Corporation for the analysis of percolation of effluent in the storage ponds at the wastewater treatment plant.

Vote: 5-0

Ayes: Perez, McFarland, Gonzalez, Melendez, Cantu

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstentions: None

ORAL REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL ON COMMITTEES

- a. Delano Mosquito Abatement District (DMAD) – None to report.
- b. Kern Council of Governments (KCOG) – None to report.
- c. McFarland Tri-Agency Partners (MTAP) – Mayor Cantu reported that Mr. Aaron Resendez would be the new Executive Manager for the Tri-Agency Partners.
- d. Kern Economic Development Corporation (KEDC) – None to report.
- e. Kern County Association of Cities (KCAC) – Mayor Cantu reminded council that the next meeting is August 26.

COUNCIL STATEMENTS

Council Member Perez – Thanked Rocio for her hard work on the budget.

Mayor Pro Tem McFarland – Thanked everyone and prays that everything gets better.

Gonzalez – Thanked everyone for going above and beyond and appreciates all the work staff does.

Melendez – Likes the disciplinary plan the city has and thanked staff for all the hard work.

Mayor Cantu – Affirmed everyone that things will get better, encourages everyone to be strong, and thanked everyone.

CLOSED SESSION

1. Public Employee Appointment
Title: City Manager – No Action Taken
2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Gov. C. Section 54956.9: 24 cases – No Action Taken
3. Conference with Real Property Negotiators
Property: APN 201-060-42
Agency Negotiator: City Manager
Negotiating Parties: Mahavir Gill or Assignee
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment – No Action Taken

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm.



Claudia Ceja, City Clerk



