



APPROVED: 10/8/2020

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

September 10, 2020

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rounds called the meeting to order via teleconference at 6:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members present: Council Members/Directors: Mora, Rodriguez, Zamora, Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair Mora, and Mayor/Chair Rounds.

Members absent: None

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following individuals spoke during Public Comment: 1) Francis Carbajal; 2) Summer Manilla.

HOUSING SUCCESSOR

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of the August 13, 2020 Housing Successor (City Clerk)

Recommendation:

- Approve the minutes as submitted.

It was moved by Council Member Trujillo, seconded by Councilmember Zamora, to approve the minutes as submitted, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds

Nayes: None

Absent: None

SUCCESSOR AGENCY

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes of the August 13, 2020 Successor Agency (City Clerk)

Recommendation:

- Approve the minutes as submitted.

It was moved by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mora, to approve the minutes as submitted, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds

Nayes: None

Absent: None

CITY COUNCIL

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of the August 13, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting (City Clerk)

Recommendation:

- Approve the minutes as submitted.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Mora, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez, to approve the consent agenda, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds

Nayes: None

Absent: None

NEW BUSINESS

7. First Amendment to Site Lease with Option between the City of Santa Fe Springs and PTI US Towers II, LLC, A Delaware Limited Liability Company, as Ultimate Successor in Interest to T-Mobile West Corporation (Planning)

Recommendation:

- Approve the First Amendment to Site Lease with Option between the City of Santa Fe Springs and PTI US Towers II, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as ultimate successor in interest to T-Mobile West Corporation; and
- Authorize the Mayor to execute the First Amendment.

It was moved by Councilmember Zamora, seconded by Councilmember Trujillo, to approve the First Amendment to Site Lease with Option between the City of Santa Fe Springs and PTI US Towers II, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, as ultimate successor in interest to T-Mobile West Corporation; and authorize the Mayor to execute the First Amendment, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds

Nayes: None

Absent: None

8. Authorize the Purchase of Self-Checkout Machines from Bibliotheca by Piggybacking off of Sourcewell Cooperative Contract No. 081419-SHI (Community Services)

Recommendation:

- Authorize the purchase of self-checkout machines from Bibliotheca by piggybacking off of Sourcewell cooperative contract No. 081419-SHI and;
- Authorize the Director of Purchasing Services to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$28,863.31 for this transaction.

It was moved by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mora, to authorize the purchase of self-checkout machines from Bibliotheca by piggybacking off of Sourcewell cooperative contract No. 081419-SHI and; authorize the Director of Purchasing Services to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$28,863.31 for this transaction, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds

Nayes: None
Absent: None

9. Resolution No. 9692 – Request for Parking Restriction along Gannet Street between Radburn Avenue and Bonavista Avenue (Public Works)

Recommendation:

- Adopt Resolution No. 9692 to prohibit the parking and stopping of vehicles on the west/south side of Gannet Street from a point 200 feet north of Radburn Avenue to Bonavista Avenue and implement a tow-away zone within the same limits for vehicles that violate the restriction.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Mora, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez, to adopt Resolution No. 9692 to prohibit the parking and stopping of vehicles on the west/south side of Gannet Street from a point 200 feet north of Radburn Avenue to Bonavista Avenue and implement a tow-away zone within the same limits for vehicles that violate the restriction, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds
Nayes: None
Absent: None

10. On-Call Professional Engineering Services Contract Extension – Approve Extension for Six Existing Contracts (Public Works)

Recommendation:

- Approve Contract Amendments for each of the following six (6) On-Call Engineering Firms to extend the term of each Agreement to June 30, 2021; and
- Authorize the Mayor to execute Contract Amendment Number Three for each of the On-Call Engineering Firms.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Mora, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez, to approve contract amendments for each of the following six (6) On-Call Engineering Firms to extend the term of each Agreement to June 30, 2021; and authorize the Mayor to execute the contract amendment number three for each of the On-Call Engineering Firms, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds
Nayes: None
Absent: None

11. Los Nietos Road Street Improvements – Award of Contract (Public Works)

Recommendation:

- Accept the bids; and
- Award a contract to All American Asphalt of Corona, California, in the amount of \$2,634,444.00.

It was moved by Councilmember Zamora, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez, to accept the bids; and award a contract to All American Asphalt of Corona, California, in the amount of \$2,634,444.00, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds

Nayes: None
Absent: None

12. Resolution No. 9693 – Updating the List of Designated Employees Required to File a Conflict of Interest Form (City Clerk)

Recommendation:

- Adopt Resolution No. 9693, updating the list of designated employees required to file a conflict of interest form.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Mora, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez, to adopt Resolution No. 9693, updating the list of designated employees required to file a conflict of interest form, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Zamora, Mora, Rounds
Nayes: None
Absent: None

13. Consideration of Investigation Report and Possible Corrective Action Regarding Council Member Joe Angel Zamora's November 11, 2019 Conduct with Respect to a Fire Department Employee (Special Counsel)

Recommendation:

- Consider whether or not to take corrective action regarding Council Member Joe Angel Zamora's conduct on November 11, 2019 as established in the Investigation Report prepared by Gabriel Sandoval, Esq. of AALRR.
- If the City Council decides to take some type of corrective action, decide the manner of corrective action to take after providing Council Member Zamora with an opportunity to respond to the investigation report.
- Options for corrective action involving elected officials are limited, but include a resolution of censure and/or re-training on applicable City policies.

Special Counsel Geoffrey Sheldon made a brief presentation on Item No. 13.

Mayor Rounds opened the item for Public Comment.

The following individuals spoke during public comment:

Michelle Carbajal, Alyssa Loo, Maria Jaramillo, Maria Gonzalez, Mrs. Miranda.

City Clerk Janet Martinez announced there were some technical difficulties that were not allowing further individuals from the public to login into the meeting.

Mayor Rounds called for recess until the situation was resolved to allow additional members of the public to login into the meeting.

Mayor Rounds recessed at 6:31 p.m.

Mayor Rounds reconvened the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Mayor rounds opened the public comment portion again:

The Following individuals spoke during public comment:

Ray Loo, Georgina Avilez, Blake Carter, Loretta Aguilar, Janette Rodriguez, Martha Silva, Ms. Escobar, Hannah, Gilbert Reveles and Marlene Curtis.

Mayor Rounds closed public comment.

Mayor Rounds asked Council Member Zamora if he wished to make a statement.

Council Member Zamora stated that he is saddened by this situation and the pain it has caused his family. He also said it is unfortunate how the community continues to be dragged around but more importantly his family and the pain it has caused them. He knows exactly what transpired and that the truth will be illuminated. He said he would continue to serve the entire community the way he has always done and will focus his time and energy on providing the essential services and safeguards needed during these unprecedented times.

Council Member Trujillo expressed how difficult it is going through this process and how it can be emotional at the same time. She stated it was not brought forward by Council because of the upcoming election, but because it involved a child a child's feelings. She stated that as a parent if she was in that situation one would do anything to protect the child. She also expressed how she was disappointed how the topic was turned to her. She expressed again that this issue was brought forward because it involved a child and it is not due to the elections.

Council Member Rodriguez expressed sadness due to the situation that is occurring right now, and also expressed how difficult it was for her to do this as part of her job. She stated she made her decisions based on the exhibits and investigation. She said has never observed or experienced Council Member Zamora being disrespectful to her and that he has always been a gentleman to her. She believes that Council Member Zamora was joking and the joking went bad and was not received well. She also shared a similar experience to the one Council Member Trujillo shared where her granddaughter was yelled at by an elected official, however, she remained calm and respectful despite her granddaughter going through a lot of trauma. She also spoke about requesting additional training for Council Member Zamora, and that Council Members take training every two years, including a code of conduct that they have to abide by. That is why it is on the agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Mora expressed how tough this particular situation is and how no one wants to be in this situation. He also noted that his interactions with Council Member Zamora are minimal, and also noted that he always tries to separate business and personal. He said that his thoughts are solely based on the report that was provided to them as part of this item. He stated that the allegations were found to be disturbing. As Council Member he relies on Department heads and attorneys to provide him with the full details; however, in this situation it is different as the only information he has is what is included in the report since he was not at the Golf Course. He expressed how the report listed that there was a violation of code of conduct and code of ethics. Since there was a complaint filed, by state law, action needs to be taken. He expressed how Council Member Zamora has done a lot for the community and this action is just based on this report. He believes this is not a smear campaign and that the Fire

Department did not endorse him when he was running for Council.

Mayor Rounds expressed how this agenda item is awkward and uncomfortable for him when he has worked with Council Member Zamora for almost 5 years and also known him prior to that. He noted that as elected officials they are required to take ethics training, harassment training and discrimination training, in addition to following the code of conduct. He also addressed a comment made on a written statement; he noted he did not call for this investigation and expressed how there was no Council Member that called for an investigation. By law since there was a complaint filed, the City was required to move forward with an investigation. He also expressed how this investigation cost the City \$80,000. He also briefly spoke about the written information provided in the investigation report listed on Item No. 13.

Council Member Trujillo asked legal counsel for guidance on what actions can be taken and also what can be done to bring forward a discussion of appointments to Committees.

City Attorney Ivy M. Tsai stated that the Council has the option to direct staff to bring the item forward at a future meeting.

Special Counsel Geoffrey Sheldon stated that the item is on the agenda tonight to take corrective action. He stated that Council has limited options of what can be done such as doing nothing, having Councilmember Zamora or the entire Council take some kind of training, or a Resolution of Censure, which is a public declaration of Council that the findings are unacceptable and warning not to do it again.

Mayor Rounds made the following motion:

Censure through Resolution and Mr. Zamora be retrained in the City's code of conduct for elected and appointed officials, code of ethics and City's harassment and discrimination policy.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mora.

It was moved by Mayor Rounds, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Mora, to censure through Resolution and Mr. Zamora be retrained in the City's code of conduct for elected and appointed officials, code of ethics and City's harassment and discrimination policy, by the following vote:

Ayes: Rodriguez, Trujillo, Mora, Rounds
Nayes: None
Abstain: Zamora

Mayor Rounds directed staff to bring back the Council Appointments to Commission and Committees on a future meeting.

14. CITY MANAGER AND EXECUTIVE TEAM REPORTS

- City Manager, Raymond R. Cruz spoke about how the City has over 3,000 businesses that are currently struggling to stay open due to COVID-19. Small businesses have been impacted significantly; because of that reason City staff is currently working on a small business grant program that is funded through CDBG allocations. He estimates for the program to be ready the end of September.

- Director of Public Works, Noe Negrete provided an update on the Florence Avenue Widening project and the Public Works vehicles that were due for replacement.
- Director of Planning, Wayne Morrell spoke about the City's newsletter for September and October. He noted that there are a number of items such as an article on how the City has been assisting businesses on how to adapt to the new COVID-19 restrictions. He stated that on the first page there is also a survey for the residents to fill out. There is also Census information and an update on the City's proposed General Plan.
- Director of Police Services, Dino Torres spoke about the first Safe Neighborhood Meeting held this past Tuesday; he noted that the next meeting is scheduled for November. He also thanked Council Member Rodriguez for the suggestion and for the rest of the Council that attended.
- Fire Chief, Brent Hayward spoke about how the Department of Fire and Rescue are continuing to assist citizens that are currently being affected by the ongoing fires. He also provided an update on the crews that have returned and also provided the status on the fires. Lastly, he spoke about the fundraiser for the Relay for Life such as the potato bake event.
- Director of Finance, Travis Hickey provided an update on employee training that is scheduled for the next few weeks.
- Director of Library Services, Joyce Ryan spoke about the current classes that are returning. She also spoke about Milestones and how resident's milestone birthdays are currently being posted on social media. She also spoke about the next Drive-In Movie which will feature the movie "Grease" which is scheduled for September 18th at 7:30 p.m. at Little Lake Park; registration for the movie will open on September 12th exclusively for Santa Fe Springs residents. Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, and Christmas Float Sub Committee will meet for the first time this season on September 15th via Zoom to adhere to the new safety guidelines. Lastly, she announced the Fiestas Patrias drive-in concert will be held at 6pm on Saturday, September 12th at St. Paul High School.

15. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Rodriguez thanked Dino, Daryl, Council Member Zamora and Mayor Rounds whom attended the meeting. She also thanked the Fire Department.

Councilmember Trujillo expressed how she would like to have more positive meetings in the near future. She also thanked staff for all their help. She expressed the importance of law enforcement staff.

Councilmember Zamora spoke about the victims that are losing their homes due to the ongoing wildfires. He also expressed the importance of law enforcement, fire fighters and first responders. He also thanked staff. Lastly, he spoke about 9/11 and how everyone became a first responder that day.

Mayor Pro Tem Mora thanked Public Works Director Noe Negrete for the vehicles he brought forward to be replaced. He also wished Mr. Bobadilla happy Milestone birthday. Lastly, he thanked the firefighters for all their help. He expressed how it was a tough meeting today and how they will be moving forward.

Mayor Rounds is grateful to still be able to celebrate Fiestas Patrias and he expressed how it will be a great night for those that are able to attend. He also spoke about the fires and the firefighters that are helping all the victims. Lastly, he agreed with the comments made at tonight's meeting, and hopes that it does not have to occur again.

CLOSED SESSION

16. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

(Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1))

Name of case: City of Santa Fe Springs v. SFS Hospitality, LLC et al; Case Number 20STCV33264

Mayor Rounds recessed the meetings at 7:53 p.m.

Mayor Rounds convened the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

17. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

City Attorney, Ivy M. Tsai, provided a report on the closed session items: Direction was given to staff and no reportable action was taken.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Rounds adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

ATTEST:


Janet Martinez, City Clerk


William K. Rounds, Mayor


Date