



APPROVED: 6/3/2021

## MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

May 4, 2021

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Mora called the meeting to order via teleconference at 6:18 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

**Members present:** Councilmembers/Directors: Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair Rodriguez and Mayor/Chair Mora.

**Members absent:** None.

3. **INVOCATION**

Mayor Mora led the invocation.

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jenn Hernandez submitted written comments regarding the recent shooting by Los Nietos Park and in opposition to Item No. 15, and Maria Torres submitted a written comment in opposition to Item No. 9. The following people spoke during Public Comments: Angel Sotelo from North Star Land Care, Maria Diaz, Eddie Martinez, Victor Gonzalez from West Coast Arborists, and Leticia Vasquez-Wilson from the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

### HOUSING SUCCESSOR

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

*Consent Agenda items are considered routine matters which may be enacted by one motion and vote. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately by the Housing Successor.*

Minutes of the April 6, 2021 Housing Successor Meeting (City Clerk)

**Recommendation:**

- Approve the minutes as submitted.

It was moved by Council Member Zamora, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, to approve the minutes as submitted, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodriguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

### SUCCESSOR AGENCY

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Consent Agenda items are considered routine matters which may be enacted by one motion and vote. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately by the Successor Agency.*

Minutes of the April 6, 2021 Successor Agency Meeting (City Clerk)

**Recommendation:**

- Approve the minutes as submitted.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, seconded by Council Member Sarno, to approve the minutes as submitted, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

**CITY COUNCIL**

**8. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Consent Agenda items are considered routine matters which may be enacted by one motion and vote. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately by the City Council.*

a. Minutes of the April 6, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting (City Clerk)

**Recommendation:**

- Approve the minutes as submitted.

b. Subcommittee Updates

**Recommendation:**

- Receive and file the meeting report.

It was moved by Council Member Trujillo, seconded by Council Member Sarno, to approve the consent agenda, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**9. Tree Maintenance Services – Award of Contract (Public Works)**

**Recommendation:**

- Accept the proposals;
- Award a contract to West Coast Arborists, Inc. from Anaheim, California for Tree Maintenance Services; and
- Authorize the Mayor to Execute On-Call Tree Maintenance Services agreement with West Coast Arborist, Inc.

Director of Public Works, Noe Negrete provided an update on Item No. 9. The contract was extended for another month on April 6, 2021 pending further evaluation of the proposals, and there were a total of five (5) contractors submitting proposals. He talked about RFP Criteria and the advancement of the three (3) finalists which were West Coast Arborists, Mariposa Tree Management, Inc., and North Star Land Care. Director Negrete introduced Municipal Services

Manager, Kevin Periman, to provide additional information on each of the three finalists. He highlighted specific issues with North Star Land Care from working with them in the past at a different municipality.

Council Member Zamora asked if TLC and North Star were the same company. Manager Periman stated that they were formerly known as TLC, but the personnel remained the same.

Director Negrete commented that West Coast Arborists submitted an unsolicited final bid down from \$172,000 to \$150,000 as they are cognizant of cities being affected by COVID-19 and the ensuing impact to revenues. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez asked why Council was not notified when West Coast Arborist changed their bid, and why the other bidders were not given an opportunity to submit revised bids. City Attorney Ivy M. Tsai stated that Council may provide that direction if they wish to do so. Director Negrete stated that Public Works did not request for West Coast Arborists to submit a revised bid, and the reason for providing the revised bid on the agenda only was due to time constraints. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez stated that they should be ethical with all vendors. City Attorney Tsai stated that Council may give the direction to review all new bids if they wish to do so.

Municipal Services Manager Periman continued to elaborate on the RFP Criteria, and highlighted that West Coast Arborists are recommended by staff as they best meet the RFP criteria previously noted. Councilmember Zamora asked about TLC being the same company as North Star, and also inquired about TLC not being in operation as they bid against each other at separate municipalities. Manager Periman commented that North Star reported in their interview that they broke off and changed their name from TLC to North Star due to ownership issues. Councilmember Zamora asked if North Star submitted a revised bid. Director Negrete stated that they did submit a revised bid closer to \$146,000 prior to the start of the Council Meeting. Mayor Mora asked if there have been any quality of work issues with West Coast Arborists in the past. Director Negrete and Manager Periman replied no.

Councilmember Trujillo asked if there are separate charges for the times when a contractor needs to rent equipment to complete a job, specifically citing North Star. Director Negrete stated that depending on the type of job and equipment needed, it may take more time for the job to be completed if a company does not have the right equipment. He added that the City would have to negotiate a price on anything that was not included on the list based on time and materials.

Mayor Mora asked if Director Negrete had an opportunity to visit West Coast Arborist's yard and headquarters. Director Negrete stated that they visited their headquarters in Anaheim, CA and were able to see their technological instruments and equipment. He stated that the address they visited provided by North Star was their CPA's office, and that they had separate offices in Huntington Park and the Inland Empire. Director Negrete stated that they did not have an opportunity to visit Mariposa's headquarters.

Councilmember Sarno commented that it would be prudent for Council to make a selection and to minimize the amount of time spend debating back and forth. Councilmember Trujillo commented about quality vs. quantity, and respects the work done by Public Works staff. She added that Councilmembers have the responsibility to do their own research and ask their own questions, noting the price difference.

Councilmember Trujillo moved to award a contract to West Coast Arborist and to discuss the pricing if needed. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez stated that she had a problem with was the lack of communication because staff did not provide the information Council had requested the first time. She also added that Manager Periman had made it seem like North Star had worked for the City before, and was not aware that he had worked for a different municipality. She believed she received the information with the assumption that North Star had worked for the City in the past.

Councilmember Sarno asked Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez who she would like to choose. City Attorney Tsai made a point of order that a motion was made. Councilmember Sarno seconded the motion made by Councilmember Trujillo, commenting that sometimes a vendor refresh is necessary to see what other companies are capable of offering and to avoid one company monopolizing a service.

Councilmember Zamora made a substitute motion to select North Star Land Care, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez. City Attorney Tsai clarified that the first roll call vote would be for Councilmember Zamora's substitute motion:

**Ayes:** Rodriguez, Zamora  
**Nayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Mora  
**Absent:** None

Councilmember Sarno asked Director Negrete about the RFP process and how contracts get extended. Director Negrete stated that the 2017 RFP contract was a two-year contract with a two-year extension due to a prevailing wage issue. This contract is a four-year contract with prices locked in. City Attorney Tsai stated that there are termination provisions with the contract. Councilmember Sarno directed staff to bring back an item to the Council on the performance on the one-year anniversary of the contract.

Councilmember Sarno made a friendly amendment to the original motion by Councilmember Trujillo to award the contract to West Coast Arborists, Inc., and to include a not-to-exceed of \$275,000. Councilmember Trujillo accepted the friendly amendment to her original motion.

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Mora  
**Nayes:** Rodriguez, Zamora  
**Absent:** None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

10. Renewal of Five-Year Weed Abatement Services Agreement Services Agreement with the County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (City Clerk)

### **Recommendation:**

- Approve the renewal of a five-year services agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and the County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures for weed abatement services.

It was moved by Council Member Zamora, seconded by Council Member Sarno, to approve the renewal of a five-year services agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and the County of Los Angeles Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures for weed abatement services, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

**11. Approval of Amendment Number Three to Lease Agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and The Whole Child (TWC) for use of modular building located at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center (Community Services)**

**Recommendation:**

- Approve Amendment Number Three to Lease Agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and The Whole Child to extend the lease term by five (5) months for use of the modular building located at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center with a monthly rent of \$523 for the extended period.
- Authorize the Mayor to execute and sign Amendment Number Three to Lease Agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and the Whole Child.

Director of Library Services, Joyce Ryan provided a brief presentation on Item No. 11. Councilmember Zamora asked if after the five-month period the City would go to market rate. City Attorney Ivy M. Tsai stated that there is no extension after five months, and whatever happens afterward would come forward to Council. Mayor Mora asked if the tenant had any plans not to move out prior to the end of the five months. Director Ryan stated that they are hoping to move out by September 2021 or the early part of October 2021.

It was moved by Council Member Sarno, seconded by Council Member Zamora, to approve Amendment Number Three to Lease Agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and The Whole Child to extend the lease term by five (5) months for use of the modular building located at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center with a monthly rent of \$523 for the extended period, and authorize the Mayor to execute and sign Amendment Number Three to Lease Agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and the Whole Child, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

**12. Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Use Agreement for Athletic Fields and Facilities between the City of Santa Fe Springs and Metropolitan Little League for 2021-2023 (Community Services)**

**Recommendation:**

- Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Use Agreement for Athletic Fields and Facilities with the Metropolitan Little League for 2021-2023.
- Authorize the Mayor to execute and sign Amendment No. 1 to Use Agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and Metropolitan Little League.

It was moved by Council Member Trujillo, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Use Agreement for Athletic Fields and Facilities with the Metropolitan Little League for 2021-2023, and authorize the Mayor to execute and sign Amendment No. 1 to Use Agreement between the City of Santa Fe Springs and Metropolitan Little League, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

**13. Recommendation for Implementation of County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health, Appendix Z of the Health Officer Order (Protocol for Live Events and Performances [Outdoor Seated] for the Concert and Fireworks Show at the annual Independence Day Event on July 3, 2021 (Community Services)**

**Recommendation:**

- Approve staff's recommendations for the implementation Plan of Compliance for the Concert and Firework Show at the Annual Independence Day event on July 3, 2021

Parks and Recreation Manager, Gus Hernandez provided a presentation on Item No. 13. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez thanked all the staff for their work in regards to this item. Councilmember Sarno asked what would happen once the 1,800 capacity has been reached at Los Nietos Park. Manager Hernandez stated that everyone else would be directed to the Jersey Fields for additional, distanced seating. Mayor Mora asked if temperature checks would be required prior to entry, and Councilmember Trujillo asked if additional personnel would be staffed to monitor unauthorized seating outside the event perimeter. Manager Hernandez stated that Parks and Recreation staff will be available, and that a walkthrough meeting is scheduled with Police Services along with other departments to go over plan execution. City Manager Raymond R. Cruz added that only one other neighboring City will be holding a similar event, and that adequate staff would be necessary for a successful execution.

It was moved by Council Member Zamora, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, to approve staff's recommendations for the implementation Plan of Compliance for the Concert and Firework Show at the Annual Independence Day event on July 3, 2021, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

**14. I-605 EIR Public Outreach/Community Engagement – Award of Contract (Public Works)**

**Recommendation:**

- Award a contract to Southstar Engineering & Consulting, Inc., from Riverside, California, for the I-605 EIR Outreach and Community Engagement in the amount of \$21,859.00;
- Approve the Cost Sharing and Reimbursement Agreement;
- Authorize the Mayor to execute Cost Sharing and Reimbursement Agreement; and
- Authorize the Mayor to execute the Professional Services Agreement with

Southstar Engineering & Consulting, Inc.

Director of Public Works, Noe Negrete provided a presentation on Item No. 14. Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez asked about when the City could expect reimbursement. Director Negrete stated that reimbursement would occur after the work is done.

It was moved by Council Member Sarno, seconded by Council Member Trujillo, to award a contract to Southstar Engineering & Consulting, Inc., from Riverside, California, for the I-605 EIR Outreach and Community Engagement in the amount of \$21,859.00, approve the Cost Sharing and Reimbursement Agreement, authorize the Mayor to execute Cost Sharing and Reimbursement Agreement, and authorize the Mayor to execute the Professional Services Agreement with Southstar Engineering & Consulting, Inc., by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

**15. Purchase of Holiday Decorations for City Street Light Poles (Public Works)**

**Recommendation:**

- Issue a Purchase Order to Display Sales of Bloomington, MN in the amount of \$74,755.16;
- Appropriate \$74,755.16 from the General Fund Reserve to a 9000 account; and
- Authorize the Director of Purchasing to execute the Purchase Order.

Director of Public Works, Noe Negrete provided a presentation on Item No. 15. Mayor Mora asked if the new decorations contain LED lights. Director Negrete confirmed that they do.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, seconded by Council Member Sarno, to issue a Purchase Order to Display Sales of Bloomington, MN in the amount of \$74,755.16, appropriate \$74,755.16 from the General Fund Reserve to a 9000 account, and authorize the Director of Purchasing to execute the Purchase Order, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nayes:** None

**Absent:** None

**16. Custodial Services – Amendment Number Five to Approve Daily Disinfectant Fogging at City Facilities (Public Works)**

**Recommendation:**

- Approve Contract Amendment Number Five with EE Building Maintenance to add daily spray disinfectant fogging at City Facilities; and
- Authorize the Mayor to execute Contract Amendment Number Five.

Director of Public Works, Noe Negrete provided a brief presentation on Item No. 16. Councilmember Sarno asked why someone would choose not to receive disinfection at their work space. City Manager Raymond R. Cruz stated that personnel with personal office spaces

prefer to sanitize their own areas, and there is consensus that high contact and communal areas should receive disinfectant fogging.

It was moved by Council Member Sarno, seconded by Council Member Trujillo, to approve Contract Amendment Number Five with EE Building Maintenance to add daily spray disinfectant fogging at City Facilities, and authorize the Mayor to execute Contract Amendment Number Five, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**17. Authorize the Purchase and Installation of Emergency Equipment to Eight (8) Ford Explorer Police Pursuit Vehicles from Dana Safety Supply (Finance)**

**Recommendation:**

- Authorize the purchase and installation of emergency equipment to eight (8) Ford Explorer police pursuit vehicles from Dana Safety Supply;
- Authorize the Director of Purchasing Services to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$104,525 to process this order.

Director of Finance and Administrative Services, Travis Hickey, provided a presentation on Item No. 17.

It was moved by Council Member Zamora, seconded by Council Member Trujillo, to authorize the purchase and installation of emergency equipment to eight (8) Ford Explorer police pursuit vehicles from Dana Safety Supply, and authorize the Director of Purchasing Services to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$104,525 to process this order, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**18. Amendment Number One to the Professional Services Agreement with the consulting firm MIG to add a sub-consultant for the preparation of an Economic Development Element (Planning)**

**Recommendation:**

- Approve Amendment Number One to the Professional Services Agreement with the consultant firm MIG, to add a sub-consultant for the preparation of an Economic Development Element.
- Authorize the Mayor or designee to execute Amendment Number One.

Director of Planning, Wayne Morrell, called upon Senior Planner, Cuong Nguyen, to provide a presentation on Item No. 18.

It was moved by Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez, seconded by Council Member Zamora, to approve Amendment Number One to the Professional Services Agreement with the consultant firm MIG, to add a sub-consultant for the



preparation of an Economic Development Element, and authorize the Mayor or designee to execute Amendment Number One, by the following vote:

**Ayes:** Sarno, Trujillo, Zamora, Rodríguez, Mora

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**19. CITY MANAGER AND EXECUTIVE TEAM REPORTS**

- City Manager, Raymond R. Cruz spoke about the strategic goal setting session provided by John Bramble and Julie Hernandez this past weekend at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center with City Council and Department Heads. Strategic goals would be unveiled to the organization and the community at large in the coming months. He also talked about being formally recognized as a credentialed City Manager by ICMA.
- Director of Public Works, Noe Negrete talked about the opening of the on/off ramps at the Florence Avenue I-5 Freeway. He also talked about the commencement of the Town Center Plaza Parking Lot Improvements Project on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, he talked about the installation of the Santa Fe High School graduation banners and lighting.
- Director of Planning, Wayne Morrell talked about the upcoming General Plan update study session scheduled for the next Council Meeting.
- Director of Police Services, Dino Torres talked about Santa Fe High School showing the "Every 15 Minutes" video through their YouTube channel.
- Battalion Chief, Chad Van Meeteren provided an update on COVID-19 cases within the City. He also talked about the Pierce Factory staff trip to Appleton, Wisconsin.
- Director of Finance and Administrative Services, Travis Hickey wished all the mothers in attendance a Happy Mother's Day.
- Director of Community Services, Maricela Balderas spoke about the vaccine clinic on April 28 at Town Center. She talked about the reopening of the City Library on May 17 to limited capacity, and also talked about a weekly giveaway for Mother's Day. She provided an update on the Summer Camp Program scheduled to begin on June 14<sup>th</sup>, and wished all the mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

**20. PRESENTATIONS**

- a. Proclaiming May 16-22, 2021 as "National Public Works Week" (Public Works)

**21. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS**

There were no appointments.

**22. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Sarno wished all the mothers a Happy Mother's Day, and thanked staff and colleagues for the goal setting meeting on Sunday. He also expressed his support for the police officers who service the City.

Councilmember Trujillo thanked City Manager staff for their assistance at the goal setting meeting. She also expressed excitement at the upcoming Independence Day event, and

also expressed her support for the police officers who service the City.

Councilmember Zamora also wished mothers a Happy Mother's Day and expressed his support for educators during Teacher's Appreciation Week. He thanked police officers for their work along with the residents who work with the Safe Neighborhood Team to keep the City safe.

Mayor Pro Tem Rodriguez also talked about the success of the goal setting meeting, and congratulated City Manager Raymond R. Cruz on the receipt of his credentials. She thanked Public Works staff for their work on the banners around the City, and wished all the mothers in attendance a Happy Mother's Day.

Mayor Mora agreed with the sentiments of Council, and extended his thanks to Directors and staff for their work during the goal setting meeting. He talked about the importance of the mental health of the students in the community, and wished all the mothers in attendance a Happy Mother's Day.

**23. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Mora adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m. in memory of Charles Hickey.



John M. Mora  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Martinez  
City Clerk

6-3-21  
Date