



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SANGER CITY COUNCIL

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021
6:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER
1700 7th Street, Sanger, California 93657

This meeting was conducted via teleconference pursuant to provisions of Paragraph 11 of the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act, and as a response to mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

A. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM.

B. OPENING CEREMONIES

The invocation was offered by Pastor Paul Canaday.

The flag salute was led by Mayor Eli Ontiveros.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Eli Ontiveros, Mayor Pro Tem Daniel Martinez, Councilmember Humberto Garza, Councilmember Esmeralda Hurtado, Councilmember Michael Montelongo
Absent: None

C. AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

The Council by motion of Councilmember Garza approved the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Montelongo and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, GARZA, HURTADO, MONTELONGO
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

D. PUBLIC HEARING

1. SUBJECT: Input from the Community Regarding the Redrawing of City Council District Boundaries for Election of Councilmembers.

The Council held a public hearing to receive input from the community regarding the redrawing of City Council District Boundaries for election of councilmembers.

Jeff Tilton of National Demographics Corporation, gave an introduction to the redistricting process. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is included with these minutes as Attachment "A".

Public comment:

Kevin Carter said a councilmember previously mentioned that he would like to meet with the redistricting consultant firm and said that should not be allowed and that discussion should only be done at open meetings.

Vincent Wall said Councilmember Garza requested to speak privately and give influence to the redistricting consultant. He said District 3 and District 2 are not represented by someone living in the east side of town. He said there should be no political gerrymandering.

The City Council closed the public hearing.

E. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

1. The City Council issued a proclamation to proclaim September 6th as Jaswant Singh Khalra Day in Sanger.

F. PUBLIC FORUM

Nathan Rodriguez, Board Member of the Sanger Warriors Softball Organization, provided comment about the lack of space in Sanger to practice and play.

Zulema Cisneros provided comment about the lack of facility time and having to share with groups from other cities.

Juju and her friend asked for more time on field to practice.

Sal Pena Loza said he has not seen improvement in facilities and that the Jr. Giants use the field and most are not Sanger residents.

Joshua Organda said the issue is about more than field time but also about the quality of the fields.

Alan Kensler said the majority of the players are between the ages of eight and sixteen and most are from Sanger. He said he is asking for a little more partnership with the use of the fields.

Kevin Carter said that at the July 15th City Council meeting there was an agenda item to refinance the City's CalPERS debt, in which was originally anticipated to save \$4.5 million but is now anticipated at \$8 million over the next few years. He said the item had three yes votes and he was upset that there were two no votes. Mr. Carter also provided comment about the appointment of two new Citizen's Oversight Committee members at the last meeting which was changed after

two employee associations spoke against. He said Measure S has changed since its inception and the City needs to learn to live with it the way it is today.

Vincent Wall said Sanger Stars approached the Council exactly a year ago with the same problem regarding the use of fields. He said the Council had a choice during the budget process and they did not make it a priority to put money to the parks.

G. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Council by motion of Councilmember Montelongo pulled Agenda Item G-5 and approved the following items on the Consent Calendar:

1. SUBJECT: APPROVED - Minutes of the Special and Regular Meetings held on July 15, 2021.
2. SUBJECT: REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED - Treasurer's Report – June 2021.
3. SUBJECT: REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED - Treasurer's Report – July 2021.
4. SUBJECT: APPROVED - Out of State Travel Request.
The City Council approved the out of state travel and training for the Fire Chief to attend the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland from October 4 – 15, 2021.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garza and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, GARZA, HURTADO, MONTELONGO
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

5. SUBJECT: APPROVED - Updated Contract for Professional Services with RRM Design Group.

Public comment:

Vincent Wall said the only edit appears to be on page 30 and asked if there are other edits.

After further discussion, the City Council by motion of Mayor Pro Tem Martinez approved the updated professional services agreement between the City of Sanger and RRM Design Group for the purposes of creating bridging documents for the Fire Station Remodel Project and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the City. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garza and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, GARZA, HURTADO, MONTELONGO
NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

H. PUBLIC HEARING (continued)

1. SUBJECT: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program 2022/2023 Fiscal Year Allocation.

The City Council held a public hearing to discuss the Community Development Block Grant Program 2022/2023 Fiscal Year Allocation.

Public comment:

Zulema Cisneros said the Council should look at the lighting at Faller Park and that soccer teams have access to Sanger Unified soccer fields.

Vincent Wall said the Council is tying up money for three years so that nothing else can be done with CDBG funds.

The Council closed the public hearing.

The City Council by motion of Councilmember Hurtado approved the Cesar Chavez Park Sports Lighting Project as the City's CDBG project for Fiscal Year 2022/23. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garza and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, GARZA, HURTADO, MONTELONGO

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

I. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. SUBJECT: Sanger Chamber of Commerce's Request for Funding related to the Tom Flores Welcome Home Celebration Event.

Public comment:

An unidentified participant said the City is not giving money to non-profits who are asking for help.

Joe Villalobos said Tom Flores put Sanger on the map and that \$7,000 will go far.

Bobbie Ann, Chamber volunteer, said she has seen 1,800 calls in regards to this event and there is a lot of public awareness and it's a once in a lifetime opportunity for vendors and businesses.

Vincent Wall said it seems like whole event will be a good opportunity for Sanger and it will get

national attention. He said instead of giving \$7,000, the City should reevaluate and give what is needed.

Frank Gonzalez said the list does have some liability issues but the Chamber should be able to negotiate and cut some items and put forth the ones that are absolutely necessary for this event.

The City Council by motion of Mayor Ontiveros authorized the use of the fund balance dedicated to City Council projects in the General Fund to provide financial support in the amount of \$14,000 to the Chamber of Commerce for the Tom Flores Welcome Home Celebration Event scheduled for September 18, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hurtado and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, HURTADO, MONTELONGO
NOES: GARZA
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

2. SUBJECT: Consultant Agreement and Budget Amendment for the Establishment of an Enhance Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD) and a Budget Amendment.

Public comment:

Vincent Wall said once the district is established the Council will have no power; the district board will make the call on how funds are used.

The City Council by motion of Councilmember Garza: 1) selected Kosmont Companies as consultant for the establishment of the Enhanced Infrastructure Finance District for the North Academy Area for the City of Sanger; 2) authorized the City Manager to execute a standard consultant agreement approved by the City Attorney, and make necessary minor contract changes; and 3) approved the budget amendment to proceed with the establishment of the EIFD. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Montelongo and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, GARZA, HURTADO, MONTELONGO
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

3. SUBJECT: Fresno Council of Governments (COG) 2021/22 Call for Projects – Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ).

Public comment:

Vincent Wall said all projects are on the west side of city and again the east side is being ignored. He said it is not fair and equitable.

An unidentified participant said he appreciates that Almond and Bethel Avenues are mentioned

because it has been a topic for the past two years because the crossing is terrible with no sidewalks and no street lights.

The City Council by motion of Councilmember Montelongo adopted Resolution No. 2021-57 supporting and implementing timely use of funds on federal-aid transportation projects, and approved the project list proposed by Staff. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garza and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, GARZA, HURTADO, MONTELONGO
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

4. SUBJECT: Bethel Avenue Bicycle Lanes and Pedestrian Improvements Project Request for Additional Budget Authority to Approve Change Order No. 2.

Public comment:

Vincent Wall said this is not the first time we run into problems on a project and asked if we are keeping record of soil conditions in the ground for next time so we already know the issues.

The City Council by motion of Councilmember Montelongo: 1) authorized additional budget authority in the amount of \$22,160 so that Staff may approve Change Order 2, addressing unforeseen field conditions encountered on the Bethel Avenue Sidewalk and Bicycle Lanes project and to cover any remaining unanticipated costs to complete the project; and 2) approved the Budget Amendment recognizing an additional \$101,752 of federal revenue which was approved by Caltrans and Fresno COG after the adoption of the 21/22 budget. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Garza and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, GARZA, HURTADO, MONTELONGO
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

5. SUBJECT: Emergency Declaration – City Water System.

Public comment:

Vincent Wall said the well costs \$9.5 million but who knows what it will take to rehabilitate.

The City Council by motion of Councilmember Montelongo adopted Resolution No. 2021-58, approving the Declaration of Municipal Water Emergency Issued by the City Manager including the Ordering of Emergency work, Directing Staff to Expedite the Design and Construction of Critical Water Improvements, and Authorizing Staff to Contract for Equipment and Services for

Emergency Repairs and Improvements on the City's Municipal Water System without Notices for Bids, and to make Expenditures for Repairs and Improvements. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hurtado and approved by the following vote:

AYES: ONTIVEROS, MARTINEZ, GARZA, HURTADO, MONTELONGO
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

J. CITY MANAGER/STAFF COMMUNICATION

1. COVID-19 Update – informational only.

City Manager Tim Chapa provided a COVID-19 update. A copy of the update documents is included with these minutes as Attachment "B".

Public comment:

Kevin Carter said the County Board of Supervisors is doing nothing to help in this COVID situation. He said Fresno Mayor and Fresno Chamber are only worried about keeping businesses open. He urged the Council to attend Supervisors' meeting and talk to them.

Vincent Wall said he shares Mr. Carter's concerns and also said he has not heard any news of directives coming from the state about potential lockdowns or tier systems.

An unidentified participant said we seem to be number three in numbers throughout the COVID incident and asked what are we not doing that Selma, Reedley are doing so they're not number three.

K. MATTERS INITIATED BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. Mayor Ontiveros asked for a consensus to issue an ordinance that gives sports fields to Sanger residents first. Consensus was given.

City Attorney Montoy said she would prepare a report on options and that it should be done by resolution instead of by ordinance.

2. Mayor Pro Tem Martinez said the abandoned house on Indianola and Jensen burned again and is still an eyesore. He asked for a consensus to direct Staff to look into it. Consensus was given.
3. Councilmember Hurtado said this year's budget was approved and we have surplus of \$800,000 and during the budget process she prepared a proposal and during the budget meeting they shut down the proposal, which included downtown, park improvements, and infrastructure improvements. She said the public was here tonight speaking on all three things.

4. Councilmember Garza said the Council should speak with the City Attorney about updating her contract.
5. Councilmember Montelongo said all had different opinions about the \$800,000 and it's going to come back for discussion.
6. Mayor Ontiveros said the surplus should be used to lease a five-to-ten-acre parcel or purchase a three-acre parcel.
7. Mayor Pro Tem Martinez said there is a field at Veteran's Park and we should use it.
8. Ontiveros said Veteran's Park is a basin; we need a level field.
9. Councilmember Montelongo asked for a consensus to ask Staff to report whether there is acreage in the City to use for a field. Consensus was given.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the Council adjourned their meeting at 9:40 PM.



Rebeca P. Ramirez, City Clerk