



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**April 2, 2024, 6:00 p.m.  
City Council Chamber - 1243 National City Boulevard  
National City, CA**

**Present:**  
**Councilmember Bush**  
**Councilmember Molina**  
**Councilmember Rodriguez**  
**Vice-Mayor Yamane**  
**Mayor Morrison**

**Others Present:**  
**Benjamin A. Martinez, City Manager**  
**Barry J. Schultz, City Attorney**  
**Shelley Chapel, City Clerk**  
**Carlos Aguirre, Director of Community Development**  
**Danielle Ghio, Acting City Librarian**  
**Alex Hernandez, Chief of Police**  
**Martha Juarez, Assistant Director of Engineering/Public Works**  
**Sergio Mora, Fire Chief**  
**Myra Martinez, Management Analyst II, Library**  
**Paul Valadez, Budget Manager**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City was called to order at 6:06 p.m. via teleconference and in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers present: Bush, Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane, Morrison  
Interpretation in Spanish provided by Carlos Diaz and Luisa Diaz de Leon.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Councilmember Molina led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. INVOCATION**

Delivered by the Reverend Roberto Maldonado of St. Matthews National City

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Morrison summarized the process for acceptance of live public comment allowing two (2) minutes per comment and introduced City Clerk Chapel.

Eleven (11) speakers provided in-person comment and four (4) people provided virtual comment.

In-person Comment:

Sherry Gogue  
Socorro Jimenez  
Jacqueline Reynoso  
Edward Nieto  
Paul Wapnowski  
Ricardo Sanchez  
Caroline Duffy  
Sylvia Garner  
Dukie Valderrama  
Adriana Huerta  
Eriq Vargas (ACCE)

Virtual Comment:

Becky Rapp  
Peggy Walker  
Barbara Gordon  
Megan Stewart

*ITEM TAKEN OUT OF ORDER*

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**9.3 Ordinance for Introduction – Unauthorized Camping or Encampments on Public Property**

Barry Schultz, City Attorney introduced the item and gave an overview of the Ordinance. City Attorney Schultz introduced Ashlin Lutz, Deputy City Attorney.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 7:23 p.m.

Public Comments:

Thirteen (13) speakers provided in-person comment and one (1) person provided virtual comment.

In-person Comment:

Natalie Raschke – Live Experience Advisers (LEA)  
Julie Porter (LEA)  
Richard Sieba (LEA)  
Rachel Hayes  
Ilka H. Weston Justice Overcoming Boundaries  
Paul Wapnowski  
Sean Sampsell  
Eric R. Quinones  
Edward Nieto

Levi Fiafaglione (LEA)  
Natalia Rodriguez Justice Overcoming Boundaries  
Lauren Kipp Justice Overcoming Boundaries  
Eriq Vargas (ACCE)

One (1) via Zoom: John Brady

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice-Mayor Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to close the public hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:55 p.m.

Recommendation: Introduce Ordinance by First Reading, entitled, "Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Amending Title 10 of the National City Municipal Code by Repealing and Reserving Section 10.52.010(W); Amending Title 10 by Adding Chapter 10.56, All Pertaining to Regulating Encampments on Public Property to Establish a Standard for the Protection of the Life, Health, and Safety of All People, and Sensitive Public Lands within the City of National City."

*Councilmember Bush left the dais at 7:52 p.m. and returned at 7:55 p.m.*

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Molina:

- Make a motion that we have staff do further research on this encampment ban and do a comprehensive look at solutions to alleviate the homeless crisis; Direct staff to:
  - Immediately address unsafe conditions and encampments in public property under existing code
  - Provide a legal analysis on the question of whether the City can legally enforce the encampment ban if the only facility is a private facility.
  - Bring back empirical data or evidence that the increase of our unsheltered population is indeed because of the City of San Diego
  - The success, outcome, data on the City of San Diego
  - Have a map of affected areas
  - Work with the County Health & Human Services and Supervisor Nora Vargas on funding, conservatorship, possibility of shelter or detox facility to deal with those on the street with severe mental illness
  - Consider a feasibility study on comprehensive approach to homelessness; Rental market

To return to the City Council no later than the first meeting of June, (June 4, 2024).

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

*Mayor Morrison called for a recess at 8:49 p.m. and the Councilmembers returned to the dais at 9:00 p.m.*

**6. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITION**

6.1 Proclamation – “San Diego County Fair Day”

Mayor Morrison introduced and presented the Proclamation to Luis Valdivia, Marketing Specialist, and Tristan Hallman, Chief Communications Officer with the San Diego County Fair.

6.2 Fair Housing Month

Mayor Morrison introduced and presented the Proclamation to Leticia Munguia, CSA Board of Directors on behalf of Executive Director Estela De Los Rios.

6.3 Introduction of New City Employees

Mayor Morrison introduced Police Chief Hernandez, who introduced Krystal Alvarado, and Martha Juarez, Assistant Director of Engineering and Public Works, introduced Genaro Chavez.

**7. REGIONAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS (Limited to Five (5) Minutes each)**

Councilmember Rodriguez – No Report.

Councilmember Bush – No Report.

Councilmember Molina reported on SANDAG.

Vice-Mayor Yamane – No Report

Mayor Morrison provided an update on the business of SANDAG.

Port of San Diego Commissioner Sandy Naranjo provided a report on the recent Board Meeting.

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Molina to approve Consent Calendar Items 8.1 through 8.6.

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

8.1 Approval of Reading by Title Only and Waiver of Reading in Full of Ordinance on this Agenda

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

8.2 City Council FY 24 Budget Summary through March 8, 2024

Approve and file the City Council Budget Summary Report.

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

- 8.3 Temporary Use Permit – National Day of Prayer Sponsored by New Covenant Tabernacle at Kimball Park Bowl on Thursday, May 2, 2024, with No Waiver of Fees.

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

- 8.4 Warrant Register #33 for the period of 2/9/24 through 2/15/24 in the amount of \$1,166,053.95.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$1,166,053.95

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

- 8.5 Warrant Register #34 for the period of 2/16/24 through 2/22/24 in the amount of \$1,808,028.03.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$1,808,028.03

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

- 8.6 Warrant Register #35 for the period of 2/23/24 through 2/29/24 in the amount of \$397,314.25.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$397,314.25

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

## **9. PUBLIC HEARING**

- 9.1 Public Hearing and Resolution Approving the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Streamlined Annual Public Agency Plan for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-90

Community Development Director Carlos Aguirre introduced the item.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 9:18 p.m.

There were no public comments.

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice-Mayor Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Molina to close the public hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Public Hearing closed at 9:19 p.m.

Recommendation: Conduct the Public Hearing and Adopt a Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the Community Development Commission–Housing Authority of the City of National City, California, Approving the Streamlined Annual Public Housing Agency Plan for the Housing Choice Voucher Program for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, and Authorizing the Submittal of the Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development."

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yamane to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9.2 Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinances Amending the Westside Specific Plan and Title 18 of the Municipal Code.

Adopted Ordinance Nos. 2024-2528 and 2024-2529

Community Development Director Carlos Aguirre introduced the item.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 9:20 p.m.

One (1) public comment was received from Mikhaila Arroela

One (1) written comment was received from Ted Godshalk.

**ACTION:** Motion by Vice-Mayor Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to close the Public Hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 9:23 p.m.

Recommendation: Second Reading and Adoption of the Ordinances Entitled:

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to Adopt Ordinance No. 2024-2528, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Adopting the Westside Specific Plan Amendment and Amending the Zoning Text and Map of the Westside Specific Plan;"

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

and,

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to Adopt Ordinance No. 2024-2529, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Adopting Municipal Code Chapter 18.49 to Provide Objective Design Standards for Housing Development, Adopting Chapter 18.50 to Provide a Floor Area Ratio Bonus Program, Adopting Amendments to Chapter 18.29 (Overlay Zones) to Create a Mixed-Use Overlay Zone to Allow Residential Development on Certain Parcels Zone CL and CS, and Amending Chapter 18.10 (Understanding the Land Use Code), Chapter 18.12 (Permits and Applications), Chapter 18.22 (Commercial Zones), Chapter 18.24 (Mixed-Use Corridor and District Zones), Chapter 18.30 (Specific Use Regulations), Chapter 18.48 (Residential Density Bonus and Affordable Housing Incentives), and Chapter 18.60 (Glossary) as well as other Amendments to Revise Title 18."

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

## 10. STAFF REPORTS

### 10.1 Selection of National City Public Library Mural

Myra Martinez, Management Analyst II, Library, gave the report and PowerPoint presentation.

Recommendation: Library staff recommends that the City Council select the image of the mural to be installed.

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yamane, to allow the Public Arts Committee and the Board of Library Trustees to review the artwork and provide the City Council with a recommendation.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### 10.2 Fiscal Year 2024 Mid-Year Budget Status Report

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-25

Paul Valadez, Budget Manager, provided a summary of the mid-year budget report.

One (1) in-person Public Comment: Ed Nieto

Recommendation: Accept the Report and Adopt the Resolution Entitled: "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Authorizing Various Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Adjustments"

**ACTION:** Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

### 10.3 Discussion and Direction Regarding Proposed City Councilmember Budget Policy

Barry Schultz, City Attorney provided the report.

Recommendation: Review and Discuss Proposed Policy; Provide Direction to City Staff Regarding Modifications and Potential Adoption of Proposed Policy.

*Councilmember Bush left the dais at 10:04 p.m. and returned at 10:05 p.m.*

Seven (7) speakers provided in-person comment:

Daniel Perez  
Randi Salgado  
Sean Sampsell  
Joan Rincon  
Ricardo Sanchez  
Ed Nieto  
Sherry Gogue

Mayor Morrison appointed two members to an Ad Hoc Committee to receive recommendations from Councilmembers through the City Attorney. Members of the Ad Hoc Committee will be Mayor Morrison and Vice-Mayor Yamane.

At 10:39 p.m., Mayor Morrison reminded the City Council of Policy #104 that requires the City Council Meeting to be adjourned no later than 10:30 p.m. unless extended by Council vote. Mayor Morrison asked the City Council to consider extending the meeting to complete the remaining items. Motion by Councilmember Molina and seconded by Councilmember Bush.

**11. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

No report.

**12. ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT**

Closing remarks were provided by members of the City Council.

**13. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT**

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Morrison introduced City Attorney Schultz who announced that there was no reportable action on the Closed Session item.

**5.1 PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

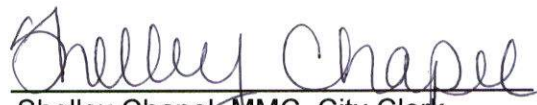
Government Code Section 54957.6

Position to be reviewed: City Attorney


**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Morrison adjourned the meeting to the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 p.m.

  
Shelley Chapel, MMC, City Clerk

The foregoing minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2024.

  
Ron Morrison, Mayor