



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**June 4, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chamber - 1243 National City Boulevard
National City, CA**

Present: Councilmember Bush
Councilmember Molina (*arrived at 7:31 p.m.*)
Councilmember Rodriguez
Vice-Mayor Yamane
Mayor Morrison

Others Present: Benjamin A. Martinez, City Manager
Barry J. Schultz, City Attorney
Shelley Chapel, City Clerk (*via Zoom*)
Carlos Aguirre, Director of Community Development
Phil Davis, Interim Finance Director
Brian Hadley, Deputy City Manager
Alejandro Hernandez, Chief of Police
Lydia Hernandez, Director of Human Resources
Tonya Hussain, Deputy City Clerk
Stephen Manganiello, Director of Engineering/Public Works
Sergio Mora, Fire Chief

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City was called to order at 6:09 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

City Treasurer Mitch Beauchamp

Interpretation in Spanish provided by Carlos Diaz and Luisa Diaz de Leon.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Vice-Mayor Yamane led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. INVOCATION

Invocation delivered by Pastor Oscar Navarro, National City Clergy Association.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Morrison summarized the process for acceptance of live public comment allowing three (3) minutes per comment and introduced City Clerk Chapel.

Four (4) speakers provided in-person comment and four (4) people provided virtual comment. One (1) written comment was received from Kathleen Lippitt.

In-person public comment:

Brian Clapper
Ed Nieto
Geoffrey Schrock
Sherry Gogue

Public Comment via Zoom:

Peggy Walker
Kelly McCormick
Becky Rapp
Barbara Gordon

6. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITION

6.1 Proclamation - LGBTQ+ Pride Month - June 2024

Mayor Morrison introduced the Proclamation. The proclamation was accepted by National City resident Mama Cass.

6.2 Proclamation - Sweetwater High (Red Devil) Football Team Appreciation Month

Mayor Morrison presented the Proclamation. The Sweetwater High School Red Devil Football team coaches and players accepted the proclamation.

6.3 Introduction of New City Employees

Councilmember Bush introduced new Council Representative Daniel Gonzalez. Fire Chief Sergio Mora introduced new Fire Inspector Jason Guzman and Assistant Director of Community Development Martin Reeder introduced the new Planning Technician Sophia Depew.

7. PRESENTATION (Limited to Five (5) Minutes each)

7.1 Sweetwater Authority Presentation on Right-of-Entry

Presentation by Erick Del Bosque, Director of Engineering and Operations with Sweetwater Authority.

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

Councilmember Rodriguez provided an update on the business of SANDAG and attendance at a California Association of Councils of Government meeting that included a presentation regarding transit and inter-city rail capital program funding.

Councilmember Bush provided an updated on the 2nd Annual National Cruising Community Policing Conference held in Albuquerque, New Mexico in addition to an update on the Sweetwater Authority.

Vice-Mayor Yamane provided an update on the Sweetwater Authority.

Mayor Morrison reported on the Sweetwater Authority.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve all Consent Items with the exception of Items 9.3, 9.5, 9.6, and 9.8 pulled by Vice-Mayor Yamane.

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present. Councilmember Molina absent.

9.2 Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes

Approve and File.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item pulled for discussion.

9.3 Project Close-Out and Notice of Completion for Five-Construction Projects.

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-53.

Adopt the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, 1) Accepting the Work Performed by the General Contractors on the Following Five Projects: a) MLK Community Center, CIP No. 23-02; b) Paradise Creek Educational Park Extension, CIP No. 19-33; c) Civic Center Basement Power Upgrade, CIP No. 20-03; d) Police Department Parking Structure Waterproofing, CIP No. 22-42; and e) Sweetwater Road Bikeway, CIP No. 19-20; 2) Approving the Final Contract Amounts; 3) Ratifying the Release of Retentions; and 4) Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Notice of Completion for the Projects."

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9.4 First Amendment to the Agreement with Solana Center for Environmental Innovation (Solana Center), Extending the Term by One-Year, for Continued SB 1383 Compliance Services.

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-54.

Adopt a Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a First Amendment to the Agreement By and Between the City of National City and Solana Center for Environmental Innovation by One-Year and Approve Unit Price Updates."

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item pulled for discussion.

9.5 July 4th Carnival Expenses

City staff recommends the approval of expenses in the amount of \$23,500 to support the City of National City Host Lions Club Fourth of July Carnival.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve the staff recommendation.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item pulled for discussion.

9.6 List of Projects that will Receive Funding from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account through the Local Streets and Roads Funding Program as Required by Senate Bill 1.

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-55.

Adopt the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, 1) Approving the Following Projects Proposed to Receive Funding from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account through the Local Streets and Roads Funding Program as Required by Senate Bill 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017: a) FY 2025 Pavement Rehabilitation, and b) FY 2025 Pavement Slurry Seal; and 2) Authorizing the Establishment of a Gas Tax (RMRA) Fund Appropriation and Corresponding Revenue Budget of \$1,569,579 for FY 2025."

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9.7 Update of Sewer System Management Plan

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-56.

Adopt a Resolution entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Accepting the Updated Sewer System Management Plan."

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item pulled for discussion.

9.8 Investment Report for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2024.

Accept and File the Investment Report for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2024.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to accept and file the Investment Report.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Councilmember Molina arrived at 7:31 p.m.

10. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING

Councilmember Molina recused on the item and left the dais at 7:32 p.m.

Councilmember Bush left the dais at 7:33 p.m. and returned at 7:36 p.m.

10.1 Zoning Map Amendment to Implement the Focused General Plan Update.

Assistant Director of Community Development Martin Reeder and WSP Senior Vice President Tara Lake presented the item.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 7:53 p.m.

In-person public comment:

Stephan Gaspar

Ed Nieto

Cynthia Fuller Quinonez

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

Ayes: Bush, Rodriguez, Yamane, Morrison

Absent: Molina

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Public Hearing closed at 8:02 p.m.

Recommendation: Introduce the Ordinance by First Reading, Entitled, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Adopting an Amendment to the City of National City Zoning Map to Implement the Focused General Plan Update."

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to introduce the Ordinance.

Ayes: Bush, Rodriguez, Yamane, Morrison

Absent: Molina

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Mayor Morrison released the translator at 8:20 p.m.

Councilmember Molina returned to the dais at 8:20 p.m.

Mayor Morrison called for a recess at 8:20 p.m. Meeting reconvened at 8:28 p.m. with Councilmember Molina absent, all other members were present.

Councilmember Molina returned to the dais at 8:29 p.m.

11. PUBLIC HEARING

- 11.1 Public Hearing to Consider Confirming Weed Abatement Costs, Approving the Report and Accounting.

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-57.

Deputy Fire Marshal Robert Drew presented the item.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 8:34 p.m.

One written comment was received from Noel Meza, Jr.

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 8:42 p.m.

Recommendation: Hold the Public Hearing, take Public Comment, and Adopt the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Following a Public Hearing Pursuant to National City Municipal Code Chapters 1.36 (Abatement of Public Nuisances) and 9.12 (Abatement of Weeds and Other Fire Hazards) to Consider Confirming Weed Abatement Costs, Approving the Report and Accounting."

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 11.2 Public Hearing and Resolution Confirming the Assessment and Ordering the Levy for the Landscape Maintenance District No. 1 (Mile of Cars) for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-58.

Assistant Director of Community Development Martin Reeder presented the item.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 8:44 p.m.

No public comments were received.

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 8:44 p.m.

Recommendation: Adopt the Resolution entitled "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Confirming the Assessment and Ordering the Levy for the Landscape Maintenance District No. 1 (Mile of Cars) for Fiscal Year 2024-25."

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 11.3 Public Hearing and Introduction of an Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Chapter 15.10 of the National City Municipal Code, and Adopting the International Property Maintenance Code by Reference.

Assistant Director of Community Development Martin Reeder presented the item.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 8:46 p.m.

No public comments were received.

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 8:46 p.m.

Recommendation: Introduce an Ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Adopting the International Property Maintenance Code and Amending Chapter 15.10 of the National City Municipal Code"; Receive Public Input; and Schedule for the Meeting of June 18, 2024, for Consideration and Adoption."

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yamane to introduce the Ordinance.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 11.4 Public Hearing on the Adoption of a Resolution Approving the TransNet Local Street Improvement Program of Projects for National City for Fiscal Years 2025 through 2029.

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-59

Director of Engineering/Public Works Steve Manganiello presented the item.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 8:56 p.m.

No public comments were received.

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 8:56 p.m.

Recommendation: Hold Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of a Resolution Entitled "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, 1) Approving the TransNet Local Street Improvement Program of Projects for National City for Fiscal Years 2025 through 2029 Consisting of the Following Projects: Street Resurfacing (NC03), Traffic Signal Install/Upgrades (NC04) and Citywide Safe Routes to School (NC15); and 2) Authorizing the Establishment of a TransNet Proposition "A" Fund Appropriation and Corresponding Revenue Budget of \$2,046,000 for FY 2025."

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

12. STAFF REPORTS

12.1 Discussion and Adoption of Revised Proposed City Councilmember Budget Policy.

City Attorney Schultz presented the item.

Councilmember Bush left the dais at 9:11 p.m. and returned at 9:12 p.m.

In-person public comment received from Ed Nieto and Randi Castle.

Recommendation: Review Revised Policy, Make Modifications, and Adoption of Revised Proposed Policy.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to add National Vehicles for Change Conference to the list of Pre-Approved Conferences.

Ayes: Bush, Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane

Nays: Morrison

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Molina to add language to the Training, Travel and Subsistence portion of the policy to include legislative policy advocacy as an allowable activity.

Ayes: Bush, Molina, Morrison, Rodriguez

Nays: Yamane

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Molina to revise the policy as follows:

1. Revise Policy Section A to read, "Each Councilmember and the Mayor must submit an annual appropriation request."
2. Revise the Professional Services section of the policy regarding disclosure of economic interest to read, "Disclosure of economic interests and relationships between the Mayor/Councilmember and the consultant during the preceding 12 months."
3. Add language to the Reimbursement Procedure portion of the policy to include a process for the Mayor's reimbursements to be reviewed and approved by the City Manager in consultation with the Vice-Mayor.
4. Add language that the policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.
5. Remove the San Diego American Planning Association from the list of Pre-Approved Conferences.
6. Add American Public Works Association Conference, the National Association of Regional Councils, and National Vehicles for Change Conference to the list of Pre-Approved Conferences.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Councilmember Rodriguez left the dais at 10:14 p.m. and returned at 10:17 p.m.

12.2 Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City Adopting a Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-60

Budget Manager Paul Valadez presented a PowerPoint presentation.

In-person public comment was received from Ed Nieto and Joan Rincon. Two written comments were received from Paul Wapnowski and Ted Godshalk.

At 10:36 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 for an additional 30 minutes.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Molina to extend the meeting until all items were heard.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Adopting a Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25."

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Councilmember Bush to approve the budget with the reduction plan, the enhancement list, and the addition of two Site Supervisor positions for Community Services and whatever else is needed based on a Needs Assessment.

Substitute Motion by Councilmember Rodriguez to adopt the budget with the exclusion of the additional expenses in the Mayor's Maintenance and Operations budget.

Motion failed due to lack of a second.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Councilmember Bush to approve the budget with the reduction plan, the enhancement list, and the addition of two Site Supervisor positions for Community Services and whatever else is needed based on a Needs Assessment.

Amendment by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Molina to adopt the budget without the \$25,000 allocated for the State of the City event and instead allocate a \$10,000 budget for the event, and to revise the resolution administratively to reflect the changes and the exhibit.

Ayes: Bush, Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane

Nays: Morrison

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

13. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Ben Martinez provided an update on clean-up that occurred at the Stardust Inn Motel property.

14. ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT

Closing remarks were provided by members of the City Council.

15. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mayor Morrison introduced City Attorney Schultz who announced that there was nothing to report on the Closed Session item.

5.1 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Government Code Section 54957.8

Employee Organization:

Municipal Employees' Association (SEIU, Local 221)

Agency Designated Representatives: Benjamin A. Martinez (City Manager), Barry J. Schultz (City Attorney), and Lydia Flores-Hernandez (Human Resources Director)

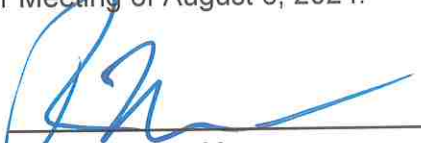
16. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Morrison adjourned to the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City, Tuesday, June 13, 2024, 6:00 in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 p.m.


Shelley Chapel, MMC, City Clerk

The foregoing minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of August 6, 2024.


Ron Morrison, Mayor