Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Madera City Council

February 3, 2021
6:00 p.m.

This meeting was conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor’s Executive Order which suspends certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act. The City Council meeting was live streamed on the City’s website at www.madera.gov/live. Members of the public were able to participate in the meeting remotely through an electronic meeting via phone by dialing (669) 900-6833 enter ID: 933 4673 6867# followed by "+9 on their phone to speak. Comments were also accepted via email at citycouncilpubliccomment@madera.gov or by regular mail at 205 W. 4th Street, Madera, CA 93637.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
Present: Mayor Santos Garcia
Mayor Pro Tem Artemio Villegas, District 6
Councilmember Cece Gallegos, District 1
Councilmember Jose Rodriguez, District 2
Councilmember Steve Montes, District 3
Councilmember Anita Evans, District 4

Absent: Vacant, District 5

Others present were City Manager Arnoldo Rodriguez, City Clerk Alicia Gonzales, City Attorney Hilda Cantu Montoy, Chief Building Official Steven Woodworth, City Engineer Keith Helmuth, Financial Services Director Roger Sanchez, Fire Division Chief Matt Watson, Grants Administrator Ivette Iraheta, Human Resources Director Wendy Silva, Information Services Manager Mark Souders, Planning Manager Gary Conte, Chief of Police Dino Lawson, Interim Public Work Director Dan Foss, and Administrative Analyst Gabriela Salazar.

INVOCATION: Pastor Tim Echevarria, New Harvest Christian Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Ivette Iraheta, Grants Administrator

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GALLEGOS, THE AGENDA WAS APPROVED BY A 6/0 VOTE. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: DISTRICT 5 IS CURRENTLY VACANT. ABSTAIN: NONE.

THE MOTION PASSED WITH THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

YES: 6 – COUNCILMEMBER GALLEGOS
COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ
COUNCILMEMBER MONTES
COUNCILMEMBER EVANS
MAYOR PRO TEM VILLEGAS
MAYOR GARCIA

PUBLIC COMMENT:
The first 15 minutes of the meeting are reserved for members of the public to address the Council on items which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. Speakers shall be limited to three minutes. Speakers will be asked, but are not required, to identify themselves and state the subject of their comments. If the subject is an item on the Agenda, the Mayor has the option of asking the speaker to hold the comment until that item is called. Comments on items listed as a Public Hearing on the Agenda should be held until the hearing is opened. The Council is prohibited by law from taking any action on matters discussed that are not on the Agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the Council does not respond to public comment at this time.

No public comment was submitted. Public Comment was closed.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Department of Public Health Update on COVID-19 (Report by Madera County Public Health Department)
2. Proclamation Recognizing the Month of February as Black History Month

INTRODUCTIONS: None

A. WORKSHOP:

A-1 Workshop on Proposal to Update City of Madera Animal Control Regulations
Recommendation: Consider Workshop Presentation and Provide Direction to Staff (Report by Arnoldo Rodriguez)

B. CONSENT CALENDAR:
Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, a member of the public or a member of the Council may request an item be removed from the Consent Calendar and it will be considered separately.

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GALLEGOS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER EVANS, THE CONSENT CALENDAR WAS APPROVED BY A 6/0 VOTE. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: DISTRICT 5 IS CURRENTLY VACANT. ABSTAIN: NONE.

THE MOTION PASSED WITH THE FOLLOWING VOTE:
B-1  Minutes – 11/04/2020
Recommendation: Approve the City Council Minutes of November 4, 2020

Recommendation: No Action Required (Report by Roger Sanchez)

B-3  Appointment to the City’s Beautification Committee
Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution approving Mayor Garcia’s appointment of Miguel Gonzalez to the Beautification Committee (Report by Arnoldo Rodriguez)

Res 21-26  A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA APPOINTING MIGUEL GONZALEZ TO THE CITY OF MADERA BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

C.  PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

D.  PETITIONS, BIDS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND AGREEMENTS:

D-1  Agreements with Alliant Insurance Services, Inc., to Serve as the City of Madera’s Consultant and Broker of Record for Employee Health and Welfare Benefits at a Cost of $45,000 per year
Recommendation:
Adopt a Resolution Approving:
1) A Consulting Services Agreement with Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.; and
2) A Business Associate Agreement between the City of Madera and Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. (Report by Wendy Silva)

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MONTES AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GALLEGOS, ITEM D-1 WAS APPROVED BY A 6/0 VOTE. NOES: NONE. ABSENT: DISTRICT 5 IS CURRENTLY VACANT. ABSTAIN: NONE.

THE MOTION PASSED WITH THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

YES: 6 – COUNCILMEMBER GALLEGOS
COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ
COUNCILMEMBER MONTES
COUNCILMEMBER EVANS
MAYOR PRO TEM VILLEGAS
MAYOR GARCIA
RES 21-27 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE INSURANCE BROKER/CONSULTING SERVICES AND A BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT WITH ALLIANT INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

E-1 Madera County Economic Development Commission 2021/2022 Annual Basic Service Level Budget

Recommendation: Consideration of a Minute Order Approving the Madera County Economic Development Commission 2021/2022 Annual Basic Service Level Budget (Report by Bobby Kahn)

Council directed City Manager to bring this item to a future meeting for approval.

F. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

This portion of the meeting is reserved for the Mayor and Councilmembers (i) to make brief reports on boards, committees, and other public agencies, and at public events, (ii) to request updates, (iii) to initiate future agenda items., and (iv) to take action on matters initiated under this section of the agenda. Under this section the Council may take action only on items specifically agendized and which meet other requirements for action.

Councilmember Gallegos clarified that she does respect protocol from the Health Director. It is just that there are other directors and employees getting vaccinated that are not high priority like the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the water employees. She stated it is not that she doesn’t respect the protocol; it is just trying to make the case that it is important that they be vaccinated.

Councilmember Gallegos stated she is a paid member of the Madera Unified School District (MUSD) union. She is very involved with her union and is also active on the Executive Board.

Councilmember Gallegos stated that ABC just put out an “Affordable Places to live in the Valley” and City of Madera was number one (#1).

Councilmember Rodriguez requested that the Cannabis Ad-hoc committee be involved with the meetings that Hdl, City Manager, and any others who are involved with drafting the City Ordinance on Cannabis.

Councilmember Montes thanked staff and stated he is an FCEA Union paying member.

Councilmember Evans, as a resident of The Meadows and as the Councilmember for District 4, thanked Chief of Police Lawson for cleaning up the river bottom.

Councilmember Evans stated she requested a proclamation recognizing Lucille Murphy as the eldest African American woman in Madera.

Councilmember Evans stated that there will be a Black History Month celebration on February 21st. She invited everyone to attend.

Mayor Pro Tem Villegas had nothing to report.
Mayor Garcia thanked everyone and asked that they be safe. He thanked first responders and stated he hopes first responders get their vaccinations in a timely fashion, so that they can keep serving the community as they have been doing.

G. CLOSED SESSION:

G-1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)
One Case: City of Madera v. High Speed Rail Authority

City Attorney Hilda Cantu Montoy stated that she and City Manager Arnoldo Rodriguez decided to pull this item from the agenda as they have not received additional information.

G-2 Conference with Labor Negotiators
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6
Agency Designated Representatives: Mayor Santos Garcia and Councilmember Cece Gallegos
Unrepresented Employee: City Manager

City Attorney Hilda Cantu Montoy made the Closed Session Announcement at 8:26 p.m.

Mayor Garcia adjourned the regular meeting at 8:28 p.m. and proceeded to Closed Session.

Council returned from closed session at 8:48 p.m. with six (6) Councilmembers present as District 5 is currently vacant.

City Manager Arnoldo Rodriguez announced there was no reportable action on Item G-2.

Mayor Garcia bid everyone goodnight.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m. Next regular meeting on February 17, 2021.

CONSISTENCY WITH THE VISION MADERA 2025 PLAN
Approval of the minutes is not addressed in the vision or action plans; the requested action is also not in conflict with any of the actions or goals contained in that plan.

ALICIA GONZALEZ, City Clerk

ZELDA LEON, Deputy City Clerk

City of Madera
205 W. 4th Street
Madera, CA 93637

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