

MEETING MINUTES

The City Council/Successor Agency of the City of Firebaugh
Vol. No. 21/11-01

**PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 11 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20,
EXECUTED BY THE GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA ON MARCH 12, 2020**

City Council Meeting held via teleconferencing

***Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953 (b) (2), all action taken during this teleconferenced meeting shall be by roll call vote.**

Location of Meeting: Andrew Firebaugh Community Center
1655 13th Street, Firebaugh, CA 93622

Date/Time: November 1, 2021/6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by Mayor Valdez at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Freddy Valdez	
Mayor Pro Tem Brady Jenkins	
Council Member Marcia Sablan	6:02 pm
Council Member Felipe Pérez	6:04 pm
Council Member Elsa Lopez	

ABSENT:

OTHERS: City Attorney James Sanchez; City Manager/Acting Public Works Director, Ben Gallegos; Deputy Clerk, Rita Lozano; Finance Director, Pio Martin; Fire Chief, John Borboa; City Engineer, Mario Gouveia; Linda Espinoza, Nicole Molina, Hector Marin, Silvia Renteria, Mark, Melissa Knight, Raquel Tabares, Adrian, Amy Fleming, Charles "BJ" Fleming, George Conklin, F Gonzalez, Melissa Knight, Amanda Speaks, Tony Chavarria & others.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *City Manager Ben Gallegos led pledge of Allegiance.*

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Lopez, motion passed by 4-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Linda Espinoza asked about the union negotiations side letter, Amanda Speaks, thanked everyone that supported the city employees & stated she is very disgruntle about what Firebaugh is doing (mandate Vaccine) Mendota and Dos Palos don't mandate the vaccine for employees, it causes segregation, weekly testing has a toxic sterilization agent in the swab. Fire Chief Borboa reported, "I represent 24 people, no one sat with me to discuss this, you (council) grouped the Fire Fighters with the unions of Public Works & PD. I submitted a letter requesting to follow the guidelines of CAL Fire." City Manager Gallegos replied, he spoke with John, that's when John submitted the letter. A resident asked, what policy does the City or Council have in place to keep the city safe if we lose volunteers at the Fire Department?

PRESENTATION: None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The City Council regular meeting on October 18, 2021.**
- 2. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING THE SIDE LETTER TO RESOLUTION NO. 21-38 - BETWEEN CITY OF FIREBAUGH AND THE FIREBAUGH MISCELLANEOUS EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION - Implementation of City-Adopted Mandatory Vaccination Policy.**
- 3. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH APPROVING THE SIDE LETTER TO RESOLUTION NO. 21-38 - BETWEEN CITY OF FIREBAUGH AND THE FIREBAUGH POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION - Implementation of City-Adopted Mandatory Vaccination Policy.**

Motion to approve consent calendar by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Perez, motion passed by 4-1 vote. Lopez - No

PUBLIC HEARING

4. **ORDINANCE NO. 21-04 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH REPEALING SECTIONS 9-1.1, 9-1.2, 9-1.3, AND 9-1.4 OF CHAPTER 9 [TRAILERS AND TRAILER PARKS] OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE, REPLACING THE HEADING OF CHAPTER 9 WITH THE TITLE "MOBILEHOME PARKS ACT", AND ADDING SECTIONS 9-1.1 THROUGH 9-1.11 RELATING TO THE ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF ENFORCING THE MOBILEHOME PARKS ACT AND SPECIAL OCCUPANCY PARKS ACT OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE – FIRST READING.**

Opening hearing at 6:24 pm – No comment – Close hearing at 6:25 pm

Motion to waive the first reading by Council Member Sablan, second by Council Member Valdez, motion passed by 4-1 vote. No reply from Perez.

NEW BUSINESS

5. **RESOLUTION NO. 21-42 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FIREBAUGH AUTHORIZING USE OF EMERGENCY REMOTE TELECONFERENCING PROVISIONS.**

Motion to modify Res. No. 21-42 to include both the zoom option pending the Police Chief guidelines for open meeting and approve, by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Sablan, motion passed by 4-0 vote. No reply from Perez.

STAFF REPORTS

- **Finance Director, Pio Martin** – contacted the auditors to start the audit, staff is trying to push online billing allowing residents to pay and receive the bills online. Council Member Sablan asked about the credit card use and fees. Pio replied the city waived fees for credit card use, it has helped by reducing cost, handling money, payment mistakes, postage fees, as well as reduce office traffic and time.
- **Deputy City Clerk, Rita Lozano** – nothing to report.
- **Fire Chief John Borboa** – nothing to report
- **Bethany Matos, Associate Dean of North District Center** – construction is on schedule, will be having a tour of the facility on Wednesday at 4:00 pm.
- **City Manager, Ben Gallegos** – working with Paul on implementing the CDBG funding for the Business and Salvation Army (hot meals) projects, Fire Station construction is on track – looking to be completed by March, started construction at Cardella this week, sidewalks were pulled & will be re-installed.
- **City Engineer, Mario Gouveia** – Construction is still on scheduled at Cardella, there is concrete work & demo, they should be finished within the week or so. City applied for a \$9.5 million state grant for one of the three projects along the San Joaquin River regarding the Feasibility Study.
- **City Attorney, James Sanchez** – nothing to report.
- **Council Member Lopez** – attended Mrs. DeFrancesco's funeral today & a funeral for my neighbor the other day, we are losing a lot of our older residents. To Council Member Valdez, on behalf of the City Council and staff our condolences to you and your family.
- **Council Member Sablan** – Don Burkhart passed this week too, our oldest resident in Firebaugh.
- **Council Member Jenkins** – Condolences for Freddy.

CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT *Motion to adjourn at 6:43 pm by Council Member Valdez, second by Council Member Sablan, motion passes by a 5-0 vote.*