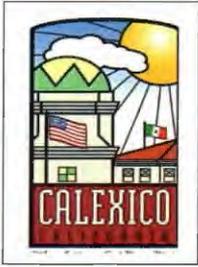


**AGENDA  
ITEM**

**7**



# AGENDA STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** September 4, 2019  
**TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**APPROVED BY:** David B. Dale, City Manager *DD*  
**PREPARED BY:** Gabriela T. Garcia, City Clerk *GTG*  
**SUBJECT:** Approval of City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meetings of July 3, 2019, July 17, 2019 and July 17, 2019 Special Meeting

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## Recommendation:

Approval of City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meetings of July 3, 2019, July 17, 2019 and July 17, 2019 Special Meeting.

## Background:

In accordance with Municipal Code Section 2.04.070, the City Clerk shall prepare minutes of the proceedings of each City Council Meeting.

## Discussion & Analysis:

City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meetings of July 3, 2019, July 17, 2019 and July 17, 2019 Special Meeting have been prepared for City Council review and approval.

## Fiscal Impact:

None.

## Coordinated With:

None.

## Attachments:

Minutes for City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meetings of July 3, 2019, July 17, 2019 and July 17, 2019 Special Meeting.



**THE CITY COUNCIL/CALEXICO COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY SUCCESSOR AGENCY/CALEXICO FINANCING AUTHORITY MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JULY 2019 AT 5:30 PM AT THE FERNANDO "NENE" TORRES COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 608 HEBER AVENUE, CALEXICO, CALIFORNIA. THE DATE, HOUR AND PLACE DULY ESTABLISHED FOR THE HOLD OF SAID MEETING.**

**CLOSED SESSION AGENDA - 5:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pacheco called the closed session portion of the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor: Lewis Pacheco  
Mayor Pro Tem: Bill Hodge  
Council Member: David Romero  
Council Member: Arreola-Fernandez  
Council Member: Morris Reisin

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No Public Comments.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

Council adjourned to closed session at 5:39 p.m. to discuss the following:

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION  
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)  
City of Calexico v. Jose M. Rodriguez, et al.  
Superior Court of California, County of Imperial, Case No. ECU08939

Council reconvened from closed session at 6:35 p.m.

**CALEXICO CITY COUNCIL/CALEXICO REDEVELOPMENT  
SUCCESSOR AGENCY/CALEXICO FINANCING AUTHORITY**

**REGULAR SESSION AGENDA - 6:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pacheco called the regular portion of the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

Parks. He also addressed the Heber Park and presented a rendering of the proposed improvements to the Park and the former Armory property. He stated there has to be a community driven project at this location through Proposition 68. He informed that Baja Runners have reached out for the operations and maintenance of Heber Park.

Mr. Figueroa presented the Housing Developments at Las Praderas with 60 units, El Portal with 1000 units and Hillary Street with 47 units, the current Commercial Developments with Federal Express, Dollar General, Mega Park/Jasper Crossing, AM/PM at Gran Plaza and Silver Recycling. He spoke on the Downtown Action Plan, the Rockwood Avenue Promenade (a pedestrian plaza from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street on Rockwood Avenue), the New River Improvement Project Strategic Plan and gave an update on the commercial cannabis activities for Calexico.

He advised the housing programs are anticipated to begin in the fall of 2019 and the message is that we are not where we want to be, however, the City is taking steps to do it the right way to be there once again.

Mayor and Council Members thanked Mr. Figueroa and commended him for his work on the projects. Mr. Figueroa credited his team and every department in the City.

#### **PRESENTATION BY JOSE YEPEZ SR. AND JOSE YEPEZ JR. REGARDING THE CALEXICO BREWING COMPANY.**

Jose Luis Yopez, Calexico Brewing Company stated the key goal of Calexico Brewing Company is to become the top craft beer producer in the Valley, throughout the State and to export to Mexico.

Jose Luis Yopez, Jr., owner and co-founder of Calexico Brewing Company provided a detailed presentation on the brewing process followed by Calexico Brewing. Marco Yopez spoke on the economic impact of the craft beer industry and the increase in job opportunities. He stated there is potential for economic growth in Calexico and the County due to the influx of visitors from Mexicali.

Jose Luis Yopez, Jr. spoke on the support received by the community for their business and stated the brewery has obtained an ABC License.

Mr. Jose Yopez thanked and applauded the City Administration and the City Council for their support of Calexico Brewery and for their work on city projects.

Council Members commended the Yopez Family for their work in Calexico and thanked them for their support of the City.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC APPEARANCES**

Hector Araujo commended the Council on their work on city projects. He expressed his concerns for safety relating to the concrete barriers on Cesar Chavez Blvd. and the problems it is causing to persons moving south. He stated these barriers do not work for this area and requested consideration for other alternatives for the near future.

Christian Martinez, Official Representative of Las Palmas Swap Meet stated the City of Calexico has never jeopardize or threatened their opportunity to be open. He stated the city reached out to them after the Santo Tomas fire to requested them if they were able to accommodate the Santo Tomas vendors so they can do business during the Christmas season and Las Palmas worked with the City on the permitting process in order to accept the Santo Tomas vendor permits and they were able to drop the rents. He addressed issues of misunderstanding regarding swap meets and stated Las Palmas is in not in jeopardy of shutting down. He requested that vendors, other business members or citizens refrain from using Las Palmas as a bargaining tool for their personal business matters. He further stated Las Palmas had nothing to do with the closure of the Santo Tomas Swap Meet or with the fire. He informed Las Palmas will be hosting their 50-year anniversary and encouraged everyone to join the festivities.

Raul Miramontes, Santo Tomas worker addressed his concerns regarding Santo Tomas with David Dale's video on Facebook and various city problems.

Pedro Ortiz spoke on the projects presented by Mr. Figueroa and asked the Council to question and not thank him when the job is not done yet. He addressed his serious concerns in dealing with the negotiations with Santo Tomas and asked the Council to allow the opportunity for new people on the Council.

Juan Carlos Gonzalez stated they took the decision to close a business after forty five years in business. He spoke about the request for a bond and stated this meant the city did not trust them. He spoke about the five months of negotiations and the period of mediation which had as an objective to get out of litigation. He addressed the city's intent to update ordinances with a new model of doing business and felt that being selective in the application of codes is corruption.

Jose Mendez, Santo Tomas worker asked the council if they think of their children. He questioned what Calexico can offer the children of Calexico as future merchants. He further stated the youth will be leaving Calexico due to the lack of opportunities.

Carlos Rodrigo addressed the video by City Manager Dale on Facebook and asked Council Member Pacheco how it could be possible for people not to show emotion when there is stress and 28.9% unemployment in Calexico. He asked what concessions were given to Applebee's to stay. He commented the 300 vendors and eleven employees that have been displaced.

Cesar Figueroa stated is saddens him to see his companions seated with the hope that the council does not have to give them. He further stated it is regrettable that businesses in Calexico are disappearing because there are no clear policies for small businesses. He expressed concerns regarding the inability to make clear and precise negotiations with Santo Tomas.

Alberto Alvizu congratulated Miguel Figueroa on the presentation and stated he hopes it is achieved. He spoke regarding the negotiations with Santo Tomas, addressed the impact of the lawsuit against Santo Tomas and stated the council is responsible for the current situation which affected the merchant families.

Joong Kim addressed Council Member Pacheco's handling of the public speakers. He also addressed the presentation by Mr. Figueroa and stated the City's applying for State grants is not

feasible due to lack of compliance with the State single audit, He spoke on the closure of Santo Tomas, economic development and keeping the current businesses.

Jose Loo addressed the issue with the Second Street exit to the Port of Entry. He asked why the people could not continue with the 2<sup>nd</sup> street exit to Mexicali. He requested consideration for a two-way traffic along 2<sup>nd</sup> street and not close Imperial Avenue to cross to Mexicali.

Francisca Neri addressed the issue with the Second Street exit to the Port of Entry from Imperial Avenue and the impact on the people and businesses. She requested consideration for the Imperial Avenue businesses and expressed concern over her new business along Imperial Avenue due to the change in the exit to Mexico.

Beatriz Romero spoke in representation of the businesses along Imperial Avenue and stated concerns because they have almost 50 employees. She requested the Council's assistance on this matter.

Gloria Romo stated she is hurt because Council Member Reisin stated he would support Santo Tomas because without Santo Tomas, it is not Calexico. She requested a response from the Council regarding Santo Tomas.

Dr. Leticia Cota asked the Council to help the Santo Tomas vendors who were affected and stated the Council needs to help, listen to the local merchants.

Alex Perrone addressed his concerns regarding Santo Tomas and petitioned the Council's assistance for them just like it was given to Applebee's and Gran Plaza. He asked the council think of what they can do for these merchants and not close their doors.

Humberto Garcia addressed the council regarding sales tax and stated they were accused of not paying their taxes by City Manager Dale. He stated they do pay their taxes in order to obtain a state license. He also commented on the change to Imperial Avenue and stated there would be loss of business on Imperial Avenue.

Susana Martinez, Owner of Santo Tomas responded to a comment by Mayor Pacheco stating that if the merchants had honestly tried, it would have been doable. She advised the business has been closed for six months and she continued to pay the payroll and cleaning the swap meet and stated the city closed the swap meet and did not help. She stated she would have liked to receive an offer to assist rather than a lawsuit. She stated economically she cannot afford to open the business.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Mayor Pacheco addressed comments made regarding the Facebook video message by City Manager Dale and explained the situation with Santo Tomas and stated the Council did not close swap meet.

Mayor Pro Tem Hodge requested to bring Santo Tomas to the table to negotiate and reopen and addressed the issues of concern affecting the merchants. He requested City Manager Dale and Mr. Juan Carlos Gonzalez get together and work on the problems and stated his support for Santo Tomas.

Council Member Romero spoke about the working conditions affecting the Santo Tomas merchants. He spoke of the draft ordinance considered by the city with new regulations for swap meets to address public safety. He clarified the lawsuit was due to the law being violated when the merchants entered the swap meet knowing there were safety concerns. He stated the City did not close Santo Tomas and felt there could possible solution.

Council Member Reisin addressed Mr. Loo's comments and agreed on opening 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to exit to Mexicali. He expressed his concerns for the merchants at Santo Tomas. He stated there are laws and stated the City does not want to close Santo Tomas, the City wants them to continue.

Council Member Reisin stated that if Santo Tomas wants to open, the Council will support them.

Council Member Arreola-Fernandez stated that from the beginning, the council has tried to work with Santo Tomas and not much was communicated to the vendors and expressed willingness to help.

Council took a recess at 9:28 pm

Council returned from recess at 9:46 p.m.

#### **CITY COUNCIL REORGANIZATION:**

#### **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR/CHAIRMAN OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO/CALEXICO COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY SUCCESSOR AGENCY/CALEXICO FINANCING AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020.**

Joong Kim expressed his concerns on mistakes made by the City which are detailing the City. He addressed issues for Hearthstone, water rates and seniors and stated the City is failing to service the community. He spoke on Santo Tomas and asked if the Council was going after Las Palmas. He suggested the Council go after community benefit and for the leadership focus on the citizens and not jeopardize them. He recommended a town hall meeting next week and discuss the issues.

Council Member Reisin nominated Mayor Pro Tem Hodge for Mayor Tem of the City of Calexico for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Motion was seconded by Council Member Arreola-Fernandez and passed unanimously.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO TEM/VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE CITY OF CALEXICO/CALEXICO COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY SUCCESSOR AGENCY/CALEXICO FINANCING AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020.**

Council Member Arreola-Fernandez nominated Council Member Romero for Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Calexico for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Motion was seconded by Mayor Hodge and passed unanimously.

#### **COMMENTS BY OUTGOING MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEM.**

Mayor Pacheco spoke about the three years of deficits and stated the city is now closing the books with a plus and trending upwards. He spoke on new housing developments and permits, bringing money to the city which is doing fine. He addressed the water rate increase which is now based

on consumption and also spoke on the improvements to the water treatment plant. He spoke on the President's visit to Calexico and the message sent by the City stating that closing the border would be disastrous. He thanked department heads for staying on top of their budget and the council for staying strong and on course. He spoke on improving the staffing. He thanked the council for working amicably, he thanked everyone for allowing him to serve as mayor and he thanked his family for their support.

Mayor Pacheco presented Mayor Pro Tem Hodge with a plaque for his service to the City of Calexico Mayor Pro Tem for February 2019 to July 2019.

Mayor Hodge thanked Mayor Pacheco for his hard work.

Mayor Hodge presented Mayor Pacheco with a gavel plaque for his service to the City of Calexico as Mayor for July 2018 to July 2019.

### **COMMENTS BY INCOMING MAYOR AND MAYOR PRO TEM.**

Mayor Hodge spoke on assisting Santo Tomas to reopen their business. He stated that together Calexico can better and believe that Calexico is going to shine bright. He stated that under his Mayorship, he will collaborate with various community based organizations and citizen committees. He stated the need for town hall meetings and advised his monthly office hours will be from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. He will work hard on creating a culture of volunteerism and work with administration to be proactive and not reactive and push for greater community stakeholders and citizens. His key of focus is transparency and will fight hard against being misled and misinformed and covering situations and that need to improve. He stated he will do everything possible to bring economic development and reach out to business and bring them to invest in Calexico. Will work hard on jobs and clean parks for the community and the community must also do their best. Mayor Hodge thanked the citizens, city staff and his family.

David Romero, Mayor Pro Tem thanked the council for the trust placed on him to be Mayor Pro Tem. He stated he wants to be known for his actions, he wants to uphold the law and follow the code for everyone equally. He hopes to learn a lot from the council and be prepared for the seat.

### **APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH, APPOINTMENT AND SWEARING IN OF CITY CLERK.**

Joong Kim stated he was against having the City Clerk being under City Manager control and commented he still remembers what happened in 2014 with placing items on the agenda. He stated the Council needs to protect the City Clerk from influences from the City Manager and other staff and the City clerk should be independent. He requested Council take precautions to protect the City Clerk's independence.

Police Chief Gerardo spoke in support of Ms. Garcia and the work she had been carrying out for the past six years. He stated the appointment is greatly deserved.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Romero, seconded by Council Member Arreola-Fernandez to Approve Employment Agreement, Appoint and Swear Ms. Garcia as City Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Romero thanked Ms. Garcia for her work and congratulated her on the appointment as City Clerk.

Mayor Hodge swore in Ms. Garcia as City Clerk. Ms. Garcia thanked the Council and the City Manager for the opportunity to serve the community.

City Manager Dale thanked Ms. Garcia for her service, he stated he was proud of her and commented on the work to get to this point being she was the last department head to be interim. Mr. Dale also thanked Mayor Pacheco for the honor of working with him and for his heart for the City.

Assistant City Manager Figueroa acknowledged and thanked City Clerk Garcia for her work and thanked Mayor Pacheco for the honor of serving under his Mayorship.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion was made by Council Member Pacheco, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Items 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 as follows: Approval of City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meeting of June 19, 2019; Warrants from May 25, 2019 to June 7, 2019 and City Salaries from May 25, 2019 to June 7, 2019; Warrants from June 8, 2019 to June 21, 2019 and City Salaries from June 8, 2019 to June 21, 2019; Resolution of the City Council of the City of Calexico Authorizing the City Manager and City Clerk to Execute Quitclaim Deed(s), Grant Deed(s), Easement Deed(s) and Certificates of Acceptance to the State of California, Department of Transportation; Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance No. 1201 – An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Calexico, California Amending Chapter 10.24 of the Calexico Municipal Code Pertaining to the Parking Ordinance.

### **DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS**

#### **AWARD THE BID PROPOSAL FROM COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL ROOFING CO. INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$82,760.00 AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT FOR COMMUNITY CENTER ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

Assistant City Manager Figueroa requested to continue his item on the next agenda. Council unanimously concurred to continue the item to the next agenda.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE CENSUS AD-HOC SUB-COMMITTEE.**

Mayor Hodge expressed his interest in being part of the committee. City Manager Dale stated this will take some public outreach to the community.

Mayor Hodge and Council Member Pacheco were appointed to serve on the Census Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee on a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Romero, seconded by Council Member Reisin and passed unanimously.

**APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH COUNTY OF IMPERIAL FOR LIBRARIES ON THE SPECTRUM GRANT.**

Sandra Tauler stated she worked with the County and City libraries to submit a grant to the State of California for \$245,000 for equipment, book collections for children on the spectrum. She provided a detailed description of the items included in the program and recommended Council to approve the memorandum of understanding.

Motion was made by Council Member Pacheco, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero and passed unanimously to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with County of Imperial for Libraries on the Spectrum Grant.

**PUBLIC HEARING****HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING, INTRODUCE AND CONDUCT A FIRST READING BY TITLE ONLY OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 17.11.1030 AND 17.11.1040, OF CHAPTER 17.11, TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE CALEXICO MUNICIPAL CODE ADDING ONE PARCEL TO THE CANNABIS OVERLAY ZONE AND CREATING A SMALL SCALE AND INDUSTRIAL SCALE CANNABIS PERMITTING STRUCTURE.**

Mayor Hodge opened the public hearing open at 10:33 p.m.

Joong Kim expressed his concerns over persons already being approached to purchase marijuana and stated this is happening because there are not enough officers. He requested the Council to hire more officers to better serve the community better.

Mayor Hodge closed the public hearing closed at 10:35 pm

Mayor Pro Tem Romero explained the cannabis overlay zone will be extended and separate the small business from the larger businesses. He stated he is all for creating the small scale and the industrial scale in order not to limit the smaller business. He stated he opposition in adding another parcel into the cannabis overlay zone because the zone has more than enough real estate at the moment for it to be re-extended. He recommended council members make the amendment to allow the creating small scale and industrial scale but not to add the one parcel to the cannabis overlay zone.

City Attorney Campos stated the ordinance presented makes two amendments to the current zoning; one to extend the overlay zone and two to create the small scale and industrial scale urban structures. Section two of the ordinance makes the amendments to the cannabis overlay zone definition so if the council desired to move forward on revising the permitting structure, council could adopt the ordinance as presented with the deletion of section two of the ordinance.

Council Member Pacheco stated his issue is that the Planning Commission did not approve and he would rather work with the Planning Commission and not go against.

Assistant City Manager Figueroa stated the Planning Commission did approve the change in structure of small and industrial scale companies but did not approve the change to add a parcel to

the cannabis overlay zone. In addition, the cannabis sub-committee provided direction to staff in the same way as the Planning Commission.

Council Member Reisin stated he had been against it due to a church being nearby but was advised the church is no longer there. City Manager stated there is no church on the parcel but there is a church to the south.

Assistant City Manager Figueroa stated the ad-hoc committee along with the Planning Commission recommended that no additional parcels be included in the cannabis overlay zone and approve the change in the small scale and industrial scale structure being proposed.

Chris Velasco, Planning Consultant explained the ordinance amendments which separates the cannabis into small scale and industrial scale and provide an equal playing field for people who want to participate in the cannabis industry in Calexico.

Assistant City Manager Figueroa stated although the Planning Commission and Ad-hoc Sub-Committee said otherwise, there was interest from a private citizen to include a parcel.

Commissioner Cota questioned the purpose of the commission if the recommendation is not going to be taken into consideration.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Romero to approve the first reading of the Ordinance presented with the omission of section which expands the overlay zone and set a small scale and industrial scale cannabis permitting structure. Motion was seconded by Council Member Pacheco and passed unanimously.

City Attorney Campos read the ordinance in title only.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Romero seconded by Mayor Hodge motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

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Bill Hodge, Mayor

#### **ATTEST:**

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Gabriela T. Garcia, City Clerk

**THE CITY COUNCIL/CALEXICO COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY SUCCESSOR AGENCY/CALEXICO FINANCING AUTHORITY MET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON THE 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2019 AT 6:00 PM AT THE FERNANDO "NENE" TORRES COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 608 HEBER AVENUE, CALEIXCO, CALIFORNIA. THE DATE, HOUR AND PLACE DULY ESTABLISHED FOR THE HOLD OF SAID MEETING.**

**CLOSED SESSION AGENDA – 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hodge called the closed session portion of the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor: Bill Hodge  
Mayor Pro Tem: David Romero  
Council Member: Morris Reisin  
Council Member: Lewis Pacheco

**ABSENT:**

Council Member: Arreola-Fernandez

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No Public Comments.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion was made by Council Member Pacheco and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

Council adjourned to closed session at 6:06 p.m. to discuss the following:

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION  
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)  
Ana Zaragoza v. City of Calexico, et al.  
Imperial County Superior Court, Case No. ECU000163

Council reconvened from closed session at 6:20 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

City Attorney Campos reported direction was given, no reportable action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

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Bill Hodge, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Gabriela T. Garcia, City Clerk

**THE CITY COUNCIL/CALEXICO COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY SUCCESSOR AGENCY/CALEXICO FINANCING AUTHORITY MET IN REGULAR SESSION ON THE 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JULY 2019 AT 6:30 PM AT THE FERNANDO “NENE” TORRES COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 608 HEBER AVENUE, CALEIXCO, CALIFORNIA. THE DATE, HOUR AND PLACE DULY ESTABLISHED FOR THE HOLD OF SAID MEETING.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hodge called the regular meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor: Bill Hodge  
Mayor Pro Tem: David Romero  
Council Member: Morris Reisin  
Council Member: Lewis Pacheco

**ABSENT:**

Council Member: Arreola-Fernandez

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Hodge led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

Assistant City Manager Figueroa led those present in reciting the City’s Mission Statement.

**INVOCATION:**

Mayor Pro Tem Romero provided the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Romero, seconded by Council Member Reisin to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

Mayor Hodge read statement provided by Council Member Arreola-Fernandez regarding her accidents. Mayor Hodge discussed the matter regarding Council Member Arreola-Fernandez’s accidents and advised those present the Council cannot do anything about her position on the council. Mayor read the rules of decorum to the public. He advised Council Member Arreola-Fernandez would be returning on August 7, 2019.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jason Jung addressed Council Member Arreola-Fernandez accident's and commented on the time it took the Police Department to report it to the District Attorney's office. He also spoke about Council Member Arreola-Fernandez's lack of reporting to the FPPC. He further stated there are persons carrying out projects without permits and questioned why city laws are not equal for all citizens.

Joong spoke about Council Member Arreola-Fernandez and stated he would hold his comments until she returns. He questioned Mayor Hodge for stating he was holding a town hall meeting which did not happen. He expressed his concern over the lack of jobs in Calexico and the impact on the Santo Tomas merchants with the closing of the swap meet.

Item No. 4: Joong Kim spoke on utilizing funding for recreation and not for parks. He questions the use of funding for buildings instead of parks. He further questioned why funds are being used for Carmen Durazo Cultural Arts Center since the City does not own the building. He stated the impact fees are for parks use.

Item No. 6: Joong Kim questioned the city for not writing the grant for the Community Center. He stated Community Center has income and they should sustain themselves. He pointed out that Chelsea is responsible for the Cultural Arts Center.

Item No. 7: Joong Kim spoke about CFD funding for Cordova Park and stated he was in favor of approving the resolution however, since the City did not comply with the State, grant funding cannot be obtained until the city finishes the single audit.

Item No. 9: Joong Kim stated there is no money from cannabis and people are already selling in the streets. He asked where the police is on this matter. He stated the council members are responsible for providing services and the City needs fifty or more officers because Calexico is a border town.

Ricardo Servin, 818 Dool Avenue spoke in support of Council Member Fernandez and how she assists of many people.

Alberto Alvizu spoke about the statement read by Mayor Hodge and asked the council for their opinion on her situation. He spoke in support of the second street merchants and asked the council to take time to listen to the merchants.

Mayor Hodge announced he will have a public forum regarding 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Imperial Avenue on July 23, 2019.

Cesar Aguilar about the change of traffic from Imperial Avenue to Cesar Chavez Blvd., and addressed his store's responsibility as a duty free business to get the traffic to exit to Mexico. He stated his business will end if the traffic exiting to Mexico is only on Cesar Chavez. He proposed leaving traffic to continue from Imperial Avenue to Second Street to the Port of Entry so businesses do not go to bankruptcy. He further stated it would be costly for them to move their businesses to Cesar Chavez Blvd.

**CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Pacheco spoke about installing stop signs at Grant Street to address speeds along this street.

Council Member Reisin spoke on the public forum on July 23, 2019 to address the 2nd Street and Imperial Avenue issue and expressed his support to continue to have Imperial Avenue open to the traffic going into Mexico. He stated the council cannot comment on Council Member Rosie's situation however stated his support for her to stay.

Mayor Pro Tem Romero reported meeting with Deputada Federal Lizeth Noriega. He met with her and spoke about unity between Calexico and Mexicali and the New River Project. Deputada Noriega will work on the cleaning of the new river prior to arriving in Calexico. He will report on future updates and economic development projects.

Mayor Hodge addressed the issues and serious concerns with Rockwood Park, the homeless and young gang members. He spoke on the gang member's harassment of people attending the park and requested stepping up the policing of the park. He also spoke on a cooling center for the homeless. He spoke about grant funding through Proposition 68 to enhance the park and stated public forums will take place in the future to address Proposition 68.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Assistant City Manager Figueroa informed the Council he will oversee the Development Services Department while the City continues the recruitment for a Development Services Director. He recognized Mr. Cuauhtemoc Cortez, Building and Chris Velasco, Planning who will be running these departments to move and expedite the projects. He extended invitation to the New River Public Forum on July 18, 2019 from 5-7 p.m. at the Woman's Improvement Club. He advised Phase 1 of the New River Project has an anticipated completion date of June 2020 and Ms. Falomir will undertake the bidding process for the construction of Phase 1B. He thanked the City Manager's from El Centro, Brawley, Imperial and Calipatria who attended the Imperial County Transportation Commission Management Committee meeting hosted by Calexico and recognized Mark Baza, ICTC Executive Director and the representatives from Caltrans and ICMA.

Mayor Pro Tem Romero congratulated Mr. Cortez and Mr. Velasco for the work they are doing in building and planning.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion was made by Council Member Pacheco, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following: 1. Approval of City Council/Calexico Community Redevelopment Agency Successor Agency/Calexico Financing Authority Minutes for Meeting of June 24, 2019; 2. Warrants from June 22, 2019 to July 5, 2019 and City Salaries from June 22, 2019 to July 5, 2019; 3. Approve the Revised Adopt-A-Green Area Program Information and Application Forms; 4. Adopt Budget Amendment Resolution for Fund # 431 Parks and Recreation Impact Fees; 5. Approval of Resolution Terminating Subdivision Surety Agreement with Calexico

Enterprises and KOA Development, Inc.; 6. Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Calexico Approving the Application for Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant Funds for Community Center Renovation Project; 7. Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Calexico Approving the Application for Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant Funds for Adrian Cordova Park Expansion Project; 8. Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Calexico Approving the Application for Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant Funds for Heber Park Expansion Project; 9. Conduct a Second Reading by Title Only and Adopt Ordinance No. 1202 – An Ordinance Amending Section 17.11.1040, of Chapter 17.11, Title 17 (Zoning) of the Calexico Municipal Code Creating a Small Scale and Industrial Scale Cannabis Permitting Structure; 10. Approval of CalWorks PREP Program Agreement with the County of Imperial and Authorizing the City Manager to Sign Agreement. Motion passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco

NOES: None

ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

**AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF CALEXICO AND HEARTLAND FOR PAYROLL SERVICES.**

Karla Lobatos presented the item and advised that Benefit Mall was not able to provide the required services. She stated Heartland will be able to provide the services that Benefit Mall could not. She advised she met with Heartland and she is confident they can provide the services needed by the city. Ms. Lobatos answered questions from the Council. Assistant City Manager Figueroa stated this action will free up the Finance Manager to better assist the Finance Director.

Mayor Pro Tem Romero stated the City not sign until a mock payroll is conducted. City Attorney Campos stated the motion can be stated to state the contract

Joong Kim spoke against the city going out and giving the job to outsiders and taking away from the employee. He asked the council not give the job away.

Motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Romero to authorize City Manager to Sign Agreement for Professional Services between the City of Calexico and Heartland for Payroll Services upon the successful completion of a mock payroll. Motion was seconded by Council Member Pacheco and passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco

NOES: None

ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

**AWARD THE BID PROPOSAL FROM COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL ROOFING CO. INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$82,760.00 AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO**

**SIGN CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT FOR COMMUNITY CENTER ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

Liliana Falomir gave a brief history on the conditions of the community center roof and advised the city went out to bid and two bids were received and come to council for approval of the low bidder.

Joong Kim should not spend money for the roof at community and it should be used for parks. He suggested saving the funds for parks improvements and opposed using the funding for the building.

Motion by Council Member Reisin to Award the Bid Proposal from Commercial & Industrial Roofing Co. Inc. in the amount of \$82,760.00 and authorize City Manager to Sign Construction Agreement for Community Center Roof Replacement Project. Motion seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero and passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

**AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO PURCHASE TWO (2) CATERPILLAR 420F2 BACKHOE LOADERS FROM EMPIRE MACHINERY FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UNDER SOURCEWELL (FORMERLY NJPA) COOPERATIVE PURCHASE AGREEMENT.**

Motion was made by Council Member Pacheco, seconded by Council Member Reisin to Authorize the City Manager to Purchase Two (2) Caterpillar 420F2 Backhoe Loaders from Empire Machinery for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant under Sourcewell (Formerly NJPA) Cooperative Purchase Agreement. Motion passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

**AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF CALEXICO AND DYNAMIC CONSULTING ENGINEERS TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR RELOCATION AND ABANDONMENT OF WATER LINE ON BIRCH STREET (HWY. 98) FROM OLLIE AVENUE TO ALLEY WEST OF EMERSON AVENUE.**

Public Works Manager Falomir presented the item and stated there is a need to abandon an eight inch and ten inch waterline and due to this being a time sensitive project because Caltrans wants to begin their construction in March 2020, the City sent out a task order to the five on-call engineering firms for preparation of plans and specifications for the waterline replacement project. Only two proposals were received; first was from Yanez Engineering for \$24,000 and the second from Dynamic Engineering for \$29,200. Staff requested authorization to award the lowest

proposal which would be Yanez Engineering or Council could choose to select Dynamic Engineering. Assistant City Manager Figueroa stated the lowest bid should be considered.

Joong Kim stated the need to work together and smarter and questioned why the City is abandoning water lines. He cautioned against it for emergency purposes. He commented on giving away the job to the outsider rather than the local and spoke in favor of supporting the local consultant.

Public Works Manager Falomir recommended Dynamic Consulting Engineers and advised the funding for the project would come from the water fund.

Mayor Pro Tem Romero stated the City should stick to the lowest bid. He supported and recommended Yanez Engineering.

Mayor Hodge spoke about Yanez Engineering being a reputable local firm and supported awarding them. Council Member Reisin concurred on awarding local and award to Yanez Engineering.

Motion was made by Council Member Reisin to Authorize City Manager to Sign Agreement for Professional Services between the City of Calexico and Yanez Engineering to Provide Engineering Services for Relocation and Abandonment of Water Line on Birch Street (Hwy. 98) from Ollie Avenue to Alley West of Emerson Avenue. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero and passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

#### **DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATES FOR THE 2019 LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE – OCTOBER 16-18, 2019 IN LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA.**

Motion was made by Council Member Pacheco, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Romero to appoint Mayor Hodge as the Voting Delegate, and Mayor Pro Tem Romero and Council Member Reisin as Alternates for the 2019 League of California Cities Annual Conference. Motion passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Pro Tem Romero requested an item on the rezoning for the RV and Mobile Home Parking.

Council Member Pacheco requested an updated list on the summer activities for the kids.

Assistant City Manager announced that per the Master Calendar, the Council will go dark for the month of August.

Mayor Hodge requested the following items:

1. An item to amend the budget create a new budget line item for the cultural arts center.
2. Reform the commission to separate the library from the current commission and have a commission consisting only of the cultural arts, arts and historical.

Council Member Reisin requested an item for the air conditioning needed at the cultural arts center.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. on a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Romero, seconded by Council Member Pacheco and passed by the following vote to wit:

AYES: Hodge, Romero, Reisin, Pacheco  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Arreola-Fernandez

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Bill Hodge, Mayor

### **ATTEST:**

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Gabriela T. Garcia, City Clerk