

## **MINUTES**

### **CITY OF DELANO CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING November 15, 2021**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Osorio called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1015 – 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

#### **INVOCATION**

Mayor Osorio offered a moment of silence.

#### **FLAG SALUTE**

Council Member Morris led the flag salute.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Council members present: Bryan Osorio, Veronica Vasquez (via teleconference), Joe Alindajao, Liz Morris, Salvador Solorio-Ruiz

Council members absent: None.

#### **OFFICIALS PRESENT**

City Manager Reyna, City Clerk Chavez, City Attorney Richman (via teleconference), City Engineer Dowling, Finance Director Lara Rios, Chief of Police Davis (via teleconference) and Interim Community Development Director Mynk (via teleconference)

#### **PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

Featured Pet – Azael presented by Finance Director Rios

Mayor Osorio presented 2021 Small Business Saturday Proclamation to Pam Woo from WIPP.

#### **ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC**

1. Jose Orellana commented concerning the death of a houseless community member and is inquiring what the City is doing if anything to look for state and federal grants to alleviate the issue of homelessness. He further stated this issue is not going away unless they find permanent and short-term solutions. He brought up a grant he had flagged two weeks ago in which Governor Newsome encampment resolution grant program giving \$15 million to local governments to help homelessness, so he hopes this can prevent another death.

2. Suzanne Villaruz apologized to the Council Members at the last event for not introducing them. She also thanked Miguel who works for Noemi Zamudio, and he was absolutely the most helpful. She further stated that he was very helpful in assisting in securing lights for the event as well.
3. Pastor David Vivas reiterated questions from previous council meetings. He specifically directed this to Council Member Sal Solorio-Ruiz as he's waiting for a response from the December 21, 2020 Council Meeting where he said "SROs arrested many 11 year olds." He stated that he at first understood that was misinformation and doesn't believe it was done purposefully, but he has had every ample opportunity to set the record straight and has not. He not sure if Council Member Solorio-Ruiz is being coached to not answer his questions, but he hopes that he retracts his statement. He referenced Interim Chief Nicholson stated there were five arrests in which the youngest was 13 years old and did not substantiate that statement. He had hoped that Council Member Solorio-Ruiz would have retracted the statement as Council Members are not to give misinformation as he does not want the police department to be demonized and undermined. He further stated that he would expect the City Council to stand up for the Delano Police Officers and not throw them under the bus.
4. Yolanda Vega had concerns regarding the City Council approving SROs for the and high school and elementary schools. She referenced the sheriff's department had cancelled all SRO contract due to not having enough staff and made valid points by Sheriff Youngblood as he would not jeopardize the wellbeing of his staff. She further asked what actions will be taken with just approving SROs for all the schools with just one SRO. She emphasized with information not provided during that city council meeting as the City's department is short staff at 17, and yet the county is not as short staffed, they made the decision to protect the community and their staff. She posed the questions, "How responsible is the City of Delano being with allowing one police officer with all schools in the Delano?" She hopes this is placed back on the agenda to work on a revision or placing a hold as she doesn't see it adequate where the City would take ten steps back and suggest the City Council to reconsider their decision.
5. Hector Jimenez stated that he just joined the meeting and he just heard that five students had been arrested where the youngest being 13, in which this was brought up a good thing. He emphasized for the public that this is not a good thing as young kids should not be arrested, and this is not a good precedent to have and bringing this up as a good thing.
6. Anthony Cortez commented on the city council meeting during public comment. He referenced the Mayor's statement before the public comment and did not appreciate being cutoff without a warning. He further stated how others were over the three minute mark without warning. He asked the Mayor if he told the technician to cut them off at three minutes if so then that technician did not follow his instructions. If that was not the case then did the Mayor message the technician to cut them off. He told the Mayor that he has not been consistent during public comment.

## CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Authorization to waive the reading of any ordinance in its entirety and consenting to the reading of such ordinances by title only
- 2) Warrant Register in the amount of \$1,621,681.64
- 3) Minutes of regular City Council Meeting of October 18, 2021
- 4) Acceptance and Approval of the City of Delano Quarterly Investment Report
- 5) Status report on project development impact fees (AB1600 requirements) for the five year period ending June 30, 2021
- 6) Award of “Emergency 911 Antenna Tower Replacement Project” being performed by Tashjian Towers Corporation (Tower contractor from Fowler, CA), with a not to exceed budget of \$95,881.00 and authorization for the City Manager, or her designee, to sign the contract and any other documents needed to carry this project to completion (**Agreement No. 2021-53**)
- 7) Acceptance of the 2021 CDBG Asti-Austin 8th-10th Alley Sewer-Water Replacement Project and authorizing the filing of the Notice of Completion

**Motion was made by: Alindajao to approved items 1 – 7 on consent;**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Morris**

**Vote: 5-0**

**Ayes:** Osorio/Vasquez/Alindajao/Morris/Solorio-Ruiz

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Abstentions:** None

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

No Items.

## REGULAR AGENDA

No Items.

## DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

No Items.

## COUNCIL STATEMENTS AND REPORTS

Council Member Alindajao: He welcomed and congratulated Big Lots and welcomes everyone to come and shop. He shared his excitement about the Christmas Parade being back and invited

everyone on December 9<sup>th</sup>. He asked city staff, specifically the City Attorney to place on the agenda the possibility and viability of making the Mayor position as an elected position.

Council Member Morris: She attend the Big Lots event and purchased a sofa and table. She encouraged people join the parade or the Christmas Fair as a vendor. She invited everyone to come out. She commented about Yolanda Vega's comment about the SROs in which she wanted to say that they have one SRO for the protection of thousands and thousands of students as she mentioned the protection of the residents, Council Member Morris asked what about the protection of the students as she doesn't believe one SRO is enough and they are also residents of this town.

Council Member Solorio-Ruiz: He volunteered helping Dona Ana to make food plates for the unhoused folks a few weeks ago. He also attended with his Vice Mayor Vasquez at the Big Lots grand opening. He invited everyone to the food distribution at the Jefferson Center. He thanked city staff for coordinating, specifically Sumeet and her team. As he always says he encourages community input and encourages anyone to call him regarding any issue they care about. Therefore, he addressed the consistent concerns brought by Mr. Vivas as he did clarify a couple council meetings back. He stated he would clarify once again as last December he did repeat information that was told to him by a school administrator when it came to SROs a few council meetings ago, Interim Chief Nicholson clarified that a few meetings ago. He stated that his mistake was believing the school administrator instead of clarifying from the initial call.

Mayor Pro Tem Vasquez: She stated she attend the ribbon cutting. She stated that she is collecting with some community members collecting beanies, socks, blankets, and gloves for the houseless. She also gave a donation to the Delano Police Foundation for their turkey drive. She also will be contributing to the Giving Tree event hosted by the Kiwanis. She brought regarding the SROs as they are talking about protecting the kids, but the City Council is responsible for protecting the entire community. She therefore does not see realistic to have such an expectation on one SRO to protect 17 schools and stretch them thin.

*City Attorney Richman interrupted that there is not a deliberation on the SRO contract as it is not on the agenda, so if a third person comments it becomes a collective discussion.*

Mayor Osorio: He attended the first half of the Delano Community Alliance meeting with Finance Director Rosa Rios. He met with city staff regarding some policy proposals, so he asked the public to stay tuned for that. He and Vice Mayor Vasquez met with a State Water Board member regarding a pilot sharing date program to expand access for the current consumers in Delano and intertwined with private entities in Delano. He requested if they can have discussion to expand energy low income sharing program. He also seconded about an elected mayor. In regards to Mr. Cortez's comments, he did have a conversation with city staff and believe the fault is shared as he should be enforced more consistently. In regards to Mr. Orellana's comments, he believes there will be discussion on some updates and was thankful for Mr. Orellana bringing this item up.

**Moved for Closed Session by: Alindajao**  
**2nd by: Morris**

**Time: 6:17PM**

**Vote: 5-0**

**Ayes:** Osorio/Vasquez/Alindajao/Morris/Solorio-Ruiz

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Abstentions:** None

The City Clerk was excused. City Manager was appointed as Acting City Clerk. City Manager Reyna and City Attorney Richman were present for item No. 8.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

- 8) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Govt. Code Section 54957: City Manager (**Agreement No. 2021-54**)

**Action:** Satisfactory performance.

**Motion made by:** Solorio-Ruiz

**2nd by:** Morris

**Vote: 5-0**

**Ayes:** Osorio/Vasquez/Alindajao/Morris/Solorio-Ruiz

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Abstentions:** None

**Moved for Open Session by:** Solorio-Ruiz

**2nd by:** Solorio-Ruiz

**Time: 8:37PM**

**Vote: 5-0**

**Ayes:** Osorio/Vasquez/Alindajao/Morris/Solorio-Ruiz

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** None

**Abstentions:** None

### **RETURN TO GENERAL SESSION**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Council Member Solorio-Ruiz, seconded by Morris, and unanimously carried 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:37p.m.

---

Ricardo G. Chavez, City Clerk