

Minutes

City of Soledad
Joint City Council/Successor Agency
Regular Meeting

October 06, 2021
*AMENDED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Velazquez called the City Council/Successor Agency Meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Following Councilmembers/Agencymembers were present when the meeting was called to order:

Mayor/Chair	Anna M. Velazquez
Councilmember/Agencymember	Ben Jimenez, Jr.
Councilmember/Agencymember	Marisela Lara
Mayor Pro Tem/Vice Chair	Carla Strobridge

THE FOLLOWING COUNCILMEMBER WAS ABSENT

Councilmember/Agencymember Alejandro Chavez

CLOSED SESSION

1. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 to give instructions to the City's negotiator concerning the sale/exchange/lease of property located at 183 Soledad Street (Assessor Parcel Numbers 022-026-001, -002, and -017). Instructions will include price and terms of payment.
2. The City Council will recess to closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) to confer with its legal counsel - Significant exposure to litigation.

CLOSED SESSION REPORTS

1. City Attorney Mike Rodriguez reported with respect to item no. 1, the council met with the City's real property negotiator and provided instructions. No other reportable action taken.

2. With respect to item no. 2, the council met with legal counsel and discussed matters, direction was provided. No other reportable action taken.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Soledad High School NJROTC led the Presentation of Colors
2. Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge led the Pledge of Allegiance

ADDITIONS/MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

1. A Proclamation of the City of Soledad Proclaiming September 15, 2021, to October 15, 2021, as Latinx Heritage Month.
 - Chief Business Official for the Soledad Unified School District Dr. Conny Santa Cruz briefly spoke on what it means to her to be a part of the Latinx Heritage.
 - South County Field Representative for the office of Assemblymember Robert Rivas Isabel Mesa briefly spoke on what it means to her to be a part of the Latinx Heritage.
 - Former Soledad Youth Councilmember Laura Rivera briefly spoke on what it means to her to be a part of the Latinx Heritage.
 - Current Soledad Youth Councilmember Liliana Negrete briefly spoke on what it means to her to be a part of the Latinx Heritage.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Community Engagement Manager Lynnelle Sanchez gave a brief background about the City of Soledad Student Intern Program. She thanked the parents of the student interns for their support of their students involved in the program.

1. Student Intern Eduardo Vasquez thanked Community Engagement Manager Lynnelle Sanchez and Building Permit Technician Jeanette Boykin for their guidance. He hopes in the future the student Intern Program can be advertised more. He feels it is a good program for youth to be a part of.
2. Economic Development & Housing Program Coordinator Hortencia Vargas gave a brief introduction of Student Intern Isaac Pizano who served as the student intern at the Soledad Economic Development Department. Student Intern Isaac Pizano thanked The City Council and City staff for the opportunity to be a student intern. Through the program he was able to gain some experience needed to reach his future goals. He would recommend the student intern program to any of his peers.

Mayor Velazquez thanked the students for the efforts they put forth over the last six weeks. She also thanked Community Engagement Manager Lynnelle Sanchez for bringing the program forward.

YOUTH COUNCIL'S REPORT

- Soledad Youth Commission members Sophia Vargas and Alan Briseño presented a brief verbal update along with their written report of October 6, 2021.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Monterey County Health Department Chronic Disease Prevention Coordinator Gonzalo Coronado gave a brief presentation regarding local tobacco retail.

There was one written public comment received via email by both Mayor Pro Tem Carla Strobridge and Mayor Velazquez from Mr. Dale Hillard, Resident of City of Salinas. Mayor Velazquez read the written comment into the minutes:

In support of the presentation on local Tobacco Retail on Wed (10-6-21), I would like to share with you the American Lung Association Report Card for the City of Soledad. Soledad's report card grade is an F. The below chart demonstrates that adopting a TRLO will put Soledad on par with other cities in Monterey County and the grade will probably change to a C. Even though I don't live in the City of Soledad, I have been a teacher & counselor for Gonzales and Soledad school districts for 32 years retiring in 2000. I have a deep concern about the addictive properties of Tobacco products that are being sold to our youth. Thank you for considering taking a step to protect the youth of the city of Soledad.

Direction was provided by Council to work with the County to Prepare a draft Tobacco Retail License Ordinance for council review and approval.

2. City of Soledad Information Technology Director Steven Andranigian gave a presentation regarding the launch of the new City of Soledad website.

The council thanked Information Technology Director Steven Andranigian for his efforts in creating a more user-friendly and visually appealing City website.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments or questions at this time.

Motion: Councilmember Jimenez made motion to approve items C-1 through C-5. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge and carried by the following vote:

Action:

Ayes: Jimenez, Strobridge, Lara, Velazquez
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Chavez

C-1. Approval of Minutes

Joint City Council/Successor Agency Regular Meeting Minutes of October 06, 2021.

C-2. Warrants

045531 – 045820

There was a mistake in the numbering of Resolution No. 5744. The number at issue has been renumbered to Resolution No. 5748.

- C-3. Resolution No. 5748, A Resolution of the City council of the City of Soledad Approving an Application for Funding and the Execution of a Grant Agreement and Any Amendments Thereto From the 2020 Community Development Block Grant Program - Coronavirus Response Round 2 and 3 (CDBG-CV2 and CV-3) NOFA Dated December 18, 2020, Update on Economic Development Programs.

C-4. Resolution No. 5745, A Resolution of the City council of the City of Soledad Accepting the Community Center Reroofing Project as Complete by Pueblo Construction Inc. and Authorizing the Release of Retention Payment.

C-5. City of Soledad Monthly Department Activity Reports.

PUBLIC HEARING NO. 1

- Receive the Staff report
- Open the Public Hearing – 8:02 p.m.
- Close the Public Hearing – 8:04 p.m.
- Council Action

PH-1. Ordinance No. 739, Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Soledad Amending Chapter 14.06 – “Public Facilities Development Impact Fees” of Title 14 – “Impact Mitigation Fees” of the Soledad Municipal Code Adjusting City of Soledad Development Impact Fees.

City Manager Brent Slama presented the staff report.

Mayor Velazquez opened the public hearing for any questions or comments at 8:02 p.m.

There were no questions or comments from the public at this time.

Mayor Velazquez closed the public hearing at 8:04 p.m.

Motion: Councilmember Jimenez made motion to approve Ordinance No. 739, An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Soledad Amending Chapter 14.06 – “Public Facilities Development Impact Fees” of Title 14 – “Impact Mitigation Fees” of the Soledad Municipal Code Adjusting City of Soledad Development Impact Fees. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge and carried by the following vote:

Action:

Ayes: Jimenez, Strobridge, Lara, Velazquez
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Chavez

BUSINESS

B-1. Resolution No. No. 5746, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Soledad Approving the Liberty Chapel Church’s Request for Use of the Community Center for

their Annual Harvest Night Community Event on October 31, 2021, and Authorizing Sponsorship of the Event.

City Manager Slama presented the staff report.

There were no public comments or questions at this time.

Councilmember Jimenez is in favor of the City being a sponsor of the event. He would also like to see a policy developed for the use of the Community Center and future events.

Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge agrees with Councilmember Jimenez, she is in favor of the City being a sponsor of the event.

Councilmember Lara would also like the City to be a sponsor of the event. She would like to develop a criterion for use of the Community Center and sponsorship of future events. She would like a part of the criteria be; the event should be open to the community, free of charge and the requester should not be making any money from the event.

Mayor Velazquez agrees with all points made by the council. She agrees there should be clear criteria and guidelines for use of the facility.

There were no public comments at this time.

City Manager Slama said staff will move forward with developing criteria and present the information to council.

Councilmember Lara asked if the council could be provided a list of past sponsored events held at the Community Center.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge made motion to adopt Resolution No. 5746. Motion was seconded by Mayor Velazquez and carried by the following vote:

Action:

Ayes:	Strobridge, Velazquez, Lara, Jimenez
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Chavez

B-2. AB 361 and the Creation of New Law Authorizing Continued Remote Teleconference Meetings for Legislative Bodies.

City Attorney Mike Rodriguez presented the staff report and details of the item.

Councilmember Jimenez asked if the public will still be able to participate in council meetings via Zoom or must they participate in-person.

Attorney Mike Rodriguez said there is nothing prohibiting the public in participating through Zoom.

Mayor Velazquez asked if this item would need to be brought back every 30 days.

City Attorney Mike Rodriguez said this item does not need to be brought back every 30 days.

There were no public comments at this time.

Motion:

Information was received by council.

The council provided direction.

No Action taken for this item.

MAYORS' REPORT

- On 09/22 – 09/24 she attended the League of California Cities Annual Conference.
- On 10/01 she attended the Monterey County Mayors Association meeting.
- She thanked the local healthcare workers for their census outreach efforts.
- On 10/04 she participated in a lunch with the Monterey County Convention Visitors Bureau.
- On 10/06 she met with Superintendent Randy Bangs.
- She announced there will be a Soledad pop-up Clinic in Partnership with McDonalds. She thanked Monterey County, The VIDA Program, Kim Stemler and Community Engagement Manager Lynnelle Sanchez for organizing the event.
- On 10/15 there will be a ribbon cutting for the CHISPA, Rancho San Vicente, 8 homes.
- Congressman Jimmy Pineda will be visiting the Soledad Health Care District, please RSVP to be a part of that event.
- There will be a ribbon cutting in King City for the new MST facility on 10/11 at 1:00.

COUNCILMEMBERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Lara had 1 item to report:

1. On 09/29 She attended the Special Joint Soledad Unified School District and Soledad City Council meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge had 5 items to report:

1. On 09/08 there was an AMBAG meeting. She was not able to attend.
2. On 09/16 she attended Monterey County Animal Advisory Board meeting.

3. On 09/25 she attended the Special Economic Development meeting. She thanked staff for their presentations.
4. On 09/29 she attended the Special Joint meeting between the Soledad Unified School District and the Soledad City Council.
5. On 09/27 she attended a meeting with Supervisor Lopez, City Manager Slama, Chief Wasson and the other four Cities City Managers and Chiefs regarding animal control sheltering services.

Councilmember Jimenez had 3 items to report:

1. On 09/16 he attended the SVSWA meeting.
2. On 09/25 he attended the Special Economic Development meeting.
3. On 09/29 he attended the ACCAPS meeting.

Mayor Velazquez asked Councilmember Jimenez if he is able to share any information, he hears of any future closures of the CTF wings here in the local prison, the information would be important to know.

COUNCILMEMBERS' PRAISES

Councilmember Jimenez praised Woodyard Mortuary for beautifying his business, it looks very nice.

Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge praised staff for coordination the Community Yard Sale. She is also very excited to see the work that is being put into the South County Job Fair.

Councilmember Lara praised the Economic Development Director Bryan Swanson for presenting all the information given at the Special meeting of 09/25. She also thanked City manager Slama for always being very helpful. She thanked the City staff for always doing a great job in the Community.

Mayor Velazquez thanked Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge for her great idea of organizing a Community Yard Sale.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- City Manager Slama reported the council has his written report.
- The Soledad theater should be opening this month.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Pro Tem Strobridge had

1. She would like a detailed update on the City's recruitment efforts for law enforcement.
2. She would like an update on the Rubion and Metz Road intersection.
3. She would like to know if there are plans to replace the sign outside of City Hall.
4. Street marking are looking very faded, especially on the older side of town and hopes improvements can be made.
5. She would like to know if staff could look into the cost of building holding kennels behind the police department.

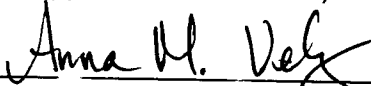
Mayor Velazquez had 2 items:

1. She would like the "Welcome to the Pinnacles" sign cleaned because it is very dirty.
2. She would like to move forward with understanding policies regarding storage of portable restrooms in the area at the entrance of the City.

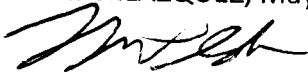
ADJOURNMENT

- 8:47 p.m.

Minutes Approved: October 20, 2021



ANNA M. VELAZQUEZ, Mayor/Chair



BRENT SLAMA, City Clerk/Agency Secretary

