



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**September 3, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chamber - 1243 National City Boulevard
National City, CA**

Present: Councilmember Bush (*via Zoom*)
Councilmember Molina
Councilmember Rodriguez
Vice-Mayor Yamane
Mayor Morrison

Others Present: Ben Martinez, City Manager
Barry J. Schultz, City Attorney
Shelley Chapel, City Clerk (*via Zoom*)
Carlos Aguirre, Director of Community Development
Walter Amedee, Management Analyst III
Juanita Castaneda, Recreation Supervisor
Phil Davis, Interim Finance Director
Danielle Ghio, Acting City Librarian
Brian Hadley, Deputy City Manager
Alex Hernandez, Chief of Police
Lydia Hernandez, Director of Human Resources
Tonya Hussain, Deputy City Clerk
Stephen Manganiello, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
Joanne McGhee, Community Services Manager
Sergio Mora, Fire Chief

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City was called to order at 6:10 p.m. via teleconference and in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

AB 2449 Request:

City Councilmember Bush requested to attend the meeting virtually due to “Just Cause” due to illness.

Mayor Morrison explained the protocol for AB 2449 Teleconference Attendance of a City Councilmember.

Mayor Morrison confirmed that at least a quorum of the legislative body was present at the location of the meeting in City Council Chamber as identified on the agenda.

Mayor Morrison confirmed a two-way visual and telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting to allow the public to hear, and observe the meeting was available, and the opportunity for public to attend via call-in option, Zoom, and in-person location of the meeting.

This was the first (1) virtual City Council Meeting Councilmember Bush has attended in 2024 under the AB 2449 provision. Councilmember Bush stated that no one over the age of 18 was present in his location.

ACTION: The remote participation of Councilmember Bush due to “Just Cause” was approved by a unanimous vote.

2. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present: Bush (*via Zoom*), Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane, Morrison

Interpretation in Spanish provided by Carlos Diaz and Luisa Diaz de Leon.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Vice-Mayor Yamane led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. INVOCATION

Invocation was delivered.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Morrison summarized the process for acceptance of live public comment allowing three (3) minutes per comment and introduced City Clerk Chapel.

Two (2) speakers provided virtual comments and nine (9) people provided in-person comments.

In-person comment:

Ted Godshalk
Gregory Martinez
Matias D. Garcia
Leza Hutchinson
Susan Kennedy
Stephanie Beegan-Payan

Jackie Zoellick
Barbara Carnahan
Ed Nieto

Virtual Comment:

Megan Stuart

Becky Rapp

6. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITION

6.1 Proclamation - National Preparedness Month

Mayor Morrison introduced the Proclamation. The proclamation was presented and accepted by Management Analyst III Walter Amedee.

6.2 Introduction of New City Employees

Chief of Police Alex Hernandez, Acting City Librarian Danielle Ghio, Human Resources Director Lydia Hernandez, City Engineer Stephen Manganiello Councilmember Rodriguez, Vice-Mayor Yamane, and Interim Finance Director introduced new members of department staff.

7. PRESENTATION (Limited to Five (5) Minutes each)

7.1 Safe Summer National City Teen Nights

Presented by Juanita Castaneda, Recreation Supervisor who utilized a video.

Councilmember Bush exited Zoom visibility at 7:14 p.m. and returned at 7:16 p.m.

7.2 Update on Las Palmas Park Improvements

Director of Public Works, City Engineer Stephen Manganiello presented the item and provided a PowerPoint Presentation with Jim Neri, Neri Landscape Architecture; Naveen Waney, Platt/Whitelaw Architects, Inc.; and, Byron Wade, Project Professionals Corporation.

Community Service Manager Joanne McGhee addressed the Council.

8. REGIONAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS (Limited to Five (5) Minutes each)

Councilmember Rodriguez had nothing to report.

Councilmember Bush provided an update on the business of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control Board.

Councilmember Molina reported that the SANDAG Board of Directors meeting would resume in September and shared her previous volunteer work with the San Diego Registrar of Voters.

Vice-Mayor Yamane provided a brief update for the Sweetwater Authority and her attendance at a conference in San Antonio, Texas related to affordable water rates. She also spoke on the business of the San Diego County Water Authority.

Mayor Morrison also spoke to his attendance at the conference in San Antonio, Texas and provided information regarding the discussion of binational border issues. He further mentioned an Environmental Impact Report to be released by the Port of San Diego soon.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Bush to approve all Consent Calendar Items with the exception of Items 9.3 pulled by Councilmember Rodriguez and items 9.5 and 9.6 pulled for public comment.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 9.1 Approval of Reading by Title Only and Waiver of Reading in Full of Ordinance on this Agenda.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 9.2 Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes.
Approve and File.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item pulled for discussion.

- 9.3 Approval for Councilmember Luz Molina and Josie Flores-Clark to attend the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce 2024 Binational Delegation to Mexico City on October 20-23, 2024.

City Manager Ben Martinez introduced the item.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Mayor Morrison to approve the recommendation and add the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce Binational Delegation to Mexico City to the list of approved conferences for the City Council.

Councilmember Bush amended the motion to remove the recommendation to add the event to the list of approved conferences.

Original motion.

Ayes: Bush, Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane, Morrison

Nays: Rodriguez

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Grant approval for Councilmember Luz Molina and Josie Flores-Clark to attend the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce 2024 Binational Delegation to Mexico City on October 20-23, 2024.

- 9.4 Consultant Contract to Provide an Employee Assistance Program and Critical Incident Debriefings for the National City Police Department.

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-96.

Adopt a Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with Nancy K. Bohl, Inc. dba The Counseling Team International to Provide an Employee Assistance Program and Critical Incident Debriefings for the National City Police Department, in a Not-to-Exceed Amount Of \$24,000.00 per Year."

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item pulled for discussion.

- 9.5 County Contract for Senior Nutrition Services - Modification 1

Adopted Resolution No. 2024-97.

Community Services Manager Joanne McGhee provided a report.

Adopt the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Authorizing the Mayor to Execute Modification 1 to County of San Diego Contract 570896, Increasing the Senior Nutrition Program Grant by the Amount of \$269,280, Resulting in a New Maximum Agreement Amount of \$1,698,429."

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yamane to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Item pulled for discussion.

- 9.6 Warrant Register #3 for the period of 7/12/24 through 7/18/24 in the amount of \$915,424.88.

One (1) public comment was received from Ed Nieto.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$915,424.88.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Molina, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yamane to ratify the Warrant Register.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9.7 Warrant Register #4 for the period of 7/19/24 through 7/25/24 in the amount of \$2,835,606.62

One written comment was received from Ted Godshalk.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$2,835,606.62

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

10. PUBLIC HEARING

10.1 Ordinance for Introduction – Unauthorized Camping or Encampments on Public Property

Director of Community Development Carlos Aguirre provided a PowerPoint presentation. Homeless Services Coordinator Qiana Williamson, Chief of Police Alex Hernandez, City Engineer Stephen Manganiello, and Deputy City Attorney Ashlin Lutes addressed the Council.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 8:58 p.m.

In-person public comment:

Lawrence Emerson

Thomas Rike

Susan Meyer

Greg Boeh

Ed Nieto

Randi Castle-Salgado

Councilmember Rodriguez left the dais at 9:16 p.m. and returned at 9:18 p.m.

Councilmember Molina left the dais at 9:29 p.m. and returned at 9:31 p.m.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to close the Public Hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 9:38 p.m.

Recommendation: Introduce Ordinance by First Reading, Entitled, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Amending Title 10 of the National City Municipal Code by Adding Chapter 10.56, All Pertaining to Regulating Encampments on Public Property to Establish a Standard for the Protection of the Life, Health, and Safety of All People, and Sensitive Public Lands within the City of National City."

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison, seconded by Vice-Mayor Yamane to introduce the Ordinance.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

11. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

No report.

12. ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT

Closing remarks were provided by members of the City Council.

13. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mayor Morrison introduced City Attorney Schultz who announced that there was nothing to report on the Closed Session items.

5.1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of Case: Cali Mota LLC v City of National City et al.

Superior Court of California, County of San Diego

Case No. 37-2023-00007308-CU-WM-CTL

5.2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (1)

Name of Case: BCD, LLC v City of National City. et al.

Superior Court of California, County of San Diego

Case Number: 37-2023-00012507-CU-WM-CTL

5.3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of Case: Cummins v City of National City et al.

San Diego Superior Court

Case No. 37-2022-00004671-CU-OE-CTL

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Morrison adjourned to the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City, Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.



Tonya Hussain, Deputy City Clerk

The foregoing minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of September 17, 2024.



Ron Morrison, Mayor