

**MINUTES OF MENDOTA  
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

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**Special Meeting**

**Thursday May 2, 2013**

**Meeting called to order by Mayor Robert Silva at 7:00 p.m.**

**Roll Call**

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Robert Silva, Mayor Pro Tem Joseph Amador, and Councilors Joseph Riofrio and Sergio Valdez.

**Council Members Absent:** Councilor S. Leo Capuchino.

**Flag Salute Led by Mayor Silva**

**FINALIZE THE AGENDA**

Adjustments to the Agenda.

Adoption of the final Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Amador requested that citizens be allowed three minutes to provide comment as opposed to one. A motion was made to adopt the agenda with the aforementioned recommendation, seconded and unanimously approved (4 ayes; absent: Capuchino).

**PRESENTATION**

1. Presentation by City staff on the outlook for and allocation of water, sewer, and refuse enterprise funds.

City Manager Bryce Atkins presented on the purpose of the public forum; the nature and purpose of enterprise funds; expenses that revenues from the enterprise funds cover; the fiscal condition of each enterprise fund separately, including revenues and expenditures associated with each fund; the breakdown of management staff's salaries and what accounts are used to fund them; infrastructure projects completed without direct funding from residents through charges, fees, etc.; the next steps that are needed to be taken in order to ensure the future financial solvency of the City.

Discussion was held on the difference and restrictions of the general fund versus enterprise funds; the uses of tertiary-treated water if it were not cost prohibitive; the importance of taking the future into mind when calculating the appropriate rate to charge

for utilities; maintenance and supply costs from refuse services; the difficulty of predicting with certainty an accurate pattern of the cost of providing utilities; the risk of endeavoring to raise utility rates without a comprehensive rate study; the perceived inevitability of an increase in utility rates in order to offset the cost of providing services; the importance of being fair to businesses that use water; the importance of raising rates at a reasonable level; the importance of fostering economic development and focusing public resources on public safety, which does not include the discussed utilities; the difference in the amount of revenues received since the Mendota Unified School District (MUSD) started paying for the water they use; costs to residents related to water, sewer and refuse services; and how the City attempts to save money by buying gasoline in bulk when it is at a low price.

### **CITIZENS ORAL AND WRITTEN PRESENTATIONS**

**Edith Nolan (642 Pucheu)** – Stated that she cannot afford a raise in rates and that she knows others in Mendota that cannot either.

**Joe Calderon (797 Unida)** – Requested more information about the senior citizen discount offered by the city; and inquired as to the status of the street sweeper.

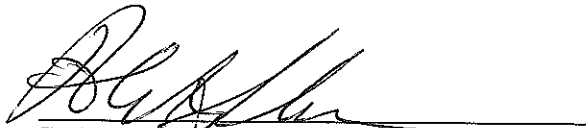
**Joe Gomez (2033 7<sup>th</sup> Street)** – Highlighted the importance of conserving water; and recommended that Council reduce expenses by foregoing trainings, stipends and other compensation.

**Lea Romero (Manager of the Casa de Rosas Apartment)** – Stated that she heard there is a proposal to raise rates; and that her property management company will have that much more difficulty in not passing higher costs on to their residents.

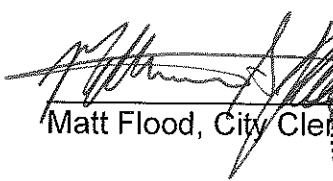
**Juan Amador (356 K Street)** – Stated that many people in Mendota would not be able to afford an increase in utility costs; and that the City should look to take advantage of other funding sources.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At the hour of 7:59 p.m., with no more business to be brought before the Council, a motion for adjournment was made by Mayor Pro Tem Amador, seconded by Councilor Valdez; unanimously approved (4 ayes; absent: Capuchino).

  
Robert Silva, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Matt Flood, City Clerk

