



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

February 3, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chamber - 1243 National City Boulevard
National City, CA

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

Others Present:
Alejandro Hernandez, Acting City Manager
Richard Romero, Acting City Attorney
Shelley Chapel, City Clerk (via Zoom)
Robert Drew, Deputy Fire Marshal
Rachelle Barrera, Acting Director of Finance
Mikki Vidamo, Management Analyst II / Literacy Services Manager
Tonya Hussain, Deputy City Clerk
Martha Juarez, Acting Deputy City Manager
Derek Aydelotte, NCPD Captain
Mike Pacheco, Director of Community Services
Ronny Soriano, Neighborhood Services Manager
Alicia Hicks, Director of Human Resources

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City was called to order at 6:01 p.m. via teleconference and in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

AB 2449 Request:

Mayor Morrison requested to attend the meeting virtually due to "Just Cause."

City Clerk Chapel 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.

This was the first virtual City Council Meeting Mayor Morrison had attended in 2026 under the AB 2449 provision. Mayor Morrison stated that no one over the age of 18 was in the same location as he.

ACTION: City Council approved Mayor Morrison’s request to participate remotely due to “Just Cause,” pursuant to AB 2449.

Motion passed by roll call vote.

2. ROLL CALL

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

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Councilmember Yamane led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. INVOCATION

Invocation delivered by National City Christian Center Co-Pastor Robert Dominguez.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice-Mayor Molina summarized the process for acceptance of live public comment allowing three (3) minutes per comment.

In-Person Comment:

Paul Wapnowski
Ed Nieto
Liliana Armenta
Delise Vann
Larry Emerson

Virtual Comment:

Peggy Walker
Becky Rapp

Written Comment:

David Garcia Ozua

6. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITION

6.1 Introduction of New Hires and Promotions of City Employees

Police Captain Ayedelotte, Acting Deputy City Manager/Assistant Director of Engineering & Public Works Martha Juarez, and Deputy Fire Marshal/Fire Inspector Robert Drew announced new members of department staff.

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

7.1 ARTS Annual Report

Director of Community Development Mike Pacheco introduced A Reason to Survive Advancement Coordinator Jose Lopez, Executive Director Lucy Eagleson, and Sweetwater High School student Sierra Lezama, and Interim Executive Director Olimpia Vázquez Ojeda who provided a PowerPoint presentation.

Councilmember Rodriguez left the dais at 6:56 p.m. and returned at 6:58 p.m.

7.2 Union Tower Apartments

Community Development Manager Angelita Palma introduced Wakeland Housing President & CEO Rebecca Louie who provided a PowerPoint presentation.

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

Councilmember Yamane reported on Metro Wastewater JPA and announced that the Sweetwater Authority received a \$1M grant for project funding.

Councilmember Bush spoke to the upcoming San Diego County Air Pollution Control Board meeting and Metropolitan Transit Systems meetings.

Mayor Morrison provided an update on the SANDAG Planning Committee and spoke to his attendance at SANDAG's National Association of Regional Councils in Washington, DC.

Vice-Mayor Molina provided an update on the SANDAG Board of Directors Meeting where Transnet bond issuance, performance audit, and ArcGIS were discussed.

Councilmember Rodriguez had no report.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to approve Consent Calendar Items with the exception of Item 9.2 pulled by Councilmember Bush for discussion.

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.

Item pulled for discussion.

9.2 Approval of an Agreement Amendment with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore for Legal Services in the Specialized Area of Labor Negotiations by Extending the Agreement to February 28, 2026.

Approved Resolution No. 2026-12.

Acting City Attorney Richard Romero addressed the City Council.

Recommendation: Adopt the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Amending the Agreement between the City of National City and Liebert Cassidy Whitmore for Legal Services in the Specialized Area of Labor Negotiations by Extending the Agreement to February 28, 2026.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Yamane, Molina, Morrison

Nays: Bush

9.3 Investment Report for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2025.

Accept and File the Investment Report for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2025.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9.4 Investment Transactions for the Month Ended October 31, 2025.

Accept and File the Investment Transaction Ledger for the Month Ended October 31, 2025.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9.5 Warrant Register No. 24 for the Period of 12/05/25 through 12/11/25 in the Amount of \$1,564,617.44

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$1,564,617.44.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9.6 Warrant Register No. 25 for the Period of 12/12/25 through 12/18/25 in the Amount of \$3,826,320.19

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$3,826,320.19.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

10. **STAFF REPORTS**

10.1 Interim City Attorney Employment Agreement

Approved Resolution No. 2026-13.

Acting City Attorney Richard Romero introduced the item.

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Appointing Heidi Skinner as Interim City Attorney and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Employment Agreement Between the City of National City and Heidi Skinner Effective February 4, 2026."

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

10.2 Second Amended and Restated Regional Wastewater Disposal Agreement (SARA) and Metropolitan Sewerage System Administrative Agreement No. 1.

Approved Resolution Nos. 2026-14 and 2026-15.

Acting Deputy City Manager/Asst. Director Engineering & Public Works Martha Juarez introduced Ardurra representative Carmen Kasner who provided a PowerPoint presentation.

Recommendations: Adopt Resolutions Entitled, 1) "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Approving the Second Amended and Restated Regional Wastewater Disposal Agreement and Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Agreement,"

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

and;

2) "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Approving Administrative Agreement #1 Between the City of San Diego and the Participating Agencies in the Metropolitan Sewerage System for Unified Management of Industrial Waste Discharge Pretreatment and Enhanced Source Control Programs and Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Agreement".

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to adopt the resolution.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

11. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Acting City Manager Hernandez introduced Acting Finance Director Rachelle Barrera.

12. **ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT**

Closing remarks were provided by members of the City Council.

13. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Acting City Attorney Richard Romero thanked the Mayor and Council.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Morrison adjourned to the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City, Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Tonya Hussain, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

The foregoing minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of March 17, 2026.

Ron Morrison, Mayor