



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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

Present: Councilmember Rodriguez
Councilmember Yamane
Vice-Mayor Molina
Mayor Morrison

Others Present: Alejandro Hernandez, Acting City Manager
Heidi Skinner, Interim City Attorney
Shelley Chapel, City Clerk *(Via Zoom)*
Derek Aydelotte, Police Captain
Rachelle Barrera, Acting Director of Finance
Danielle Ghio, City Librarian
Alicia Hicks, Director of Human Resources
Tonya Hussain, Deputy City Clerk
Martha Juarez, Acting Deputy City Manager
Steve Manganiello, Director of Engineering/Public Works
Mike Pacheco, Director of Community Services
Martin Reeder, Director of Community Development

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City was called to order at 6:29 p.m. via teleconference and in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers present: Rodriguez, Yamane, Molina, Morrison

Councilmembers absent: Bush

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 Clergy Association Pastor Eddie Duenas.

Mayor Morrison announced that the meeting would be adjourned in honor of Sadie Gonzalez. Family members accepted the honor and addressed the Council.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Morrison summarized the process for acceptance of live public comment allowing two (2) minutes per comment.

In-Person Comment:

Marco Espinosa II
Brian Clapper
Luisa McCarthy
Micaela Polanco
Purita Javier
Cesar Javier
Ed Nieto
Liliana Armenta
Raquel Alamed
Ali Primera
Ms. Pineda
Domenica Patricio
Rosa Roto
Martha

In accordance with City Council Policy 104, the allotted time of 30 minutes had been reached for Public Comment. Mayor Morrison continued remaining speakers to the end of the meeting.

6. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITION

6.1 Proclamation - Feeding San Diego Day

Mayor Morrison introduced the Proclamation. No one was present to accept the proclamation.

6.2 Proclamation - Champions Week for Meals on Wheels San Diego County

Mayor Morrison presented the proclamation. Proclamation was accepted by San Diego County Meals on Wheels President & CEO Brent Wakefield.

- 6.3 Proclamation - Women's History Month Honoring Candelaria "Candy" Cuevas, Connie Cepeda, Jovita Arellano, Lizzette Amaya, Lorna de los Santos, Mona Liza, Nancy Estolano, Nayeli Macias, Roula Alraheb, Shirley Ferrill, Susan de los Santos

Mayor Morrison and Vice-Mayor Molina introduced the proclamation. The honorees were present and accepted the proclamation.

- 6.4 Introduction of New Hires and Promotions of City Employees

Public comment was received from Marco Espinosa II.

Director of Library Services Danielle Ghio, Police Captain Derek Aydelotte, and Director of Community Development Martin Reeder introduced new department staff. Mayor Morrison introduced the new Interim City Attorney.

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

Councilmember Rodriquez had nothing to report.

Councilmember Yamane provided an update on San Diego Community Power, including recognition of its receipt of the Most Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association. Councilmember Yamane also delivered an update on the Sweetwater Authority and reiterated key information regarding the Water Affordability Program.

Vice-Mayor Molina provided an update on the SANDAG Board of Directors meeting and the approval of a new tolling back-office system and project budget amendment.

Mayor Morrison spoke to his recent attendance at a water agency meeting in Desert Hot Springs, CA.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Vice-Mayor Molina to approve Consent Calendar Item 8.1. Items 8.2 through 8.6 were pulled for public comment.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

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

Item pulled for public comment.

- 8.2 Purchase of Roofing Materials from The Garland Company, Inc. for MLK Community Center

Adopted Resolution No. 2026-19.

Public comment received from Thomas Rike.

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, 1) Waiving the Formal Bid Process Pursuant to National City Municipal Code Section 2.60.260 Regarding Cooperative Purchasing and Authorizing the City to Piggyback onto California Multiple Award Schedule Contract # 4-20-56-0006B with The Garland Company, Inc. for the Purchase of Roofing Materials in a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$539,297 for the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center."

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve Consent Items 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, and 8.6.

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Item pulled for public comment.

- 8.3 Semi-Annual Report – Boards, Commissions, and Committees Attendance Report – Includes Third and Fourth Quarters of Calendar Year 2025.

Public comment received from Cesar Javier.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve Consent Items 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, and 8.6.

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Item pulled for public comment.

- 8.4 Warrant Register No. 28 for the Period of 1/2/26 through 1/8/26 in the Amount of \$891,653.51

Public comment received from:

Thomas Rike

Ed Nieto

Cesar Javier

Recommendation: Ratify Warrants Totaling \$891,653.51.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve Consent Items 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, and 8.6.

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Item pulled for public comment.

- 8.5 Warrant Register No. 29 for the Period of 1/9/26 through 1/15/26 in the Amount of \$2,500,464.49

Public comment received from Cesar Javier and Thomas Rike.

Recommendation: Ratify Warrants Totaling \$2,500,464.49.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve Consent Items 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, and 8.6.

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Item pulled for public comment.

8.6 Warrant Register No. 30 for the Period of 1/16/26 through 1/22/26 in the Amount of \$1,431,243.60

Public comment received from Cesar Javier and Thomas Rike

Recommendation: Ratify Warrants Totaling \$1,431,243.60.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to approve Consent Items 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, and 8.6.

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

9. STAFF REPORTS

9.1 Investment Transactions for the Month Ended November 30, 2025.

Recommendation: Accept and File the Investment Transaction Ledger for the Month Ended November 30, 2025.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to accept and file.

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

9.2 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the City of National City and the National City Police Officers' Association (NCPOA)

Adopted Resolution No. 2026-20.

Public comment:

Cesar Javier
Thomas Rike
Ed Nieto
Marco Espinosa II

Recommendation: Adopt the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Approving the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of National City and the National City Police Officers' Association and Authorizing the Establishment of a Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget Appropriation in the Amount of \$1,187,247 in the General Fund to Fund Salary and Benefit Increases.

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

Councilmember Rodriguez left the dais at 7:56 p.m. and returned at 8:00 p.m.

9.3 Acting City Manager Compensation

Public comment:

Marco Espinosa II

Thomas Rike

Luisa McCarthy

Micaela Polanco

Recommendation: Approve a Temporary Base Salary Increase to \$12,429.00 Biweekly for Chief of Police Alejandro Hernandez, Equal to 15% above His Current Salary Rate, While Serving as Acting City Manager, Effective March 3, 2026.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Yamane, seconded by Vice-Mayor Molina to accept the staff recommendation.

Motion carried by unanimous vote of those present.

In accordance with City Council Policy 104, remaining speakers for Item 5 provided public comment.

Virtual public comment was received from Madison Rapp.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Acting City Manager Hernandez provided closing comments.

11. ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT

Closing remarks were provided by members of the City Council.

12. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Mayor Morrison introduced Interim City Attorney Skinner who announced that there was no reportable action for Closed Session Agenda Items 5.1 through 5.3.

5.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code 54956.9

Name of Case: The People of the State of California, by and through the City of National City, et al. v. Kabeer Investments Group, Inc. et al.

San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 24CU009799C

5.2 PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)

Position: City Manager

5.3 LIABILITY CLAIM

Pursuant to paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code 54956.9

WORKERS COMPENSATION CLAIM NO. 25-184856

WCAB No. ADJ20551530

Claimant: Curtis Collinson

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Tonya Hussain, CMC, Deputy City Clerk

The foregoing minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of April 7, 2026.

Ron Morrison, Mayor