



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

March 7, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

**City Council Chamber - 1243 National City Boulevard
National City, CA**

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

Others Present:
Frank Parra, Assistant City Manager
Barry Schultz, City Attorney
Shelley Chapel, City Clerk
Carlos Aguirre, Director of Housing
Molly Brennan, Administrative Services Director
Tonya Hussain, Executive Secretary
Sergio Mora, Fire Battalion Chief
Joyce Ryan, Library & Community Services Director
Jose Tellez, Chief of Police
Armando Vergara, Director of Community Development
Roberto Yano, Director of Public Works and City Engineering

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City was called to order at 6:08 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: Morrison, Molina, Bush, Rodriguez, Yamane

Other elected officials: Treasurer Mitch Beauchamp

Administrative Officials present: Parra, Schultz, Chapel, Aguirre, Brennan, Hussain, Mora, Ryan, Tellez, Vergara, Yano

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

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Councilmember Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance. Invocation was delivered by Chaplain Harry Bennett from Paradise Village.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

Four (4) speaker slips were received for in-person comments, one (1) written comment, and six (6) people provided virtual comment.

Comment received via Zoom:

Becky Rapp
Barbara Gordon
Peggy Walker
Judith Strang
Kelly McCormick
Cynthia Fuller Quinonez

Written comment received not read into record:

Ted Godshalk

In-person comment:

Edward Nieto
Geoffrey Schrock
Joshua Alcala
Manuel Andrade

5. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITION

5.1 Introduction of New City Employees

Director of Administrative Services Brennan announced the new employees.

6. INTERVIEWS AND APPOINTMENTS

6.1 Appointments: City Boards, Commissions and Committees – City Council Appointments for Civil Service Commission, Housing Advisory Committee, and the Planning Commission.

Recommendation: City Council to Conduct Interviews and Appointment.

Mayor Morrison introduced City Clerk Chapel who explained the re-appointment process. Housing Advisory Committee Applicant Izayah Santos and Planning Commissioner Luis Natividad were not present to be interviewed. Applicant Liliana Armenta was interviewed by the City Council.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to extend the application period for 30 days.

Ayes: Morrison, Bush, Rodriguez, Yamane

Nays: Molina

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to reconsider the item.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to continue the application period for an additional two weeks to the City Council meeting of April 18, 2023.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

6.2 Appointments: City Boards, Commissions and Committees – Mayoral Appointments for Board of Library Trustees; Community and Police Relations Commission; Park, Recreation & Senior Citizens Advisory Committee; and, the Public Art Committee.

Mayor Morrison introduced City Clerk Chapel who explained the re-appointment process.

Recommendation: Mayoral Appointment with City Councilmembers' confirmation.

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison, seconded by Vice-Mayor Molina to appoint Alejandra Sotelo-Solis to the Board of Library Trustees for a term ending September 30, 2025.

Ayes: Morrison, Bush

Nays: Bush, Rodriguez, Yamane

Motion failed by 2-3 vote.

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison to appoint Alejandra Sotelo-Solis to the Board of Library Trustees as an Alternate for a term ending September 30, 2023.

Motion died due to lack of a second.

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison, seconded by Vice-Mayor Molina to reappoint Michael Lesley to the Community and Police Relations Commission for a term ending March 31, 2026.

Ayes: Morrison, Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane

Nays: Bush

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to reappoint Zachary Francisco-Gomez to the Community and Police Relations Commission for a term ending March 31, 2026.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison, seconded by Vice-Mayor Molina to appoint Darin Dorsey to the Community and Police Relations Commission for a term ending March 31, 2024.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison, seconded by Vice-Mayor Molina to appoint Jacqueline Ellis to the Community and Police Relations Commission for a term ending March 31, 2024.

Ayes: Morrison, Molina, Bush, Rodriguez

Nays: Yamane

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison, seconded by Councilmember Bush to appoint Alexander Fernandez to the Park, Recreation & Senior Citizen Advisory Committee for a term ending March 31, 2026.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Motion by Mayor Morrison, seconded by Vice-Mayor Molina to reappoint Ignacio Navarro, Jr. to the Park, Recreation & Senior Citizen Advisory Committee for a term ending March 31, 2026.

Ayes: Morrison, Molina, Rodriguez, Yamane

Nays: Bush

Motion carried by 4-1 vote.

Mayor Morrison asked that the Boards with continued vacancies be noticed again.

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

Councilmember Yamane provided an update on the business of the Sweetwater Authority and introduced San Diego Community Power Community Advisory Committee, Vice-Chair Aida Castanada who provided an update.

Vice-Mayor Molina provided an update on SANDAG.

Mayor Morrison provided an update on the Sweetwater Authority.

8. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Bush to approve the Consent Calendar Items 8.1 through 8.3, Items 8.5 through 8.7 with Item 8.4 pulled for discussion by Vice-Mayor Molina.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Bush to reconsider the Consent Calendar.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ACTION: Motion by Vice-Mayor Molina, seconded by Councilmember Bush to approve the Consent Calendar Items 8.1 through 8.4, Items 8.6 and 8.7 with Item 8.5 pulled for discussion by Vice-Mayor Molina.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

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

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 8.2 Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes.

Meeting Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 7, 2023, Item 8.2 were amended following distribution of the agenda packet and corrected in the final record.

Approve and file.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 8.3 Supporting Healthy Aging through Parks and Recreation (SHAPR) Grant Funds Acceptance

Adopted Resolution No. 2023-18.

Approve the Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, authorizing the acceptance of the Supporting Healthy Aging Through Parks and Recreation (SHAPR) grant from the National Recreation Park Association (NRPA) in the amount of \$4,000 to cover costs associated with the Walking with Ease program and the establishment of grant funds appropriations of \$4,000 and corresponding revenue budget."

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 8.4 Project close-out and notice of completion for the Paradise Creek Park Site Remediation and Improvements Project, CIP No. 18-07.

Adopted Resolution No. 2023-19.

One (1) written public comment via eSCRIBE received from Ted Godshalk.

Adopt a Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, 1) accepting the work performed by Whillock Contracting, Inc. for the Paradise Creek Park Site Remediation and Improvements Project, CIP No. 18-07; 2) approving the final contract amount of \$5,197,256.50; 3) ratifying the release of retention in the amount of \$141,891.95; and 4) approving the signing of the Notice of Completion for the project"

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 8.5 Acceptance and appropriation of federal funds received through the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2022

Adopted Resolution No. 2023-20.

One (1) written comment received via eSCRIBE from Ted Godshalk.

Director of Public Works and City Engineer Roberto Yano provided a PowerPoint presentation and report.

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

Adopt a Resolution Entitled, “ Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, authorizing the acceptance and appropriation of funds and establishing corresponding expenditure accounts for the following projects: 1) \$294,700 for the 24th Street Trolley Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Study; 2) \$3,332,781 for the 24th Street First and Last Mile Connections to Trolley Station for design and construction; and 3) \$300,000 for the Bayshore Bikeway Segment 5 project necessary for the additional work on the design.”

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 8.6 Warrant Register #29 for the period of 1/13/23 through 1/19/23 in the amount of \$424,817.66.

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$424,817.66.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 8.7 Warrant Register #30 for the period of 1/20/23 through 1/26/23 in the amount of \$2,959,351.54

Ratify Warrants Totaling \$2,959,351.54

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9. PUBLIC HEARING

- 9.1 Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance Amending National City Municipal Code Chapter 2.75 adjusting campaign contribution limits as required every odd-numbered year to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index

City Clerk Shelley Chapel presented the item.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 7:47 pm.

There was no public comment.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to close the public hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 7:47 p.m.

Recommendation: Introduce Ordinance by First Reading entitled, "Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California, Amending Various Sections of the National City Municipal Code Chapter 2.75 to adjust the Campaign Contribution Limit for any Election Held on or after January 1, 2024."

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to introduce the ordinance.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

9.2 Public Hearing and Adoption of an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of National City, California Establishing the Compensation of the Mayor and City Council.

Approved Ordinance No. 2023-2516.

Mayor Morrison declared the Public Hearing open at 7:49 p.m.

There was no public comment.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Yamane to close the public hearing.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Hearing closed at 7:48 p.m.

Recommendation: Adopt an Ordinance adjusting the Mayor and City Council compensation in accordance with City Council direction.

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

Ayes: Molina, Bush, Rodriguez, Yamane

Nays: Morrison

Motion approved by 4-1 vote.

10. **STAFF REPORTS**

10.1 Recruitment and Retention Update

Director of Administrative Services Molly Brennan presented the item and PowerPoint Presentation.

Councilmember Rodriguez left the dais at 7:52 p.m. and returned at 7:54 p.m.

Recommendation: Receive the report.

10.2 Staff Report: Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Review

Director of Administrative Services Molly Brennan provided the presentation.

Recommendation: Accept and file the staff report.

11. **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Assistant City Manager Frank Parra announced that he would begin a six-month leave of absence effective immediately.

12. **ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT**

12.1 POLICY 105 REQUEST - Request Clarity regarding General Law Cities ability to have a Primary Voting System if Municipalities would choose to do so. Requested by Councilmember Rodriguez

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Rodriguez, seconded by Councilmember Bush to add the item to a future agenda.

Ayes: Bush, Rodriguez, Yamane

Nays: Morrison, Molina

Motion approved by 3-2 vote.

12.2 POLICY 105 REQUEST - Repeal City's Cruising Prohibition for discussion in April, including Business Impacts.

Comment received via Zoom:

Jovita Arellano

In-person comment:

Marisa Rosales

Trinity Garcia

Aida Castanada

ACTION: Motion by Councilmember Bush, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez to add the item to an April 2023 City Council agenda.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

13. CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Morrison introduced City Attorney Schultz who announced that there was no reportable action from the earlier Closed Session item.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 549569(d)(1)

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

California Southern District Court Case No: 3:2021-CV-01652-BTM-MDD

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Morrison adjourned to the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of National City, Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 6:00 in the Council Chamber, located in City Hall, 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, California.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

LaTonya Hussain, Executive Secretary

The foregoing minutes were approved at the Regular Meeting of March 21, 2023

Ron Morrison, Mayor