

Artesia City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 17, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, CA 90701

1. CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Taj called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ahir, Manalo, and Ramoso.

Staff Present: City Manager Avalos, Deputy City Manager Burke, Finance Manager Murguia, Deputy City Attorney Papajohn, City Clerk Alderete, Public Works Manager Sanchez, Acting Planning Manager Rodriguez, Interim Community Development Director Lopez, Management Analyst Fajardo, Management Analyst Nacionales-Tafoya, and Management Analyst Zambrano.

3. INVOCATION

Pastor Bob DeLeon from Artesia Calvary Chapel delivered the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Miss Artesia Princess Maria Andrade led the pledge of allegiance.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

5A. Public Comments Public comments could be provided, in person or submitted by email to publiccomments@cityofartesia.us by 12:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting. Sona Bhargava and Linda Gonzales provided public comments for items not listed on the agenda.

6. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

Councilmember Manalo attended the Contract Cities Legislative meeting and Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva's event for elected women.

Councilmember Ahir attended Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva's event for elected women.

Councilmember Ramoso attended the February 19 Artesia Homeless Count, February 20 Parks Ad-Hoc Committee meeting, the March 5 Joint Commission meeting regarding the Botanical Garden, the March 13 Greater Los Angeles Vector Control meeting, and Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva's event for elected women.

Mayor Pro Tem Trevino attended the Historical Society Board meeting, the Friends of the Library meeting, the Ad Hoc Botanical Garden meeting, the SELACO Meeting, and a meeting with Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva.

Mayor Taj Attended a meeting with Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva.

7. CEREMONIAL PRESENTATIONS

7A. Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month Proclamation

A proclamation for Development Disabilities Awareness Month was presented by the Council.

7B. Women's History Month Proclamation

A proclamation for Women's History Month was accepted by the community members in attendance.

7C. Social Work Month Proclamation

A proclamation for Social Work Month was accepted by former Councilmember/Mayor Dr. Victor Manalo.

7D. Red Cross Month Proclamation

A proclamation for Red Cross Month was presented by the Council.

7E. National Kidney Month Proclamation

A proclamation for National Kidney Month was accepted by Sona Bharhava from Kidney Health.

8. BUSINESS PRESENTATIONS

8A. Los Angeles County Sheriff Department Annual Report

Los Angeles County Sheriff Captain Holgiun provided updates. Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments. Councilmember Ramoso requested another catalytic converter etching event.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

Trevino moved, seconded by Ramoso, to approve consent calendar items 9A-9M, (excluding 9L) and to move 11D from the bottom to the first discussion item.
Motion carried, 5-0

9A. Waive Reading of All Ordinance and Resolutions Adoptions on the Agenda and Read by Title Only

Recommended Action: Waive Reading, by Title Only, of all Ordinances and Resolutions. Said Ordinances and Resolutions Which Appear on the Public Agenda Shall Be Determined to Have Been Read by Title and Further Reading Waived.

9B. Accounts Payable Check Register - February 2025

Recommended Action: Receive and File.

9C. City Financial Report - January 2025

Recommended Action: Receive and File.

9D. AB 1234 Reporting

Recommended Action: Receive and File.

9E. City Council Meeting Minutes

Recommended Action: Approve Minutes as Presented for January 13, 2025, Special Meeting, January 13, 2025, Regular Meeting, and February 10, 2025 Regular Meeting

9F. Large Event Facility Use Permit For Noel S.V. Omega to hold a Philippine American Friendship Day Event on Saturday, July 12, 2025, at Artesia Park

Recommended Action: Approve the Issuance of a Large Event Facility Use Permit

9G. Production Agreement with Fireworks & Stage FX America for a City-Sponsored 4th of July Fireworks Show

Recommended Action: Approve and Authorize the City Manager to Retroactively Execute the Production Agreement with Fireworks & Stage FX America in the Amount of \$27,000.

9H. Refurbishments to Outdoor Buildings at Artesia Park

Recommended Action: Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with South Coast Painters, Increasing the Contract Amount by \$19,800 for a Revised Not-To-Exceed Total of \$75,000 for Additional Painting Services at Artesia Park; Approve

Agreement with Kilter Termite, to Repair and Replace Sections of Wood at Four Exterior Park Buildings at Artesia Park for a Total Not-To-Exceed, of \$39,753; Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Agreements on Behalf of the Council; Make a Determination of Exemption Under CEQA Pursuant to Section 15301 (d); and approve a Budget Amendment to the Billboard Fund to Provide Funding for the Agreements.

9I. Grant Funding Update

Recommended Action: Receive and File.

9J. Amendment No. 1 to Professional Service Agreement for Professional Planning Services With Willdan

Recommended Action: Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with Willdan Engineering to Complete the Housing Element, Mixed-Use Overlay Projects, and Provide Staff Augmentation Services, for a Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$450,000; Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Agreement on Council's Behalf; and approve a Budget Amendment to the Housing Authority Fund.

9K. Amendment No. 1 to Professional Service Agreement for Professional Planning Services With Sagecrest Planning and Environmental Services

Recommended Action: Authorize Staff to Approve Amendment No 1. To Professional Services Agreement for Professional Planning Services with Sagecrest Planning and Environmental Services for a Not To-Exceed Amount of \$541,500; and Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Agreement on Council's Behalf.

9M. 2024 General Plan Annual Progress Report and Annual Housing Element Progress Report

Recommended Action: Approve the General Plan Annual Progress Report Inclusive of the Annual Housing Element Progress Report for Calendar Year 2024; and Direct Staff to File the Reports with the State of California Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)

ITEM(S) PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR (9L)

9L. Allocation of Available Local Return Funds for the Completion of the Historical District Trails Project - Phase III Landscaping

Recommended Action: Authorize Staff to Complete the Historical District Trails Project- Phase III Landscaping Using the City's Available Resources, and Not a New Third-Party Contractor; Approve Budget Amendments to Allocate the Not to Exceed Amounts of \$38,000 in Available Measure R Funds and \$250,000 in Available Measure M Funds to Complete Project; Authorize the City Manager to execute purchase orders that exceed his \$40,909.27 spending authority and make purchases to implement the landscape maintenance plan for the Historical District Trails Project - Phase III Landscaping in amounts that do not exceed the allocation and budget described herein; Make a Determination of Exemption Under CEQA Pursuant to Sections 15282(j)(c) and 15301.

Public Works Manager Sanchez provided staff report. City Manager Avalos provided input. Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

Manalo moved, seconded by Ahir, to approve agenda item 9L, as recommended. Motion carried, 5-0.

10. PUBLIC HEARING - NONE

11. DISCUSSION

11D. Schematic Design for Botanical Garden Project

Recommended Action: Make a Determination that the Approval of the Schematic Design Plans are in Accordance to the Approved MND; and approve the Schematic Design Plans for the Artesia Botanical Garden Project at 11462 178th St., Which Include the Overall Site Plan Design, Size of Program Areas Visualized in Renderings, Rough Project Cost and Construction Time Estimates, and Direct Staff to Develop the Plans, Specifications and Engineering for Bidding Construction Based upon the Approved Design.

Management Analyst Nacionales-Tofoya provided a staff report with input from City Manager Avalos. Tina Chee from Chee Salette Architecture provided presentation. Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

Trevino moved, seconded by Ramoso to approve agenda item 11D, as recommended. Motion carried, 5-0.

11A. Late-Night/Early-Morning Permit for Starbucks at 11732 Artesia Boulevard

Recommended Action: Conduct hearing; Make Determination of Exemption from CEQA Pursuant to Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) of the CEQA Guidelines; and Adopt Resolution No. 25-3032, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Artesia, California Granting a Late-Night/Early-Morning Permit Pursuant to Artesia Municipal Code Section 3-2.209 to Starbucks Restaurant Located at 11732 Artesia Boulevard.

Acting Planning Manager Rodriguez provided staff report. City Manager Avalos and Starbucks Representative Keri Hellenga provided input. Mayor Taj opened the hearing; Jess Ham, Hector Pass, and David Weismantel provided public comment. Mayor Taj closed the hearing. City Manager Avalos recommended approving the item and noted that staff would proceed with research and bring concerns to the property owner. Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmember Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

Manalo moved, seconded by Ahir, to approve agenda item 11A, as recommended. Motion carried, 5-0.

11B. Introduction of an Ordinance Amending the Artesia Municipal Code Relating to Maintenance of Vacant Properties

Recommended Action: Make Determination of Exemption from CEQA Pursuant to Section 15061(B)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines; and introduce Ordinance No. 25-966, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 24 (Vacant Properties) of Title 5 (Public Welfare) of the Artesia Municipal Code Relating to the Maintenance of Vacant Properties.

Acting Planning Manager Rodriguez provided staff report.

Ahir moved, seconded by Ramoso, to approve agenda item 11B, as recommended. Motion carried, 5-0.

11C. 2025 Goal Setting Report

Recommended Action: Adopt the 2025 Goal Setting Report and Direct Staff to Begin Implementation of the Early Action Goals.

Deputy City Manager Burke provided staff report with input from City Manager Avalos. Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir provided comments and/or asked questions. Lorelei Bailey provided public comment.

Manalo moved, seconded by Ahir, to approve agenda item 11C, as recommended. Motion carried, 5-0.

12. CITY MANAGER INFORMATIONAL REPORTING

City Manager Avalos provided updates.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 p.m.



Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk