

Artesia City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 14, 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 7:30 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, City Attorney Nguyen, City Clerk Alderete, Public Works Manager Sanchez, Interim Community Development Director Lopez, Special Projects Manager Lee, Management Analyst Flores, Management Analyst Nacionales-Tafoya, and Management Analyst Zambrano.

3. INVOCATION

Mayor Taj delivered the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Dan Medina led the pledge of allegiance.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

5.A. 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.

Margaret Saito, Connie Rangel, and Marcia Alfaro 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. AB1234 reporting is covered in staff report 9D.

Councilmember Manalo attended the Council of Governments meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Trevino attended the Contract Cities Legislative meeting.

7. CEREMONIAL PRESENTATIONS

7.A. Parks Make Life Better Month Proclamation

Commissioners Medina, Bhandari, and Reilly accepted the presentation.

7.B. Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day Proclamation

Easter Seals client, Ryan Schrader and his mother, Julie Cain, Easter Seals Director, Angelica Real, and Easter Seals Supervisor, Adrian Perez accepted the proclamation.

7.C. Presentation to Scholarship Recipients

Scholarship recipients Pushti Patel, Matthew Allanigue, Savanna Sousa, and Tanuj Patel accepted scholarship awards.

7.D. Certificates of Recognition for Spring Beautification

Certificates were presented to Felix and Ema Macedo for the Landscape Beautification Award, to the Munson Family for the Landscape Beautification Award, to Beniko Yamasaki and John Oudyk for the Sustainable Landscape Beautification Award, to Frank and Maria Fagundes for the Landscape Beautification Award. Certificates were presented to Ashoka the Great Indian Cuisine for the Storefront Beautification Award, and to Popeye's Louisiana Kitchen for the Sustainable Landscape Beautification Award for a business.

8. BUSINESS PRESENTATIONS

8.A. Gateway Cities Regional Fiber Optic Network

Hector de la Torre, Executive Director
Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments. Mr. Del la Torre will send the City Manager the cost for all of the COG cities.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tem Trevino moved, seconded by Councilmember Manalo, to approve consent calendar items 9A-9P, excluding L, M, N, O, & P.

Motion carried, 5-0

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

Recommendation: 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.

9.B. Accounts Payable Check Register - June 2025

Recommendation: Receive and File.

9.C. City Financial Report – May 2025

Recommendation: Receive and File.

9.D. AB 1234 Reporting

Recommendation: Receive and File.

9.E. City Council Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approve Minutes as Presented for June 2, 2025 - Special Meeting, June 9, 2025 - Special Meeting, June 9, 2025 - Regular Meeting, June 26, 2025 - Special Meeting.

9.F. Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance, Regarding Mixed-Use Overlay Zone (Mu-O)

Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance No. 25-970, Adding Article 46 (Mixed-Use Overlay Zone(Mu-O)) of Chapter 2 (Zoning) of Title 9 (Planning and Zoning) of the Artesia Municipal Code.

9.G. Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance, Regarding Amending the Specific Plan Zones

Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance No. 25-969, Amending Section 9-2.3453(Specific Plan Zones) of Article 34.5 (Specific Plan Zones (SP)) of Chapter 2 (Zoning) of Title 9 (Planning and Zoning) of the Artesia Municipal Code.

9.H. Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance, Regarding Amending the Artesia Live Specific Plan

Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance No. 25-968, Amending the Artesia Live Specific Plan.

9.I. Right of Way Use Agreement With the Gateway Cities Council of Governments for the Gateway Cities Regional Fiber Optic Network

Recommendation: Find that the project, including the Right-of-Way Use Agreement, is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.51 and all necessary conditions have been or will be satisfied by the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, which is the lead agency;

Approve the Right-Of-Way Use Agreement Between the City and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments for the Installation, Maintenance, and Operation of the

Gateway Cities Regional Fiber Optic Network on the City's Rights-Of-Way; And Authorize the City Manager, or Designee, To Administer the Agreement, Including finalized plans and Any Other Actions in Connection With the Agreement.

- 9.J. Resolution Regarding a Temporary Closure of a Portion of Pioneer Boulevard for the Artesia International Street Fair and Diversity Festival on Saturday, October 4, 2025

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 25-3053, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Artesia, California, Approving a Highway Permit for the Temporary Closure of a Portion of Pioneer Boulevard Between 183rd Street and 187th Street, Pursuant to Vehicle Code Section 21101(E) in Connection With the Artesia International Street Fair and Diversity Festival To Be Held on Saturday, October 4, 2025, and Making a Determination of Exemption Under CEQA.

- 9.K. Resolution Regarding Contract with Garland/DBS Inc. in the Amount Not-To-Exceed \$160,066 to Restore the Roof at the North Artesia Community Center

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 25-3054, Authorizing the Use of the Omnia Partners Purchasing Program and Awarding a Contract to Garland/DBS Inc. For the Roof Restoration Project at the North Artesia Community Center; And Consider and Find That the Project Is Categorically Exempt From CEQA Pursuant to Section 15301 (D) Existing Facilities (Class 1) of CEQA Guidelines.

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

- 9.L. Professional Services Agreement With Braude & Associates for Federal Governmental Relations Services

Recommendation: Approve Professional Services Agreement With Braude & Associates in the Amount Not-To-Exceed \$49,800 for Federal Governmental Relations Services and authorize the City Manager to execute.

Management Analyst Flores provided the staff report. Councilmember Ramoso Manalo asked questions and/or provided comments.

Councilmember Ramoso moved, seconded by Councilmember Trevino to approve the item, as recommended.
Motion carried, 5-0.

- 9.M. Professional Services Agreement With Joe A. Gonsalves & Son for Legislative Advocacy and Governmental Affairs Services

Recommendation: Approve and Authorize the City Manager To Execute the Professional Services Agreement for Legislative Advocacy and Governmental Affairs Services With Joe A. Gonsalves & Son for an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$54,000.

Management Analyst Zambrano provided the staff report. Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo asked questions and/or provided comments.

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

- 9.N. Authorization to Conduct Traffic Calming Demonstrations at Four (4) Locations in the City on August 9, 2025

Recommendation: Staff Recommends That City Council, by Motion, Authorize the Public Works Department To Conduct Traffic Calming Demonstrations Utilizing Temporary Enhanced Crosswalks at Two (2) Locations and Miniature Traffic Circles at Two (2) Locations in the City on August 9, 2025 Between 9:00 a.m. And 1:00 p.m.

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

Councilmember Ramoso moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Trevino to approve the agenda item as recommended.
Motion carried, 5-0.

9.O. Professional Services Agreement for Security Guard Services with Southwest Patrol

Recommendation: Approve and Authorize the City Manager To Execute the Professional Services Agreement for Security Guard Services With Southwest Patrol for an Amount Not-To-Exceed \$300,000.

Management Analyst Flores provided the staff report. Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

Councilmember Ahir moved, seconded by Councilmember Manalo to approve item as recommended.

Motion carried, 5-0.

9.P. Resolution Regarding Reaffirming Artesia's Commitment to a Safe, Inclusive, and Welcoming Community

Recommendation: Resolution No. 25-3057, a Resolution, Reaffirming Artesia's Commitment to a Safe, Inclusive, and Welcoming Community and Repudiating the Conduct Of U.S. Immigration and Custom's Enforcement (ICE) in the City.

Staff report provided by Deputy City Manager Burke. City Manager Avalos and City Attorney Nguyen provided input. Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments. Mayor Taj tabled the item until after the public hearings. Mayor Taj called for a break at 10:15 p.m., the meeting resumed at 10:22 p.m. The item was revisited after public hearing and staff read the additions requested by Council.

Councilmember Ramoso moved, seconded by Councilmember Manalo to approve item as recommended with the following revisions:

Add in the ninth preambulatory clause, "and the lack of humanity towards individuals when conducting federal enforcement."

And add the following preambulatory clause, "WHEREAS, local businesses have also experienced negative economic impact as customers, business owners, and their employees, choose to stay home in fear of immigration enforcement activities occurring in Artesia"

Motion carried, 5-0.

10. PUBLIC HEARING

10.A. Case No. 2024-34: Ordinance Amending the Artesia Municipal Code
Relating to Accessory Dwelling Units and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units

Recommended Action: Waive Full Reading and Introduce Ordinance No. 25-973, Amending Title 9, Chapter 2, Article 45 of the Artesia Municipal Code Relating to Accessory Dwelling Units and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units to Comply with Recent Changes in State Law, and Finding the Action to Be Statutorily Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Public Resources Code § 21080.17. Interim Community Development Director Lopez provided staff report. Mayor Taj opened public hearing. No public comments were provided. Mayor Taj closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Manalo moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Trevino to approve as recommended.

Motion carried, 5-0.

10.B. Placing Delinquent Solid Waste Charges on the 2025-26 Property Tax Roll

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 25-3055, A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Artesia, California, Adopting the Report Proposing to Have Delinquent Solid Waste Service Charges Collected on the Tax Roll for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

Special Projects Manager Lee provided the staff report. Mayor Taj opened the public hearing. No public comments were provided. Mayor Taj closed the public hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem and Councilmember Manalo asked questions and/or provided comments.

Councilmember Ahir moved, seconded by Councilmember Ramoso to approve as recommended.

Motion carried, 5-0.

10.C. Case No. 2024-06 - Artesia Downtown Specific Plan

Recommendation: Adopt City Council Resolution No. 25-3058, an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), Statement of Overriding Considerations (SOC), and Required CEQA Findings in Support of the Project;

Waive Full Reading and Introduce Ordinance No. 25-971, an Ordinances To Establish the Artesia Downtown Specific Plan, and Adopt Environmental Findings, a Statement of Overriding Considerations, a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Certifying the Environmental Impact Report, and Amendments to the General Plan and Zoning Code in Accordance With the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA);

Waive Full Reading and Introduce Ordinance No. 25-972, an Ordinance To Amend Title 9, Chapter 2, Article 34.5 of the Artesia Municipal Code by Adding Section 9-2.3453(g) to Reflect the New Artesia Downtown Specific Plan Adoption and Amend the Zoning Map; And

Adopt City Council Resolution No. 25-3059 of the City of Artesia, Approving an Amendment to the General Plan and Establishing the Artesia Downtown Specific Plan Land Use Designation and Amend Related Tables, Text, and Land Use Map of the General Plan.

City Manager Avalos introduced Contract Planner, Art Bashmakian, who provided a brief background and introduced Placeworks Planner, Alan Loomis and Associate Jennifer Kelly provided the presentation. Mayor Taj opened the public hearing. City Clerk Alderete stated the City received comments via email in advance of the meeting, which were provided to Council and the public, and were available in the public copy of the agenda packet in the lobby. Lorelei Bailey provided public comment in support of the DTSP. Juan Munoz, Juan Munoz from Unite Here, Local 11 provided positive public comments regarding the DTSP, thanking staff for working with them and asking for an additional change that was provided to staff. Mayor Taj closed the public hearing. Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

Councilmember Manalo moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Trevino to approve as recommended, with revisions as read by the City Attorney (outlined below):

9.2.1., revising the language to read, “community benefits ~~will~~ may be granted,” replacing “will” with “may”

9.2.2, revising the language to read, “priority uses and ~~are~~ may be permitted,” replacing “are” with “may be”

9.2.4 (3)b revising the language to read, “incorporating hotels ~~are~~ may be eligible,” replacing “are” with “may be”

Table 5.1 Land Uses and Permit Requirements section under “hotels” changes Downtown North, Pioneer Blvd, and Downtown South from “permit use” to “conditionally permitted.”

Motion carried, 5-0.

11. DISCUSSION

11.A. Resolution to Adopt a Revised City Council Written Expense Reimbursement and Travel Policy

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 25-3056, Amending the City Council Written Expense Reimbursement and Travel Policy and Repealing Resolution 24-2970

Deputy City Manager Burke provided the staff report with clarification from City Manager Avalos and Finance Manager Murguia. Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, and Manalo asked questions and/or provided comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Trevino moved, seconded by Councilmember Ahir, to approve item, as recommended.

Motion carried, 5-0.

12. CITY MANAGER INFORMATIONAL REPORTING

City Manager Avalos provided updates.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 p.m.



Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk