

Artesia City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 13, 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 7:16 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: City Manager Avalos, Deputy City Manager Burke, Finance Manager Murguia, City Attorney Nguyen, City Clerk Alderete, Public Works Manager Sanchez, Parks & Recreation Manager Guerra, Special Projects Manager Lee, Management Analyst Zambrano, Parks & Recreation Supervisor Acevedo, and Acting Planning Manager Valdez.

3. INVOCATION

Pastor Rick Westra, from Trinity Church delivered the invocation.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LASD Sergeant Ramos, 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. Sarat Atluri and Nam Nguyen 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 ABCUSD board meeting, the SELACO round table, and the Council of Governments meeting.

Councilmember Ramoso attended the Greater Los Angeles Vector Control Meeting on September 11th, the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting on September 17, and the Public Works Committee meeting on October 2.

Mayor Pro Tem Trevino attended the Friends of the Artesia Library meeting.

7. CEREMONIAL PRESENTATIONS

7A. Breast Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation

A proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness Month was presented by the Council.

7B. Filipino American History Month Proclamation

A proclamation for Filipino American History Month was accepted by Commissioner Brandon Reilly, from the Filipino Cultural School and his son Lorenzo Reilly.

7C. Hindu Heritage Month Proclamation

A proclamation for Hindu Heritage Month was accepted by community members.

7D. Red Ribbon Week Proclamation

A proclamation for Red Ribbon Week was accepted by Betty Lou Ormande and ABCUSD students.

7E. Code Compliance Officer Month Proclamation

A proclamation for Code Compliance Officer Month was accepted by Code Compliance Supervisor Melissa Hamilton.

7F. Staff Introduction

Human Resource Manager Jackson introduced new Human Resource Analyst Crystal Timberlake. Parks & Recreation Supervisor Acevedo introduced new Parks and Recreation Leaders Andrew Gutierrez, Jacob Pelayo, and Brian Pelayo. A Certificates of Recognition were presented to Crystal Timberlake, Andrew Gutierrez, Jacob Pelayo and Brian Pelayo.

8. BUSINESS PRESENTATIONS

None

9. CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Pro Tem Trevino moved, seconded by Councilmember Manalo, to approve consent calendar items 9A-9H, (excluding 9D and 9F).

Motion carried, 5-0

9A. 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.

9B. Accounts Payable Check Register – September 2025

Recommendation: Receive and File.

9C. City Financial Report - Amended July 2025 and August 2025

Recommendation: Receive and File.

9E. City Council Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approve Minutes as Presented for August 11, 2025 - Regular Meeting, and September 8, 2025 - Special Meeting.

9G. Introduction of an Ordinance to Adopt Updated Los Angeles County Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fire, Residential Codes, and Green Building Standards

Recommendation: Waive Full Reading and Introduce Ordinance No. 25-975, Adopting by Reference Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Incorporating and Amending the 2023 California Building Code; Title 27 of the Los Angeles County Code, Incorporating and Amending the 2023 California Electrical Code; Title 28 of the Los Angeles County Code, Incorporating and Amending the 2019 California Plumbing Code; Title 29 of the Los Angeles County Code, Incorporating and Amending the 2023 California Mechanical Code; Title 30 of the Los Angeles County Code, Incorporating and Amending the 2023 California Residential Code; Title 31 of the Los Angeles County Code, Incorporating and Amending the 2019 California Green Building Standards Code; Title 33 of the Los Angeles County Code, Incorporating and Amending the 2023 California Existing Building Code; And the 2022 California Fire Code; Together With Certain Amendments, Deletions and Additions, Including Findings, Fees and Penalties; And Amending the Artesia Municipal Code; Find the Ordinance Exempt from CEQA pursuant to Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3); And Direct Staff To Notice and Hold a Public Hearing on the Proposed Adoption of Ordinance No. 25-975 at the City Council's Regularly Scheduled November Meeting.

9H. Appointment for Private Sector Representative to Serve on the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board

Recommended Action: Approve Greg Ufrecht as the Private Sector Representative, Based on the Recommendation of Mayor Pro Tem Trevino.

ITEM(S) PULLED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR (9D and 9F)

9D. AB 1234 Reporting

Recommended Action: Receive and File.

Councilmember Ramoso reported out that she attended the Clark County, Filipino Town Grand Opening in Nevada at public expense.

Councilmember Ramoso moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, to approve agenda item 9D, as recommended.

Motion carried, 5-0.

9F. Amendments to the Community Benefits Grant Program Funding Policy

Recommendation: Approve the Updated Community Benefits Grant Program Funding Policy.

Management Analyst Zambrano provided staff report. City Manager Avalos and Deputy City Manager Burke provided input. Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Trevino moved, seconded by Councilmember Ahir, to approve the revised community benefit grant program policy, with the exception of the section titled "Artesia Chamber of Commerce," and for the chamber of commerce committee to discuss how to address that section of the funding at a future date, with the percentage remaining the same, with a 10% allocation to the chamber.

Motion carried, 5-0.

10. PUBLIC HEARING

10A. Resolution Approving the Building and Safety Fee Schedule Per Los Angeles County Fee Schedules

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 25-3067, Approving the Building & Safety Fee Schedule per Los Angeles County Fee Schedules, and Making a Determination of Exemption Under CEQA, Pursuant to Section 15273(a)(4)

Acting Planning Manager Valdez provided staff report. Mayor Taj opened the public hearing. No public comments were provided. Mayor Taj closed the public hearing.

Mayor Pro Tem Trevino moved, seconded by Councilmember Ramoso, to approve agenda item 10A, as recommended.

Motion carried, 5-0.

10B. Introduction of Ordinance Related to Tattoo and Body Piercing and Permanent Cosmetic Establishments

Recommendation: Waive Full Reading and Introduce Ordinance 25-974, Amending Chapter 2 (Zoning) of Title 9 (Planning and Zoning) of the Artesia Municipal Code as They Pertain to Tattoo, Body Piercing and Permanent Cosmetic Establishments; and Find That the Proposed Ordinance Is Exempt From CEQA Pursuant to Guidelines Sections 15378(b)(4) and 15061(b)(3).

Acting Planning Manager Valdez provided staff report. City Manager Avalos provided input. Mayor Taj opened the public hearing. No public comments were provided. Mayor Taj closed the public hearing. Councilmembers Ramoso and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

Councilmember Ahir moved, seconded by Councilmember Manalo, to approve agenda item 10B, as recommended.

Motion carried, 5-0.

11. DISCUSSION

11A. Update on Parks & Recreation Department Improvement Projects and Programming Initiatives at Artesia Park and AJ Padelford Park
Recommendation: Receive and File.

Parks & Recreation Manager Guerra provided the staff report. Mayor Taj, Mayor Pro Tem Trevino, Councilmembers Ramoso, Manalo, and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments.

11B. Resolution of Intention to Form an Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD)
Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 25-3068, Declaring Its Intention To Establish the Artesia Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District To Finance the Construction, Repair, Acquisition, And/or Maintenance of Capital Improvements and Facilities, Including the Acquisition And/or Remediation of Land for Such Improvements and Facilities; Establishing a Public Financing Authority; And Authorizing Certain Other Actions Related Thereto; And Is Exempt From CEQA Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378; And Appoint Two Members of the City Council To Serve on the Public Financing Authority (PFA) and One Member as an Alternate, in Anticipation of Los Angeles County Joining the PFA. If Los Angeles County Does Not Join, the Alternate Will Serve as a Third Member of the PFA.

Management Analyst Zambrano provided staff report and introduced Kosmont consultant, Joe Digas, who provided a presentation. City Manager Avalos and Deputy City Manager Burke provided input. Mayor Taj, Councilmember Ramoso and Ahir asked questions and/or provided comments. Council appointed Mayor Pro Tem Trevino and Councilmember Manalo to the Public Finance Authority with Councilmember Ramoso as the alternate.

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

12. CITY MANAGER INFORMATIONAL REPORTING

City Manager Avalos provided updates.

City Manager and the Council shared their condolences and memories of Management Analyst Adrian Fajardo.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned in honor of Adrian Fajardo, Management Analyst at 10:35 p.m.



Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk