

Minutes - Selma City Council Regular Meeting

July 1, 2025

Call to Order

Call to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Council Members Avalos, Ocegüera, Trujillo (arrived after roll call), Mayor Pro Tem Guerra, and Mayor Robertson.

Potential Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest identified.

Agenda Changes or Deletions

Per City Attorney Costanzo, change to Item 1-2 is necessary. Company name corrected to reflect Granted Solutions rather than California Consulting.

Oral Communications

Pastor Joe Alvarez offered invocation and requested a moment of silence for firefighters killed in Coeur d'Alene. He furthered comment by inviting Council to youth workshops on July 5th and provided an update for the "March for Jesus" event scheduled for October 4, 2025.

Item 1 - Special Presentations

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Item	Description	Presenter
1-1	Special Presentation - Parks Make Life Better Proclamation - Community Services	Martinez
1-2	Special Presentation - California Consulting, Proposal for Grant Writing, Sonia Hall	Hall

Presentation of Item 1-1: Acting Community Services Director Liz Martinez and Council Member Ocegüera presented a proclamation recognizing July as "Parks Make Life Better

Month," highlighting the importance of equitable access to local parks, recreation, and trails for community health.

Presentation of Item 1-2: Sonia Hall of Granted Solutions presented a proposal for grant writing and project development services. The proposal was not provided for agenda inclusion. She detailed her experience in securing over \$580 million in funding and discussed various fee structures, including a monthly retainer or a combination of a retainer and commission. Ms. Hall states the return on investment by obtaining her services is \$333.00 for each dollar. Police Chief Alcaraz and City staff discussed specific eligibility for high-violence crime grants mentioned in the presentation.

Item 2 - Consent Calendar

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Item	Description	Presenter
2-1	Approval - Consideration of Resolution 2025-48R Authorizing Second Amendment to the Lease with Matteo De Santos 2001 Trust for 1231 Rose Ave, Selma, CA for Selma Fire Department Emergency Services Division Ambulance Post	Webster
2-2	Approval - Consideration of Resolution 2025-49R Authorizing Overtime and Portal to Portal Pay for City of Selma Fire Department Personnel Responding Away From Their Official Duty Station and Assigned to an Emergency Incident	Webster
2-3	Approval - Consideration of Resolution 2025-50R Approving Professional Services Agreement with Pinnacle Training Systems, LLC, to Provide Health and Wellness Services to Fire Department Personnel	Webster
2-4	Approval - Check Register Dated 6/11/25 - Check Numbers 87090 through 87162 and Cal-Card Report for Period 4/21/25 through 5/22/25	Moreno
2-5	Approval - Receive and file the City of Selma Cash and Investment Report - Q3 Fiscal Year 2024-2025	Moreno
2-6	Approval - Consideration and Necessary Action on Amendment to "City of Selma Finance Purchasing Division Purchasing and Contract Procedures"	Moreno
2-7	Approval - Consideration of Resolution 2025-54R Regarding Notice of Completion for the FY23/24 Selma Street Rehabilitation Project	Horn
2-8	Approval - Consideration and Necessary Action on Resolution 2025-51R Approving and Authorizing Execution of Fire Chief Employment Agreement.	Costanzo

Items 2-2, 2-4 and 2-8 were removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

Action on Consent Calendar Items 2-1, 2-3, 2-5, 2-6, and 2-7

A motion was made by Council Member Ocegüera to approve Items 2-1, 2-3, 2-5, 2-6, and 2-7. Motion was seconded by Council Member Trujillo.

Ayes: Ocegüera, Trujillo, Avalos, Guerra, Robertson. Noes: None.

Motion passed (5-0).

Discussion on Consent Calendar Item 2-2

Council Member Avalos inquired about the reimbursement timeframe from the state for fire services. Chief Webster clarified the "portal to portal" pay structure and states the reimbursement process is currently taking 3-4 months.

Action on Item 2-2

A motion was made by Council Member Avalos to approve Item 2-2. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guerra.

Ayes: Avalos, Guerra, Ocegüera, Trujillo, Robertson. Noes: None.

Motion passed (5-0).

Discussion on Consent Calendar Item 2-4

Council Member Avalos questioned professional service fees for Quad Knopf. Deputy City Manager Keene explained these fees covered updates to city engineering standards and master plans. Mayor Pro Tem Guerra inquired regarding check number 87140. Deputy City Manager Keene confirms this expense relates to an ongoing Internal Affairs Investigation. He reiterates that the details cannot be released as they are confidential in nature.

Action on Item 2-4

A motion was made by Council Member Avalos to approve Item 2-4. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ocegüera.

Ayes: Avalos, Ocegüera, Trujillo, Guerra, Robertson. Noes: None.

Motion passed (5-0).

Discussion on Consent Calendar Item 2-8

City Attorney Costanzo explained the agreement brings the Fire Chief's contract into alignment with a new ordinance making the Council the appointing authority.

Action on Item 2-8

A motion was made by Council Member Avalos to approve Item 2-8. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guerra.

Ayes: Avalos, Guerra, Ocegüera, Robertson. Noes: Trujillo.

Motion passed (4-1).

Item 3 - Departmental Reports

- Interim City Manager (John Kunkel): Interim City Manager Kunkel converses with Mayor Robertson regarding Council Members Ocegüera and Avalos' plan to meet with Mid-Valley Disposal to coordinate October and April community clean-up dates.
- City Attorney (Neal Costanzo): City Attorney discussed expanding existing residential vacant building ordinances to include commercial structures to address nuisance abatement and building monitoring.
- Finance (Maggie Moreno): Director Moreno distributed budget copies and noted ongoing research into managing city debt portfolios.
- Fire (Jordan Webster): Chief Webster reported on crew participation in the Firestone incident and warned the public regarding illegal fireworks for the upcoming holiday.
- Police (Rudy Alcaraz): Chief Alcaraz discussed July 4th compliance plans and animal services protocols for lost pets during fireworks.
- Public Works (Michael Honn): Director Honn provided an update on termite abatement at the Arts Center and detailed bids for the Schaefer Park lighting project. He recommended the Musco lighting system due to its 25-year warranty and turn-key installation, despite the higher initial cost compared to aftermarket options.

Adjourned for break at 7:40 p.m. Reconvened at 7:46 p.m.

Item 4 - Public Hearing

Public Hearing opened at 7:47 p.m.

Item 4 - Public Hearing

Item	Description	Presenter
4-1	Consideration and Necessary Action of Resolution 2025-52R Approving Rates for Landscaping Lighting and Maintenance District No.1 (LLMD), approving Engineer's Report Identifying the Assessments and the Property against which it	Horn

Item	Description	Presenter
	is assessed within the LLMD, and Directing Collection thereof by Placement of the Assessment on the 2025-26 Fresno County Tax Roll.	

Discussion on Public Hearing Item 4-1

Engineer David Horn provides explanation as to his Engineer's Report, asserting the proposed rates are lower than previously set and have been determined based on estimated costs.

Public Comment: None.

Action on Item 4-1

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Guerra to approve Item 4-1. Motion was seconded by Council Member Avalos.

Ayes: Guerra, Avalos, Ocegüera, Trujillo, Robertson. Noes: None.

Motion passed (5-0).

Public Hearing closed at 7:49 p.m.

Item 5 - Regular Business

Item 5 - Regular Business

Item	Description	Presenter
5-1	Action Item - Consideration and First Reading of Ordinance 2025-08 Amending Duties of Fire Chief	Costanzo
5-2	Action Item - Consideration and First Reading of Ordinance 2025-09 Amending Section 3-2-1 of Selma Municipal Code Relating to Chief of Police and Police Department	Costanzo
5-3	Action Item - Consideration of Resolution 2025-53R Rejecting Bids for the Selma Downtown Lighting Project	Horn

Consensus achieved to consider Regular Business Items 5-1 and 5-2 concurrently.

Discussion on Regular Business Items 5-1 and Item 5-2

City Attorney Costanzo explained these ordinances establish the City Council as the appointing authority for both the Fire and Police Chiefs, requiring a majority vote for

appointments or adverse employment actions. Mayor Robertson emphasized that this change provides transparency and formalizes a process previously handled informally.

Action on Items 5-1 and 5-2

A motion was made by Council Member Avalos to waive the first reading and introduce the ordinances. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ocegüera.

Ayes: Avalos, Ocegüera, Guerra, Robertson. Noes: Trujillo.

Motion passed (4-1).

Discussion on Regular Business Item 5-3

Engineer Horn recommended rejecting the single bid of \$503,000 for the downtown lighting project as it significantly exceeded the \$184,800 estimate. Council discussed "value engineering" the project by switching from a crisscross design to lights along the sidewalks to reduce pole size and cost. Public Works Director Honn spoke to the ability and limits of the Public Works Department, in response to questions regarding self-performance of work.

Spoke:

- Rose Robertson expressed her disappointment with project progress and mentions the lack of photographs to provide visual aid.
- Stella Ramirez asserts her frustration with the lack of progress and suggests obtaining more bids to expedite the process.
- Bryan Ramirez speaks to his opinion that time is being "wasted" and comparison with other municipalities should be made.

Action on Item 5-3

A motion was made by Council Member Avalos to approve Item 5-3. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Guerra.

Ayes: Avalos, Guerra, Ocegüera, Trujillo, Robertson. Noes: None.

Motion passed (5-0).

Item 6 - Future Agenda Items

The Council reached consensus on requests for the following future agenda items:

- Integrating Flock cameras into LLMD/CFD requirements for new subdivisions.
- Updates on the McCall and Dinuba stoplight and sewer line extensions.

- Reviewing a policy to require in-person attendance for closed sessions.
- Formally appointing a grant writer and reviewing the purchasing policy.
- Developing ordinances to address dog dumping and "backyard breeders".

Item 7 - Council Reports

Council Members reported the attendance at the Central Valley Training Center graduation and congratulated graduates. They praised the success of the recent Selma Food Truck Friday and continued by promoting the Selma Live event scheduled for September 26th, 2025, featuring musician Pepe Marquez. Mayor Robertson reported attendance at the graduation celebration of Chloe Mendoza, a former City of Selma resident and now Stanford University graduate.

Oral Communications

- Rose Robertson thanked the Council for watching the community's money.
- Deputy City Manager Keene announces the Ribbon Cutting for McGrath scheduled for July 2, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.
- Bryan Ramirez questions progress of the Starbucks project on Second Street.
- Stella Ramirez extends gratitude to Council for the events they have implemented.
- Theresa Salas mentioned she had her hand raised for comment during the Shaffer Park Lights discussion but was not called on. She expresses support for expediting the necessary bid process.

Adjournment from Open Session

Five-minute break announced by Mayor Robertson before resuming in Closed Session. Open Session adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Call to Order for Closed Session Proceedings

Call to order for Closed Session proceedings at 9:27 p.m.

Closed Session

Discussion of the following matters ensued:

1. Government Code Section 54957 - Title: Public Information Officer/Communications Director - Applicant Review.

Reconvened to Open Session

Reconvened to Open Session at 9:45 p.m.

City Attorney Report

No reportable action was reported to the City Clerk.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

"The City Clerk was not present for the Closed Session proceedings and no audio or video recording is available. The following summary is based solely on limited notes provided after the meeting and does not constitute certification of procedural actions, attendance, or compliance with open-session requirements."

Approval

Approved the 20th day of January 2026.

Approved: Scott Robertson, Mayor.

Attest: Sara M. Carlson, City Clerk.