



Item:	B-1
Minutes for:	10/07/2026
Adopted:	10/21/2026

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Madera City Council and
Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Madera City Council as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

**Wednesday, October 7, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

**Council Chambers
City Hall**

The Madera City Council meetings are open to the public. The meeting was available for public viewing and participation through Zoom. Members of the public were able to observe the live-streamed meeting on the City's website and were able to comment on agenda items at the meeting, remotely through an electronic meeting via phone, via email and by regular mail.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mayor Cece Gallegos
Mayor Pro Tem Rohi Zacharia, District 1
Councilmember Jose Rodriguez, District 2
Councilmember Steve Montes, District 3
Councilmember Anita Evans, District 4
Councilmember Elsa Mejia, District 5 (Arrived at 6:04 p.m.)
Councilmember Artemio Villegas, District 6

Others present were City Manager Arnoldo Rodriguez, City Clerk Alicia Gonzales, City Attorney Shannon L. Chaffin, City Engineer Keith Helmuth, Community Development Director Will Tackett, Director of Financial Services Michael Lima, Fire Battalion Chief Dana McCarroll, Director of Human Resources Wendy Silva, Director of Information Technology Gary Price, Police Commander Josiah Arnold, Public Works Director Harpiar Gandhi, Senior Civil Engineer Jonathan Gramajo and Administrative Analyst (Parks) Gabriela Salazar.

INVOCATION: Pastor Daniel Martinez, 4th Street Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tem Zacharia

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

City Clerk Alicia Gonzales announced that in Item C-1, Attachment 1 of the Special Events Application was inadvertently omitted from the report. A copy of the attachment was provided to City Council and staff prior to the meeting. Copies are available at the podium for members of the public.

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER EVANS, THE AGENDA WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY A 7/0 VOTE.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Proclamation Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day

Porfirio Hernandez of Comunidad de San Martin Itunyoso accepted the Proclamation.

2. Proclamation Recognizing Disability Awareness Month

ADA Council Chairman Jack Proter accepted the Proclamation.

3. Assemblymember Esmeralda Soria Legislative Update

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The first 15 minutes of the meeting are reserved for members of the public to address the Council on items which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. The Council is prohibited by law from taking any action on matters discussed that are not on the agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the Council does not respond to public comment at this time.

Mayor Gallegos implemented the “1, 2, 3 minutes” public comment method. Those who had 1 minute of public comment could go first, then those who had 2 minutes of public comment and then those with 3 minutes of public comment.

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER EVANS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ, COUNCIL APPROVED KEEPING ALL PUBLIC COMMENT AT 3 MINUTES BY A 6/1 VOTE. NOES: MAYOR GALLEGOS

Lynette Lomeli, Executive Director of Madera Coalition for Community Justice reported that ICE was in the community today. They hit a parked car and put community members at risk. She stated it is imperative that Council and community members come together to protect the community.

Minerva Mendoza expressed that the new public comment time limit seemed inappropriate when the community needs to voice their concerns regarding ICE activities. She mentioned a letter that she emailed to Council and Chief of Police asking to find out what kind of help the City is giving to ICE.

Councilmember Mejia reported the “1,2,3 minutes” public comment information was news to her. She asked if Council could continue with the 3 minutes timeframe that the public is aware of. Mayor Gallegos asked for City Attorney input. City Attorney Shannon Chaffin stated that the Chairperson (Mayor) has the inherent authority to set up an optional public comment system, however a majority of the City Council can overrule the chair if warranted.

Jose Eduardo Chavez, a resident of Madera asked if the “1,2,3 minutes” public comment is a policy and was informed that it is an option. Mr. Chavez expressed concerns regarding ICE activities in the City and believes Council is not doing enough to protect the community they serve.

Patty, a resident of Madera mentioned she is saddened by the ICE activity in the community. She stated that she called and left a voicemail for each of the Councilmembers asking what steps they were taking to protect their community. She stated that ICE activity affects everyone regardless of immigration status and the community should not feel terrorized. She hopes to hear back from Council.

Jasmine Rueda, a resident of Madera County spoke in opposition of ICE activity in the community. She asked what information is available about the recent immigration enforcement activity in the city. She wanted to know if any City department was involved, present or aware of ICE activities in recent enforcement activities. She had multiple questions on City involvement, policies, practices, and cooperation with ICE.

Juan Santiago, a resident of Madera spoke in opposition of ICE activity in the community. He stated racial profiling and kidnapping is not acceptable and needs to stop. He is upset that those in power are not doing enough to stop this activity.

Joanna Torres, a volunteer with Guelaguetza invited the Council to attend their 3rd Annual event this Sunday at the Madera District Fairgrounds. Guelaguetza and the Madera District Fairgrounds are aware of recent ICE activities in Madera and are taking measure to increase security at their event.

Victoria, a resident of Madera spoke in opposition of ICE activity in the community. She stated the community deserves to feel safe and Council should act to protect their residents.

Jay Flores, expressed his disappointment at the Council's lack of action in protecting the community from ICE activity in the city.

Brenda Ordaz spoke in opposition of ICE activity in the community. She asked that Council stand up for their community and help ensure that families have access to accurate information regarding ICE activity.

Janelle Cantu, a resident of Madera spoke about electric rates, back-up power (solar) in homes and being partnered with PG&E to provide batteries at a low rate.

Michael Hoffrage, a Central Valley aviator aircraft restorer and war veteran asked Council to approve a lease for a historic World War II era hangar at the Madera Municipal airport.

City Attorney Shannon Chaffin asked and was approved to advise Council on some legal issues that may help the public better understand the public comment portion of the agenda. Mr. Chaffin stated that under the Brown Act, a state law which governs meetings, Council is prohibited from engaging in conversations with the public or responding to the public's questions. This is due to public transparency. Council can only discuss items listed on the agenda. Although, Council may want to say something, their mouths are sealed by law. Council cannot respond to questions during Public Comment.

Mr. Chaffin stated that Council cannot respond to the public and tell them that:

- State law SB54 prohibits local Police Departments from engaging in immigration enforcement
- The Madera Police Department does not get involved in any ICE enforcement action
- ICE does not contact local Police Departments before they come out and do enforcement actions
- City Council has previously discussed this matter and adopted a resolution making very clear its stance as a welcoming community including that the City Council confirms the City of Madera is committed to protecting all residents as authorized by law and are focused on ensuring safety regardless of status or class
- The Police Department's focus is on community safety, not immigration enforcement
- Any person, regardless of immigration status, is safe to report crimes to the local Police Department and know that local police will help protect them from crime

Mr. Chaffin stated that anyone interested in learning more about this subject can reach out to the City Manager or the Chief of Police. Mr. Chaffin thanked Council for letting him explain the law to them (Council) and sharing with the public what Council cannot do tonight.

No further Public Comment was presented. Public Comment was closed.

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A-1 Consideration of Ordinance Text Amendment (OTA) 2026-04 to Amend the Provisions of Chapter 3 of Title X: Planning and Zoning of the City Municipal Code Pertaining to Exterior Colors in Commercial Zone Districts

Recommendation: Waive full reading and introduce by title only an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Madera determining the project is exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and amending Chapter 3 of Title X: Planning and Zoning of the City Municipal Code (CMC) pertaining to Exterior Colors in Commercial Zone Districts (CMC § 10-3.419) (Report by Will Tackett)

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER EVANS AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MEJIA, ITEM A-1 WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY A 7/0 VOTE.

INTRO ORD AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA DETERMINING THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15061(B)(3) OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) GUIDELINES AND AMENDING CHAPTER 3 OF TITLE X: PLANNING AND ZONING OF THE CITY MUNICIPAL CODE (CMC) PERTAINING TO EXTERIOR COLORS IN COMMERCIAL ZONE DISTRICTS (CMC § 10-3.419)

B. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote.

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MONTES, THE CONSENT CALENDAR WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY A 7/0 VOTE.

B-1 Minutes – September 16, 2026

Recommendation: Approve the City Council Minutes of September 16, 2026 (Report by Alicia Gonzales)

B-2 Informational Report on Register of Audited Demands

Recommendation: Review Register of Audited Demands Report for September 5, 2026 to September 25, 2026 (Report by Michael Lima)

B-3 Memorandum of Understanding with Madera Unified School District (MUSD) for the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Winter Camp 2027

Recommendation: 1. Adopt a Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MUSD for the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) Winter Camp 2027, not to exceed \$23,181; and
2. Adopt a Resolution Amending the Fiscal Year 2026/27 Operating Budget, Approving Related Line Items for the Execution of said MOU (Report by Joseph Hebert)

RES 26-173 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH MADERA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM (ELOP) WINTER CAMP 2027, NOT TO EXCEED \$23,181

RES 26-174 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2026/27 OPERATING BUDGET, APPROVING RELATED EXPENDITURE LINE ITEMS FOR THE EXECUTION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH MADERA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM WINTER CAMP 2027

B-4 Madera Elks Lodge Fee Waiver Request for the Madera Elks Hoop Shoot Event

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Waiving the rental fees of the John Wells Youth Center (JWYC) on October 17, 2026, related to a Hoop Shoot Contest

Hosted by the Madera Elks Lodge #1918, at an Anticipated Rental Fee of \$425 (Report by Joseph Hebert)

RES 26-175 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA WAIVING THE RENTAL FEES OF THE JOHN WELLS YOUTH CENTER ON OCTOBER 17, 2026, RELATED TO A HOOP SHOOT CONTEST HOSTED BY THE MADERA ELKS LODGE #1918, AT AN ANTICIPATED FEE RENTAL OF \$425

B-5 Madera Coalition for Community Justice Fee Waiver Request for the Don't Ghost Your Vote Event

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Waiving the Rental Fees of the Pan-American Community Center (PACC) on October 24, 2026, related to the Don't Ghost Your Vote Event Hosted by Madera Coalition for Community Justice, at an Anticipated Rental Fee of \$1,030 (Report by Joseph Hebert)

RES 26-176 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA WAIVING THE RENTAL FEES OF THE PAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER ON OCTOBER 24, 2026, RELATED TO A DON'T GHOST YOUR VOTE EVENT HOSTED BY THE MADERA COALITION FOR COMMUNITY JUSTICE, AT AN ANTICIPATED RENTAL FEE OF \$1,030

B-6 Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance Amending the City's Municipal Code Relating to Vacant Buildings

Recommendation: Waive Full Reading and Adopt by Title Only an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Madera Repealing Chapter 12 of Title IX, and Adopting a New Chapter 12 of Title IX entitled "Vacant Buildings" (Report by Giachino Chiaramonte)

ORD 1025 C.S. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 12 OF TITLE IX OF THE MADERA MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING VACANT BUILDINGS

B-7 Request to Waive City Fees Relating to Madera High School's Homecoming Parade

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution to Ratify Waiving the Fees to Cover the Costs of City Services Relating to the Madera High School Homecoming Parade in the amount of \$2,136 (Report by Giachino Chiaramonte)

RES 26-177 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA TO RATIFY WAIVING THE FEES TO COVER THE COSTS OF POLICE, PUBLIC WORKS AND ENGINEERING SERVICES AND FEES RELATING TO THE MADERA HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,136.00

B-8 Raymond Road Street Improvements Rebid, City Project R-37, CMAQ 5157(094), Shoulder Paving and RMRA Street Rehab

Recommendation: Adopt a Minute Order Approving:
1. Acceptance of Raymond Road Street Improvements Rebid, City Project R-37, CMAQ 5157(094), Shoulder Paving and RMRA Street Rehab; and
2. Recording of Notice of Completion; and

3. Release of Retention 35 days After the Recording of the Notice of Completion (Report by Keith Helmuth)

B-9 Storey Road Shoulder Paving, City Project R-60, CMAQ 5157(114)

Adopt a Minute Order Approving:

1. Acceptance of Storey Road Shoulder Paving, City Project R-60, CMAQ 5157(114); and
2. Recording of Notice of Completion; and
3. Release of Retention 35 days After the Recording of the Notice of Completion (Report by Keith Helmuth)

B-10 Westberry Bridge, City Project B-02

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Approving Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement with Cornerstone Structural Engineering Group (Cornerstone), Inc. for \$99,825 for Additional Design and Permitting Services for the Westberry Bridge, City Project B-02 (Report by Keith Helmuth)

RES 26-178 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE AGREEMENT WITH CORNERSTONE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING GROUP INC. FOR \$99,825 PLUS CONTINGENCIES FOR ENGINEERING AND PERMITTING SERVICES FOR THE WESTBERRY BRIDGE, CITY PROJECT B-02

B-11 Amendment No. 2 to Agreement with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. Additional Engineering Services for the Ongoing Projects at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Approving Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Improvements Project, Authorizing Additional Construction-Phase Engineering Support through Completion of the new IPS Wet Well, for a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$113,000 (Report by Harpiar Gandhi)

RES 26-179 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO AGREEMENT WITH STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES, INC. FOR THE MADERA WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY (WWTF) IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION-PHASE ENGINEERING SUPPORT THROUGH COMPLETION OF THE NEW INFLUENT PUMP STATION (IPS) WET WELL, FOR A TOTAL NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$113,000

B-12 Two Easement Deeds for Sidewalk Improvements at Various Locations City Project R-94 Bid Package 3 Phase 1 AHSC Agreement No. 19-AHSC-12761

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Approving an Agreement for Purchase of Easements at 944 East Yosemite Avenue, Madera, CA 93638 (APN 008-012-007) and 932 East Yosemite Avenue, Madera, CA 93638 (APN 008-012-006) (Report by Keith Helmuth)

RES 26-180 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF EASEMENTS AT 944

EAST YOSEMITE AVENUE, MADERA, CA 93638 (APN 008-012-007) AND AT
932 EAST YOSEMITE AVENUE, MADERA, CA 93638 (APN 008-012-006)

B-13 Amendment to Engagement Agreement with Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell, & Berkowitz, PC (Baker Donelson) for Specialty Legal Services Relating to Disaster Recovery

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Engagement Agreement with Baker Donelson for Limited Engagement as Legal Counsel in Support of the City's Application for Disaster Relief Funds for the January 2023 Winter Storms Event (Report by Wendy Silva)

RES 26-181 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE BAKER, DONELSON, BEARMAN, CALDWELL, & BERKOWITZ, PC ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

B-14 Certificate of Recognition Honoring Madera Unified School District's 60th Anniversary Celebration

Recommendation: Adopt a Minute Order Approving a Certificate of Recognition Honoring Madera Unified School District's 60th Anniversary Celebration (Report by Alicia Gonzales)

B-15 Memorandum of Understanding with Respect to the Cost Sharing for Water Years 2026-2028 Madera Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Annual Reports (Action on this Item by the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA))

Recommendation: Approve a Resolution Approving Memorandum of Understanding with Respect to the Cost Sharing for Water Year 2026-2028 Madera Subbasin GSP Annual Reports (MOU) (Report by Keith Helmuth)

GSA RES 26-03 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MADERA AND THE CITY OF MADERA, GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH RESPECT TO THE COST SHARING FOR THE WATER YEARS 2025-2028 MADERA SUBBASIN GSP ANNUAL REPORTS

C. WORKSHOP:

C-1 Half Marathon Event Information

Recommendation: This report was prepared at the direction of the City Council (Council) for informational purposes. Council to provide direction, if desired (Report by Joseph Hebert)

D. PETITIONS, BIDS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, AND AGREEMENTS:

D-1 Award of a Professional Services Agreement to The Code Group, Inc. dba VCA Code for the REAP 2.0 Downtown Mixed-Use Housing Implementation Strategy and Development Readiness Project

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Determining the Project is exempt from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Sections 15262 and 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines and Approving a Professional Services Agreement with The Code Group, Inc. (dba VCA Code) for the REAP 2.0 Downtown Mixed-Use Housing Implementation

Strategy and Development Readiness Project in an Amount Not to Exceed
\$375,545 (Report by Will Tackett)

Councilmember Mejia stepped out of the Council Chamber at 7:24 p.m. and returned at 7:31 p.m.

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MONTES AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER VILLEGAS, ITEM D-1 WAS APPROVED BY A 6/0 VOTE. ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBER MEJIA.

RES 26-182 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA DETERMINING THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 15262 AND 15061(B)(3) OF THE CEQA GUIDELINES AND APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE CODE GROUP, INC. (DBA VCA CODE) FOR THE REAP 2.0 DOWNTOWN MIXED-USE HOUSING IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT READINESS PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$375,545

D-2 Application for Financial Assistance for the 2.5 million-gallon Water Storage

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution Declaring the City's intent to Reimburse Project Costs from Future Financing Proceeds for Eligible Project Expenditures Incurred Prior to Execution of the Final Financing Agreement for the 2.5 million-gallon (MG) Water Tank in Northeast Madera, City Project No. WT-0001 (Report by Keith Helmuth)

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MONTES AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER VILLEGAS, ITEM D-2 WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY A 7/0 VOTE.

RES 26-183 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA, CALIFORNIA DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO REIMBURSE ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES INCURRED PRIOR TO EXECUTION OF THE FINAL FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR THE 2.5 MILLION-GALLON (MG) WATER TANK IN NORTHEAST MADERA WITH THE CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD DRINKING WATER STATE WATER REVOLVING FUND

D-3 Mayor's Christmas Concert

Recommendation: This report has been prepared at the request of the Mayor, therefore there is no staff recommendation provided. Council is asked to consider and determine whether to adopt the Resolution approving a facility use permit with Madera Unified School District and ratifying the application for PG&E grant funds (Report by Wendy Silva)

ON MOTION BY MAYOR PRO TEM ZACHARIA AND SECONDED BY MAYOR GALLEGOS, ITEM D-3 WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY A 7/0 VOTE.

RES 26-184 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA APPROVING A FACILITY USE AGREEMENT WITH MADERA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND RATIFYING AN APPLICATION FOR PG&E CHARITABLE GIVING PROGRAM FUNDS IN SUPPORT OF THE MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

E. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

E-1 City Partnerships and Programs with Madera Unified School Districts

Recommendation: This item is informational only; therefore, no Council action is required (Report by Arnaldo Rodriguez)

The Council deliberated and appointed Councilmembers Rodriguez and Evans and Mayor Pro Tem Zacharia to a temporary Ad-Hoc Committee, tasked with conferring with MUSD regarding the proposed partnership.

ON MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER RODRIGUEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MONTES, ITEM E-1 AS DISCUSSED WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY A 7/0 VOTE.

E-2 Selecting Recipients for November Proclamations

Recommendation: Request for Council's Selection of Recipients for the following Proclamations: Veterans Day and Small Business Saturday (Report by Alicia Gonzales)

Council selected retired veteran Imogen Olsen as the recipient of the Veterans Day proclamation. Council selected Evans Feed & Livestock Supply; and Jalisience Jewelers as the recipients of the Small Business Saturday proclamations.

F. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

This portion of the meeting is reserved for the Mayor and Councilmembers (i) to make brief reports on boards, committees, and other public agencies, and at public events, (ii) to request updates, (iii) to initiate future agenda items, and (iv) to take action on matters initiated under this section of the agenda.

Councilmember Villegas had nothing to report.

Councilmember Rodriguez reported attending the Golf Advisory Committee meeting where updates were provided on the anticipated HVAC units and the irrigation project, which received one bid that later withdrew. He also reported advocating for the Olive Avenue railroad crossing project during discussions with Congressman Adam Gray at a Valley Voice Coalition meeting. Lastly, he stated that the City of Madera is a welcoming city, regardless of people's immigration status.

Councilmember Mejia acknowledged Councilmember Elect Alvina Miguel-Leon for enrolling in the Citizen's Academy and attending the meeting. She reported attending the League of California Cities conference. She also requested and received Council consensus to place an item on a future agenda to discuss the City's involvement and assistance for the immigrant community. Lastly, she invited everyone to attend and support the upcoming Guelaguetza event.

Councilmember Montes reported he attended the League of California Cities conference. Public Comment 1, 2, 3 was a good idea, but suggested that cheat sheets be provided to those in attendance when implementing new things. He stated that Council had previously discussed this subject and adopted a proclamation recognizing Madera as a welcoming city. He thanked City Attorney Shannon Chaffin for clarifying why Councilmembers are unable to respond directly to questions raised during public comment.

Mayor Pro Tem Zacharia stated that Council has legal limitations on when they can respond to the public during a Council meeting. He stated it is hurtful when the public says Council isn't doing anything.

Councilmember Evans thanked staff for everything they do. She reported hosting "Crunch with the Councilwoman" event, where she gave away three (3) backpacks to students, and shared that she plans to continue distributing backpacks throughout the year. She also reported attending the League of California Cities conference where she participated in a communication exercise. Lastly, she announced that the Christmas Extravaganza will be held in December and that toy donations are being accepted leading up to the event.

Mayor Gallegos shared that during her 33 years as a teacher, she observed that children were often absent from school when ICE activities occurred in the city. She also requested and received Council consensus to place an item on a future agenda to discuss Mr. Hoffrage's proposal for an aviation lease.

G. CLOSED SESSION: None

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

- Wednesday, October 21, 2026
- Wednesday, November 18, 2026

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



ALICIA GONZALES, City Clerk



CECELIA K. GALLEGOS, Mayor



MINUTES PREPARED BY
ZELDA LEÓN, Deputy City Clerk

