

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, September 19, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Meeting Location
El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Janet Abelson – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Gabriel Quinto
Councilmember Greg Lyman

Councilmember Paul Fadelli
Councilmember Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Fadelli, Lyman, Pardue-Okimoto, Quinto and Mayor Abelson all present.

7:00 p.m.

CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Abelson convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE was led by Councilmember Greg Lyman.

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Abelson reported that she was recognized by the League of California Cities for achieving Level 2 – Advanced Leadership and Level 3 – Leadership in Action of the Torch Program Award. The League's Torch Program recognizes dedication to continuing education and service. Many interesting workshops and presentations were featured at the League's Annual Conference. The keynote speaker, Vernice "Flygirl" Armour, was very motivating and inspiring. Mayor Abelson also attended the Chamber of Commerce luncheon today. City Manager Hanin was the featured speaker.

Since the Council last met, Mayor Abelson, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto and Councilmember Fadelli met with the Honorable Sikyong/President Dr. Lobsang Sangay, Central Tibetan Administration in Exile, and Directors of the Tibetan Association of Northern California at El Cerrito City Hall. Mayor Abelson also reported on recent Centennial Celebration events, thanked everyone who participated in the event and recognized Suzanne Iarla for her extraordinary efforts.

Councilmember Lyman reported that that a Centennial Time Capsule was unveiled on August 23 at City Hall and also recognized the Centennial Task Force for the African-American cultural event held recently at the Community Center. Councilmember Lyman reminded all that the annual Tri-City Safety Day is on

September 23 from 11-3 at El Cerrito Plaza and invited all to attend the Community Arts and Music Day on October 21 from 2-5 at the Community Center.

Councilmember Fadelli said it was an incredible week of centennial events and thanked Ms. Iarla for her work. On September 27 there will be a groundbreaking for the modernization of the Del Norte BART Station. Councilmember Fadelli encouraged all to participate in Restaurant Week in El Cerrito, October 16-22.

Mayor Pro Tem Quinto also thanked Ms. Iarla for all of her work and spoke about how much he enjoyed the Gala dinner. At the League of California Cities Conference Mayor Pro Tem Quinto was nominated and elected to the Board of the East Bay Division and was also elected secretary/treasurer of the Asian Pacific Islander Caucus. Mayor Pro Tem Quinto also reported on his attendance with many members of the Sierra Club and Contra Costa Supervisor Gioia at the National Electric Vehicle Week event in the City of Richmond. On September 7 he attended a talk at Kennedy High School with many high schoolers who had questions about voter registration and community engagement.

Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto expressed appreciation for all of the Centennial events over the weekend and thanked all of the staff and volunteers who participated. The parade and gala were fantastic. The Centennial African-American celebration was a well attended community event. It was a great honor to meet local journalist, Belva Davis. Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto also attended the League of California Cities Conference and enjoyed the great seminars and speakers. She attended several seminars regarding marijuana dispensaries. Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto informed all that the State Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB) 687 which makes it more difficult for non-profit hospitals to close their emergency rooms without more community input and review by the state Attorney General. SB 562 Single Payer Healthcare, is on hold in California however U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders (Vermont) has introduced S1804, Medicare for All. The bill is co-sponsored by Senator Kamala Harris.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, announced the Contra Costa Theatre's new show, Cabaret; encouraged youth to apply to serve on a commission or a committee; lamented about the cost of housing, and spoke in support of saving Alta Bates Hospital and senior programs.

David Montes, El Cerrito, spoke in support of Senior Center programs. Mr. Montes asked that staff keep everyone informed about the status and plans for senior center programming.

Cheryl Sudduth, Unincorporated Contra Costa, expressed appreciation for the City's Centennial events and also stated that Rubicon Programs contract with the County was approved by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors today. The Board of Supervisors also allocated funds for the Stand Together CoCo program which will help immigrants and undocumented immigrants.

4. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item No. 4(A) through 4(F)

Moved, seconded (Lyman/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 4(A) through 4(F) as indicated below.

A. Approval of Minutes

Approve the August 15, 2017 Special City Council Closed Session and Regular City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Ordinance Enabling Expedited Building Permit Process for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Adopt an ordinance adding Chapter 16.14 to the El Cerrito Municipal Code to enable expedited permitting procedures for electric vehicle charging stations. *First reading August 15, 2017. Vote: Unanimous.*

Action: Adopted Ordinance 2017-05.

C. Award of External Financial Auditor Contract

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Badawi & Associates to provide external financial auditor services for a three-year period, with an option for two additional years, at a first-year cost of \$51,140.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2017-66.

D. Ohlone Greenway Pedestrian and Bicycle Wayfinding Project

Adopt a resolution taking the following actions: 1) Approve plans for the Ohlone Greenway Pedestrian and Bicycle Wayfinding and Amenities Project, City Project No. C5034; 2) Accept the five submitted bids; and 3) Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract in the amount of \$257,900 with Suarez & Muñoz Construction, Inc. and to approve change orders in an amount not to exceed \$58,000 for the construction of the Ohlone Greenway Pedestrian and Bicycle Wayfinding and Amenities Project, City Project No. C5034. *Exempt from CEQA.*

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2017-67.

E. Renaming the City's Portion of Fairmont Park to Centennial Park

Adopt a resolution authorizing the renaming of the City owned portion of Fairmont Park as Centennial Park per El Cerrito's Administrative Policy/Procedure I(A)(4).

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2017-68.

F. Amendment to El Cerrito Tree Committee Enabling Resolution

Adopt a resolution amending the El Cerrito Tree Committee enabling Resolution, City Council Resolution No. 2007-96, to change the name of the Tree Committee to the Urban Forest Committee and change the service terms of the Committee from commencing on January 1 to commencing on March 1.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2017-69.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation Honoring Brett Guest for his Commendable Actions

Approve and present a proclamation to Brett Guest for his admirable actions toward protecting his neighbors and aiding in the capture of a dangerous suspect. The City Council extends its appreciation to Mr. Guest in recognition of his quick thinking and selfless actions.

Action: Rescheduled to the October 17, 2017 meeting.

B. Presentation on the 2017 E.C.S.T.A.R.S. Internship Program

Receive a presentation regarding the 2017 El Cerrito Students Training and Ready for Success ("EC STARS") Internship Program. Suzanne Iarla, Kristen Cunningham and Mr. Corey Mason will provide an overview and the interns will speak briefly about their experience over the summer.

Speaker: Cordell Hindler, Richmond, reflected on the intern presentations.

Action: Received presentations from the following interns: Adonis Diaz, Josh

Rizzolo, Zechariah Liou, Gefen Gladstone, and Valeria Olano.

C. Human Relations Commission Workplan – Presentation by Margo Hunter Parisi, Chair, Human Relations Commission

Receive a presentation on the Human Relations Commission's accomplishments, goals and workplan.

Action: Received presentation.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Fire Hazard Abatement

Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion adopt a resolution confirming the cost of abatement of public nuisance conditions resulting from the presence of weeds, rubbish, litter or other flammable material on private property designated in Exhibit A of the resolution as authorized by El Cerrito Municipal Code Chapter 16.26.

Presenters: Joseph Gagne, Fire Marshal.

Mayor Abelson opened the public hearing.

Speakers: Cordell Hindler, Richmond, urged the Council to adopt the resolution.

Moved, seconded (Lyman/Quinto) and carried unanimously to close the public hearing.

Action: Moved, seconded (Lyman/Fadelli) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2017-70.

7. POLICY MATTERS – None

8. CITY COUNCIL LOCAL AND REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Mayor and City Council communications regarding local and regional liaison assignments and committee reports.

Councilmember Fadelli thanked the City Council for its vote on the re-naming of the Tree Committee and also spoke about the state legislature's passage of affordable housing bills and the designation of California as a Sanctuary State.

Councilmember Lyman reported that he had updated the Human Relations Commission about what the Council and City Staff have been working on. Councilmember Lyman also reported that he attended two West Contra Costa Integrated Waste Management Authority meetings to focus on new governing documents for the Joint Powers Authority Board. On September 11 the Authority Board directed the JPA member City Managers to meet and begin work on the JPA governance documents. The Authority Board met last Thursday and received a presentation on the household hazardous waste (HHW) budget which has gone up almost thirty-three percent in the last five years due to the addition of new services. HHW is collected on Tuesdays in El Cerrito and HHW event days in West Contra Costa County have been incredibly successful.

Mayor Abelson announced that the Committee on Aging along with St. John Senior Center and Christ Lutheran Senior Center is co-sponsoring the third annual El Cerrito Senior Resource fair on October 4, 2017 at the Community Center.

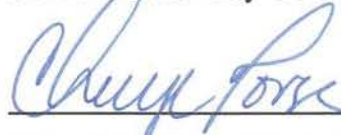
9. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING in memory of Charles Chuck Wing at 8:41 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Item No. 5(B) Presentation on the 2017 E.C.S.T.A.R.S. Internship Program

Powerpoint presentation – *Submitted by Suzanne Iarla, Assistant to the City Manager.*

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of September 19, 2017 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Morse", is written over a horizontal line.

Cheryl Morse, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janet Abelson", is written over a horizontal line.

Janet Abelson, Mayor