

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, May 3, 2016 – 6:40 p.m.

Hillside Conference Room

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, May 3, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION

Tuesday, May 3, 2016 – Immediately Following the Regular Meeting

Hillside Conference Room

Meeting Location

El Cerrito City Hall

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Greg Lyman – Mayor

**Mayor Pro Tem Janet Abelson
Councilmember Jan Bridges**

**Councilmember Mark Friedman
Councilmember Gabriel Quinto**

6:40 p.m. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Bridges, Friedman, Quinto and Mayor Lyman all present.

CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Lyman convened the Special City Council meeting at 6:40 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – *No speakers.*

COMMISSION INTERVIEWS, STATUS AND APPOINTMENTS

Conduct an interview of one candidate for city boards and commissions. The interview may result in an announcement of appointment at the meeting. The City Council may also discuss the status, scheduling and structure of future interviews.

ADJOURNED SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Bridges, Friedman, Quinto and Mayor Lyman all present.

7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Lyman convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:04 p.m.

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

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Paul Keith, Interim Chief of Police, reported that El Cerrito Police Explorers recently competed in Sacramento at the Annual California Highway Patrol Explorer Competition, which included 43 Explorer Posts, and brought home top awards: 1) Second place in Court Testimony; 2) Second Place in Law Enforcement/Investigation – Drunk in Public; 3) Third Place in Law Enforcement/Investigation – Domestic Violence; 4) Fourth Place in Law Enforcement/Investigation – Suspicious Person; and 5) Fifth Place in Physical Fitness Obstacle Course. Chief Keith stated that the Department is proud of the Explorer's effort and hard work and that the Police Department is interviewing ten more explorers to join the post. In the Explorer Academy individuals learn safe firearms handling, police department operations, citizenship and how police play a role in the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson stated that she attended the "Redefining Mobility Summit" in April. This summit focused on innovation and the driverless car. The Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) is working on driverless car testing at the former Concord Naval Weapons Station. On April 28, Mayor Pro Tem Abelson attended the dedication of a bench at Cerrito Vista Park in memory of Charles Weaver who passed away recently. Mr. Weaver was an active member of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce and Rotary. On April 25, on behalf of the City and CCTA, Mayor Pro Tem Abelson visited State Senator Hancock and Assemblymember Thurmond as part of Legislative Action Day sponsored by the League of California Cities (LCC).

Councilmember Quinto also participated in Legislative Action Day last week in Sacramento. There are several bills being considered now that support the needs of the City's residents such as housing, transportation and education. Councilmembers Quinto and Abelson let the City's state legislators know about the needs of El Cerrito, particularly affordable housing, housing for seniors and transit oriented development. Assemblymember Thurmond supports San Pablo Avenue infill and senior housing. Assemblymembers Thurmond and Chew are working on a bill that will help those looking for housing in West County. Councilmember Quinto also attended the LCC Asian - Pacific Islander caucus meeting. Councilmember Quinto plans on working with them more to create more diversity in the County.

Mayor Lyman attended the April 30 grand opening for Daiso, located in El Cerrito Plaza. There were almost 300 people lined up to shop. Daiso is very pleased to be in El Cerrito. This afternoon at the Community Center, Mayor Lyman and Mayor Pro Tem Abelson thanked volunteers that work for the Recreation Department, Senior Center and Casa Cerrito.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tom Panas, El Cerrito, announced that the El Cerrito Community Gardening Network and Richmond Grows Seed Organization are working together on an experiment with dry farming to successfully grow vegetables without any water. Mr. Panas said if ever there was a non-resident who should be on the Wall of Fame, it would be Susan Schwartz, Friends of Five Creeks. Mr. Panas said he would be honored if his picture on the Wall of Fame was replaced with Ms. Schwartz' picture.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, expressed support for Consent Calendar Item No. 5J – additional funding for library site feasibility and assessment. The item sends a strong message to the public about the City Council's commitment to the library.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Friends of Five Creeks Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring May 14, 2016 as Friends of Five Creeks Day in the City of El Cerrito and encouraging all residents of El Cerrito to join the Friends of Five Creeks 20th Anniversary Celebration at El Cerrito Creekside Park on that day.

Action: Moved, seconded (Friedman/Abelson) and carried unanimously to approve the proclamation. Proclamation presented to Susan Schwartz, Director, Friends of Five Creeks.

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 5A through 5J

Moved, seconded (Abelson/Bridges) and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5A and 5B and 5D through 5J in one motion as indicated below. Consent Calendar Item No. 5C was removed from the Consent Calendar for the purpose of presenting it to the East Bay Housing Organization.

A. Approval of Minutes

Approve the April 19, 2016 Regular City Council and City Council Closed Session meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Bike to Work Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring May 12, 2016 as Bike to Work Day in the City of El Cerrito, recognizing the value of increased bicycle use and encouraging participation in the 22nd Annual Bike to Work Day and other bicycling activities during the month of May.

Action: Approved proclamation.

C. Affordable Housing Week Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring May 13 through May 21, 2016 as Annual Affordable Housing Week in the City of El Cerrito and confirming the City's commitment to work to support affordable housing at the local, regional and state level and encouraging all residents of El Cerrito to participate in regional Affordable Housing Week activities www.ebho.org/eventslist to raise awareness about the importance of affordable housing for families and communities.

Action: Removed from the Consent Calendar. Moved, seconded (Friedman/Quinto) and carried unanimously to approve the proclamation. Proclamation presented to Luis Rodriquez, Director, East Bay Housing Organization.

D. National Public Works Week Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring May 15 through May 21, 2016 as "National Public Works Week" in the City of El Cerrito and encouraging all residents and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the issues involved in providing our public works infrastructure, facilities and services and to recognize the contributions public works personnel make every day to the City's health, safety, comfort and quality of life.

Action: Approved proclamation.

E. Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring the month of May 2016 Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of El Cerrito and inviting everyone to reflect on the notable accomplishments and outstanding services provided by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the Nation, California and the City of El Cerrito.

Action: Approved proclamation.

F. Jewish American Heritage Month Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring May 2016 as Jewish American Heritage Month in the City of El Cerrito and calling upon all residents to celebrate Jewish Americans who have helped weave the fabric of not only American History, culture and society but also the City of El Cerrito, to visit www.jewishamericanheritagemonth.us to learn more about the heritage and contributions of Jewish Americans, and to observe this month with solemn remembrance, appropriate programs, activities and ceremonies.

Action: Approved proclamation.

G. Complete Streets Policy for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Adopt a resolution adopting a Complete Streets Policy to maintain the eligibility of the City of El Cerrito for federal transportation funding available through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. *Exempt from CEQA.*

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016-28.

H. BKF Engineers Consulting Services Agreement Amendment

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the consulting services agreement with BKF Engineers (BKF) to provide engineering and design services for the Ohlone Greenway BART Station Area Access, Safety and Placemaking Improvements (Ohlone ASP) Project, City Project No. C3076, Federal Project No. CML-5239(025) in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 bringing the total contract amount to \$475,100 and under the original contract term.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016-29.

I. Accept the Engineer's Report on Landscape and Lighting Assessment District No. 1988-1, Resolution of Intention to Order Improvements and Set the Date for the Public Hearing

Accept the Engineer's Report specifying assessments for the Landscape and Lighting Assessment District and adopt a Resolution of Intention Ordering Improvements pursuant to the Landscape and Lighting Act of 1972, and setting the time, date and place of the public hearing as May 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016-30.

J. Authorize Additional Funds for Agreements Related to Library Facility Site Feasibility and Assessment

Staff requests that the Council take the following actions: 1) Approve a budget amendment to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$50,000 from the current year unrestricted general fund balance; and 2) Adopt two separate resolutions extending existing service agreements for additional library site assessment work in the amount of \$25,000 for Swinerton Management and Consulting to provide construction management advice and cost estimations and \$25,000 for Group 4 Architecture, Research + Planning, Inc, to provide preliminary massing studies and site selection analysis for additional possible locations.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016-31 and Resolution No. 2016-32.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

7. POLICY MATTERS – None

8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

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

Councilmember Bridges reported that the Planning Commission received a report on

changes, primarily traffic, that were submitted by the Summit K2 Charter School. The Commission will convene a study session at a later date. The meeting was standing room only.

Mayor Lyman reported that the last Marin Clean Energy Board meeting was uneventful. At its April meeting, the West County Mayors Association received a presentation from AC Transit regarding a Fall 2016 ballot measure for renewal of an existing parcel tax. AC Transit General Manager, Michael Hursh, gave compelling reasons why the renewal is needed. Seventy percent of fares goes toward operations.

9. CONVENE CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Lyman convened the City Council Closed Session at 7:29 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – *Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957*

Title: City Manager

Speakers: Tom Panas, El Cerrito, expressed appreciation for the work Mr. Hanin has done for the City in the last fifteen years. Mr. Hanin has pushed the city forward in a positive way and has displayed insight in hiring people and has created an amazing team. Those that have been promoted internally are doing a great job. Too often, Mr. Hanin has had to push things along without enough funding. Mr. Panas said he was thrilled personally to have such a great City Manager and said he was grateful to the City Council of 15 years ago for hiring him.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, expressed his appreciation for Mr. Hanin's personal character and leadership style. This has allowed him to acquire and develop city staff that have made El Cerrito a city that everyone enjoys living in. Mr. Miller said that it is amazing what can be done if no one cares who gets credit for it.

RECESSED INTO CLOSED SESSION at 7:33 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND POSSIBLE REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION at 8:35 p.m.

Mayor Lyman reported that the City Council gave direction to the Compensation Subcommittee.

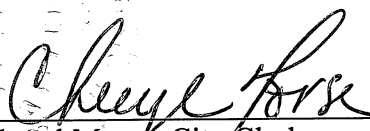
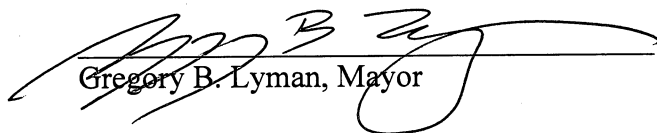
10. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 8:37 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Commission Interviews

1. Recommendation for Nga Trinh for Arts and Culture Commission – *Submitted by Heidi Rand, Arts and Culture Commissioner.*

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Special City Council meeting, Regular City Council meeting and City Council Closed Session of May 3, 2016 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.


Cheryl Morse, City Clerk
Gregory B. Lyman, Mayor