

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 – Immediately Following the Regular City Council 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

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 7:00 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE was led by Mayor Pro Tem Abelson.

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson reported that she was invited to a special preview of BART's new train car. The new car will make it easier for those in wheelchairs to get in and out of the train, allows for bike parking and may alleviate crowding on the trains.

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson also reported that she attended two League of California Cities Policy Committee meetings in San Diego. She serves on both the Administrative Services and Community Services Policy Committees. She received a presentation on San Diego's open data program and asked that materials presented at the meeting be put on El Cerrito's website (*see hyperlink below under supplemental communications*). A commitment to open data is a commitment to transparent, efficient, accessible data and open government.

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson also reported that a group of people went up and down San Pablo Avenue on Earth Day and passed out materials associated with the City's non-smoking campaign and thanked Suzanne Iarla, Assistant to the City Manager, for this idea. Businesses appeared to be supportive and were happy to receive the materials.

Paul Fadelli, BART, stated that the new BART car is still being tested and that eventually there will be ten new cars put into the system. El Cerrito residents will also appreciate the

new cars because they are quieter.

Councilmember Quinto reported that he attended an interesting Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) workshop this morning that included representatives from different municipalities and transportation. Councilmember Quinto said he is excited that the BAAQMD wants to work with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and other agencies to make sure that transportation in small cities like El Cerrito have different ways of expanding programs like transit oriented development, bike sharing and infrastructure for quick car chargers, all of which will contribute to better air throughout the Bay Area.

Mayor Lyman reported that the City Council met in closed session on April 5 regarding the City Manager's performance evaluation and formed a committee to discuss performance. The City Council will be meeting in closed session again this evening. Mayor Lyman reported on his participation in Earth Day, particularly protecting rare plants along the PG&E right of way, and thanked all the Earth Day volunteers.

Mayor Lyman also reported that he met with the Fairmount School Parent Teacher Association in conjunction with the Library Foundation and answered a number of questions regarding the City's plans for a new library.

The Contra Costa Mayors Conference received a presentation from Grace Crunican, BART General Manager, on BART's upcoming November 2016 bond measure particularly why it is needed and what it will do. BART is one of the least subsidized transit agencies in the nation. Today, Mayor Lyman met with a number of seniors at St. Johns Senior Center to speak about the city. The seniors let Mayor Lyman know that they are a willing and active volunteer pool that is very interested in helping the city. Councilmember Bridges and Mayor Lyman presented a proclamation to the musical group Metallica and gave the band Earth Day shirts. Metallica started its career in El Cerrito.

Councilmember Friedman thanked Mayor Pro Tem Abelson for coordinating the Earth Day event and for her great service to the City.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, stated that he is still seeing El Cerrito Police Department vehicles on his street and invited all to a youth leadership graduation and the play "The Mountaintop" at the Contra Costa Civic Theatre. Mr. Hindler also reported on a discussion he had with the owner of Well Grounded Tea and Coffee Bar regarding minimum wage and noted the vacant properties in El Cerrito and rising rents.

AL Miller, El Cerrito, spoke in praise of Earth Day and the work done at the El Cerrito Library by the El Cerrito Library Foundation and other library supporters. Mr. Miller thanked Bill Driscoll, Maintenance Manager, and his crew for his work providing tools and mulch to the work party participants and for taking away trash collected along the Ohlone Greenway. Mr. Miller also thanked Mayor Pro Tem Abelson for her leadership in organizing the event and for making arrangements to feed and hydrate all of the volunteers.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Pacific Gas and Electric Company Kick-Off to Retrofit of all Existing Street Lights to New LED Lights

Presenter: Geoff Pollard, Program Manager, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)

Speakers: Cordell Hindler, Richmond, expressed his appreciation for the presentation and said he is looking forward to brighter lights.

Action: Received presentation.

B. Arts and Culture Commission Workplan – Presentation by Ruth Cazden, Chair, Arts and Culture Commission.

Receive a presentation regarding the Arts and Culture Commission's accomplishments, goals and workplan.

Presenter: Ruth Cazden, Chair, Arts and Culture Commission.

Speaker: Cordell Hindler, Richmond, expressed appreciation for the presentation and suggested collaboration between the Richmond and El Cerrito Arts and Culture Commissions.

Paul Fadelli, El Cerrito, Arts and Culture Commission, thanked the City Council for its support of the 1% for art program, stated that El Cerrito is becoming renowned throughout the Bay Area for its full spectrum arts and music program, stated that the Library will provide a good venue for displaying art, noted that the arts program is good for business and also thanked Ms. Cazden for her presentation.

Action: Received presentation.

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

Moved, seconded (Friedman/Abelson) and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5A and 5C through 5F in one motion as indicated below. Consent Calendar Item No. 5B was removed from the Consent Calendar by Mayor Lyman for the purpose of recognizing Cori Diaz and presenting her with the City Council's proclamation.

A. Approval of Minutes

Approve the April 5, 2016 Special City Council Closed Session and Regular City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Proclamation Recognizing Cori Diaz on the Occasion of her Retirement

Approve a proclamation commending and recognizing the many contributions made by Cori Diaz to the residents of El Cerrito and the importance of her role in caring, nurturing and mentoring thousands of youth over the course of her career.

Presenter: Chris Jones, Recreation Director.

Speakers: Tom Panas, El Cerrito, expressed his appreciation and gratitude for Ms. Diaz.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, also expressed his appreciation for Ms. Diaz and her continuous service to the City.

Cori Diaz, Pinole, stated that her work with the City has been a great journey and expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to work in the City and serve the El Cerrito community. Ms. Diaz noted that kids who were enrolled in childcare at 22 months old came back and worked for the City in the Recreation Department when they were older. Ms. Diaz says she is proud of Recreation Department staff and the work they do in child development, building community and strengthening families.

Action: Moved, seconded (Abelson/Friedman) and carried unanimously to approve the proclamation. Proclamation presented to Ms. Diaz.

C. Community Violence Solutions Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring April 2016 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the City of El Cerrito and joining the United States Government and the State of California and anti-sexual violence advocates in supporting service programs in the belief that all community members must be part of the solution to end sexual violence.

Action: Approved proclamation.

D. Amend Fraser & Associates Professional Services Agreement

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the Professional Services Agreement between the City of El Cerrito and Fraser & Associates (Consultant) to provide support services to the Community Development Department in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 bringing the total contract to an amount not to exceed \$20,000.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016-25.

E. Arlington Boulevard and Brewster Drive Safety Improvement Project

Adopt a resolution taking the following actions: 1) Reject the sole bid submitted for the Arlington Boulevard and Brewster Drive Safety Improvements Project, City Project No. C-3071; and 2) Authorize City Staff to proceed with value engineering measures and re-advertise the project for public bid. *Exempt for CEQA.*

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016-26.

F. Centennial Celebration Planning Task Force Appointments

Approve the City Council Centennial Celebration Subcommittee's recommendation to appoint the following community members to the City's Centennial Celebration Planning Task Force, effective April 20, 2016: Joan Carpenter, Ruth Cazden, Ann Cheng, Donna Houser, Lisa Martinengo, Pat Shaw, Joann Steck-Bayat and Bruce Yow.

Action: Approved recommendation.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

7. POLICY MATTERS

A. Potential Formation of a Regional Joint Powers Authority for the Regulation of Taxicab Services within Contra Costa County

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to pursue the potential formation of a regional Joint Powers Authority (JPA) for the regulation of taxicab services within Contra Costa County.

Presenter: Paul Keith, Interim Police Chief.

Speaker: Cordell Hindler, Richmond, stated that the JPA is a good idea.

Action: Moved, seconded (Friedman/Bridges) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2016-27.

B. Selection of El Cerrito Wall of Fame Council Subcommittee

Appoint two members of the City Council to an El Cerrito Wall of Fame Subcommittee for the purpose of reviewing nomination applications and returning to the City Council with a recommendation to consider at an upcoming City Council meeting.

Action: Moved, seconded (Quinto/Abelson) and carried to appoint Councilmember Bridges and Councilmember Friedman to the Wall of Fame Subcommittee.

8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

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

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson reported that the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) is looking at a new sales tax measure in addition to the one that already exists. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson has been going to weekly meetings on the subject.

Mayor Lyman reported that as the City's representative to the West County Integrated Waste Management Authority (WCIWMA) that the WCIWMA is working through the Joint Powers

agreement process which includes talking about the County having a voting seat. There are some legal impediments to having the County become a voting member that continue to be worked on. Mayor Lyman has encouraged the existing practice that representation and voting should be proportional to wasteflow and revenue. Mayor Lyman also attended the Design Review Board (DRB) and Human Relations Commission (HRC) meetings. He provided a written presentation to the DRB and staff regarding the proposed library. At the HRC meeting Mayor Lyman received an update on the campaign against hate in town. The HRC has acquired a movie and is exploring the possibility of a facilitated dialogue around the movie and the display of signs around town.

9. CONVENE CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Lyman convened the City Council Closed Session at 8:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS – *Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6*

Agency Designated Representatives: City Council Subcommittee on City Manager Performance

Designated Employee: City Manager

RECESSED INTO CLOSED SESSION at 8:32 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION AND POSSIBLE REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION at 8:48 p.m.

The Mayor will announce if any reportable action was taken during closed session.

10. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 8:50 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

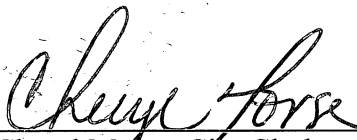
Item No. 4(B) Arts and Culture Commission Workplan

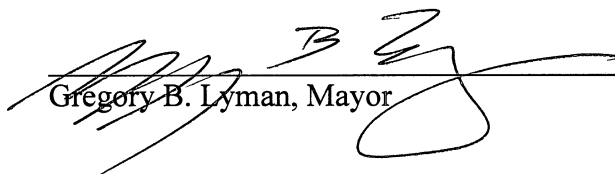
1. Powerpoint presentation – *Submitted by Suzanne Iarla, Assistant to the City Manager.*

Other:

2. City of San Diego Open Data Policy – *Submitted by Mayor Pro Tem Abelson.*
3. San Diego Open Data Program Powerpoint Presentation for the League of California Cities Policy Committee – *Submitted by Mayor Pro Tem Abelson.*

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting and the City Council Closed Session of April 19, 2016 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.


Cheryl Morse, City Clerk


Gregory B. Lyman, Mayor