

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, April 16, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

Meeting Location

El Cerrito City Hall

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Greg Lyman – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Janet Abelson
Councilmember Jan Bridges

Councilmember Rebecca Benassini
Councilmember Mark Friedman

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Benassini, Bridges, Friedman 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. Mayor Lyman asked all to observe a moment of silence to acknowledge those who were injured and killed as a result of the bomb blast at the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE** was led by Mayor Lyman.
2. **COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson invited everyone to attend the upcoming Earth Day event in El Cerrito on April 20, 2013. Approximately thirty sites will be operating. Those who are interested in participating in the event but who have not signed up are welcome to come to the Community Center at 8:45 a.m. and find a site at that time. At noon there will be an event at the Community Center. This year will include removal of the invasive species, Scotch Broom, from the hillsides of El Cerrito and clean-ups all over town. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson thanked everyone who has signed up. Additionally, Bike to Work Day is May 9.

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson reported that she attended the League of California Cities Policy Committee meetings April 4-5 in Pasadena. Policy committee members received a presentation on upcoming changes in healthcare resulting from implementation of the Affordable Health Care Act. Cities will have some new reporting requirements and there may be financial implications for some cities. Committee members also received a presentation regarding amending the Brown Act and an update on legislative bills.

Councilmember Benassini stated that the One Bay Area Plan is out in draft form for review on onebayarea.org. Comments are due May 16, 2013. The website is interactive and residents have the ability to comment by chapter on the Plan. On April 27 everyone is invited to attend a "Less Toxic Pest Management Workshop" at City Hall with expert panelists. The annual spring used book sale at the library will also occur on April 27. On May 4-5 there is a Bringing Back the Natives Celebration which will feature native plant sales at various nurseries and native plant garden tours. Three home gardens in El Cerrito can be toured. More information is posted on the web at www.bringbackthenatives.net.

Mayor Lyman encouraged councilmembers to attend the next Contra Costa Mayors Conference in Orinda on May 2. The conference will feature a presentation by Dan Borenstein on pension reform. The conference also offers an opportunity to talk to others if councilmembers are interested in regional appointments. On June 14 at 7:00 p.m., the El Cerrito Library will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the County Library System. On July 21st the County will be celebrating the county-wide system in Pleasant Hill from noon to 5:00 p.m. On June 15 from 10-12 the Historical Society and Friends of Cerrito Theater will present an historic movie about theaters in the East Bay. The program is free and will be held at the Cerrito Theater.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Tom Panas, El Cerrito, stated that the New Library Committee recently reviewed the City's 2006 library needs assessment to determine what is needed to bring the assessment up to date. Mr. Panas presented written comments on the 2006 needs assessment to the City Council. On February 1, 2013, the Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO) released a Draft Municipal Services Review of local agencies that provide library services in Contra Costa County. Mr. Panas provided the City Council with a summary of relevant data from the LAFCO document. LAFCO's conclusion regarding El Cerrito's library is that it is in poor condition, needs replacement and that capital needs are unfunded. The New Library Committee believes the LAFCO report provides justification for a revised needs assessment.

James Vaughn, El Cerrito, praised the City's Entrepreneur Training Program.

4. PRESENTATIONS – None.

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

Moved, seconded (Friedman/Abelson) and carried unanimously to adopt Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5A through 5I in one motion as indicated below including a revised resolution for Item No. 5F which was changed to add an additional statement in the enacting clause of the resolution that quantifies payment for on-call engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 per year per consultant.

A. Minutes for Approval

Approve the April 2, 2013 Regular City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Earth Day Proclamation

Approve a proclamation proclaiming April 20, 2013 as Earth Day in the City of El Cerrito and encouraging all residents and businesses to help make El Cerrito a greener, healthier, more sustainable place for all.

Action: Approved proclamation.

C. Bike to Work Day Proclamation

Approve a proclamation recognizing the value of increased bicycle use and encouraging participation in the 19th Annual Bike to Work Day and other bicycling activities during the month of May, and proclaiming May 9, 2013, as Bike to Work Day in the City of El Cerrito.

Action: Approved proclamation.

D. Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation

Approve a proclamation proclaiming the month of April 2013 Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of El Cerrito and calling upon all residents, community agencies, faith groups, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our efforts to support safe and strong families, thereby preventing child abuse and strengthening the communities in which we live.

Action: Approved proclamation.

E. Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending El Cerrito Municipal Code Section 19.35.020, Temporary Uses (*First Reading was April 2, 2013. Vote: Unanimous*)

Approve second reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2013-01 amending El Cerrito Municipal Code Section 19.35.020, Temporary Uses, to allow greater flexibility for entertainment, recreational and leisure venues, particularly in the form of special events.

Action: Adopted Ordinance No. 2013-01. *Effective May 16, 2013.*

F. On-Call Engineering and Project Management Services

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute professional services agreements with three consulting firms: Avila Project Management, BKF Engineers, and Coastland Civil Engineering, Inc. to provide engineering and project management services for three years with options to extend for an additional two years.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2013-18 as revised to add an additional statement in the enacting clause of the resolution which quantifies payment for on-call engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 per year per consultant.

G. Support Senate Bill 254 (Hancock): Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act

Approve a recommendation authorizing Mayor Lyman to sign a letter expressing the City Council's support for Senate Bill 254 – The Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act, legislation which would foster the creation of convenient, cost-free programs for consumers to recycle used mattresses and direct the City Clerk to send the letter to the Honorable Jerry Hill, Chair of the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality and other appropriate legislators and legislative bodies.

Action: Approved recommendation.

H. Support for Patricia Jones' Appointment to the State Park and Recreation Commission

At the request of Mayor Pro Tem Abelson, approve a recommendation authorizing Mayor Lyman to sign and send a letter to Governor Brown expressing the City Council's support for the appointment of Patricia Jones to the State Park and Recreation Commission.

Action: Approved recommendation.

I. Committee on Aging Appointments

Approve the Committee on Aging's recommendation to appoint Gabriel Quinto and Karen Christian to the Committee on Aging Effective April 17, 2013.

Action: Approved recommendation.

6. PUBLIC HEARING – None.

7. POLICY MATTERS

A. Ordinance Establishing the Measure A Swim Center Parcel Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2013–14

Introduce by title, waive any further reading, and approve Ordinance 2013-XX establishing the Measure A Swim Center Parcel Tax rates for FY 2013-14, equal to the approved FY 2012-13 rates of \$38.61 per single-family residential unit, \$29.73 per multifamily residential unit, and \$270.66 per acre of non-residential property.

Action: Moved, seconded (Friedman/Abelson) and carried unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 2013–02. *Second reading scheduled for May 7, 2013.*

B. City Budget Update

Update, discussion and possible direction on the Fiscal Year 2012–13 budget, the newly adopted Strategic Plan and the Fiscal Year 2013-14 budget.

Presenters: Scott Hanin, City Manager, Karen Pinkos, Assistant City Manager, and Lisa Malek-Zadeh, Finance Director.

Speakers: Tom Panas, El Cerrito, thanked staff for an excellent budget presentation and presented three different scenarios for expanded hours at the Library for the City Council's consideration. Mr. Panas encouraged the City Council to provide funding for additional library hours. Mr. Panas noted that he was happy to see a facilities assessment among the budget documents and asked that the review and update of policies regarding historic and cultural resources be characterized as an ongoing activity.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, encouraged the City Council to support funding for additional hours at the library and noted that \$25,000 for keeping the library open for four hours on Sunday seems to be a bargain.

Gail McFarland, Deputy County Librarian, clarified the costs of opening the library on Sunday as opposed to other days.

Action: Received presentation. Discussion held. The City Council individually and by mutual consensus as summarized by Mayor Lyman, provided guidance and direction to staff on policies that are important to the Council in developing the Fiscal Year 2013-14 budget.

8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

A. Mayor Lyman reported that the Human Relations Commission (HRC) met on April 3rd and discussed project ideas including fundraising for the 25th Anniversary of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade and July 4th Celebration. The HRC likes the Streetplay event, particularly the joint effort with the City of Richmond. The HRC is requesting a budget of \$4,000 this year so they can do more with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event. On April 4, Mayor Lyman attended the Contra Costa Mayors Conference which included a report from Contra Costa County Clerk Steve Weir, who recently retired. Mayor Lyman encouraged any councilmembers who are interested in a regional appointment to attend the next May 2nd Mayors' Conference. On April 10 Mayor Lyman attended an East Bay Green Corridor meeting. The group is discussing

whether it should continue to exist or combine with other entities. At the April 11 Integrated Waste Management Authority Board meeting, the Board certified the plastic bag ban Environmental Impact Report and moved forward with the Republic Services term sheet.

B. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson reported that the Environmental Quality Committee (EQC) met on April 9 and received a presentation on Senate Bill 254, the Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act, which appeared on the Council's Consent Calendar this evening. The EQC supported the bill. The EQC also reviewed the Climate Action Plan. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson noted that the One Bay Area Plan is coming before the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) in Walnut Creek on April 17. The public is welcome to attend the meeting.

C. Councilmember Benassini reported that the Planning Commission met recently and approved the negative declaration on the Environmental Impact Report on the Climate Action Plan. The Financial Advisory Board also met and will be reviewing the reserve policy and budget at upcoming meetings.

D. Councilmember Bridges reported that the Design Review Board met and heard a conceptual review of an increase in size of a pre-existing Sprint wireless antenna located on the 6500 block of Fairmont Avenue behind the Bed, Bath and Beyond store.

E. Councilmember Friedman – No report.

Moved, seconded (Benassini/Abelson) and carried unanimously to extend the meeting five minutes to 10:35 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Item No. 5(F) On-Call Engineering and Project Management Services

1. Revised resolution – *Submitted by Jerry Bradshaw, Public Works Director.*

Item No. 5(H) Support for Patricia Jones' Appointment to the State Park and Recreation Commission

2. Email regarding Assembly Bill 1478 Parks Commission role and appointments – *Submitted by Patricia Jones.*

Item No. 8(B) City Budget Update

3. Scenarios for extended library hours – *Submitted by Tom Panas, New Library Committee.*

Other:

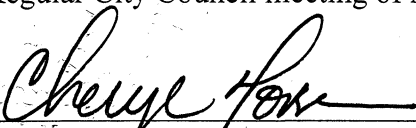
4. Comments on the 2006 El Cerrito Library Needs Assessment and the Draft Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Municipal Services Review – *Submitted by Tom Panas, New Library Committee.*

5. LAFCO Municipal Service Review: Library Services, February 1, 2013. Reference Copy – *Submitted by Tom Panas, New Library Committee.*

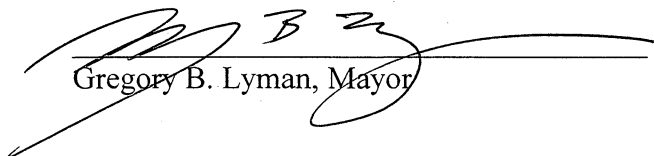
6. El Cerrito Entrepreneur Training Program brochure – *Submitted by James Vaughn.*

9. **ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** at 10:35 p.m.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of April 16, 2013 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Cheryl Morse, City Clerk



Gregory B. Lyman, Mayor