

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, November 3, 2008 – 7:10 p.m.

Hillside Conference Room

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, November 3, 2008 – 7:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers

Meeting Location

El Cerrito City Hall – City Council Chambers

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

William C. Jones, III – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Sandi Potter

Councilmember Jan Bridges

Councilmember Janet Abelson

Councilmember Letitia D. Moore

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Bridges, Moore, Potter and Mayor Jones all present.

7:10 p.m.

CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Jones convened the Special City Council Meeting at 7:10 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – No speakers.

COMMISSION INTERVIEWS

Interview of candidate for the West Contra Costa Unified School District Citizens Bond Oversight Committee.

Action: The City Council interviewed Paul Gilbert-Snyder.

ADJOURNED SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 7:28 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Bridges, Moore, Potter and Mayor Jones all present.

7:30 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Jones convened the Special City Council Meeting at 7:31 p.m.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG** was led by Councilmember Moore.
2. **COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Consideration of Closure of City Offices from December 24, 2008 through January 2, 2009
Scott Hanin, City Manager, explained the reasons for closing City Hall from December 24, 2008 through January 2, 2009. The Police and Fire Departments and a scaled down Recreation Department will remain open.

Additional Announcements

Councilmember Abelson reported on her attendance at the ABAG General Assembly on October 24, 2008 and commented on the importance of water coming through the Delta, its role statewide and possible impacts regionally and to the residents of El Cerrito. There was also a discussion of other water issues in the context of global warming.

Mayor Jones announced the appointment of Paul Gilbert-Snyder as El Cerrito's primary representative to the West Contra Costa Unified School District Bond Oversight Committee. Mayor Jones also acknowledged the receipt of a resolution adopted by the California State Assembly, sponsored by Assemblywoman Hancock, which commemorates the opening of the New City Hall and the City Council's environmental leadership. Additionally, Mayor Jones announced that a preview of the city's mid-year budget is scheduled for the November 17 City Council meeting. Staff will present the public with a presentation on the city's budget and finances.

3. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Rosemary Loubal, El Cerrito, spoke about the death of trees at Canyon Trails Park, the Park and Recreation Commission's vote urging the replanting of trees and requested that the Urban Forest Plan be implemented and that trees be replanted at Canyon Trails Park.

Greg Lyman, El Cerrito, urged the Council to encourage staff to plant additional trees this year at Canyon Trail Park consistent with the Urban Forest Plan and drought considerations.

4. **PRESENTATIONS** – None
5. **ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Items 5A through 5F**

Moved, seconded (Abelson/Bridges) and carried unanimously to adopt the Consent Calendar in one motion.

A. Minutes for Approval

Approve the October 20, 2008 Special City Council Closed Session and Concurrent City Council and El Cerrito Public Financing Authority Meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Resolution Confirming Wall of Fame Subcommittee Recommendations

Adopt a Resolution confirming the City Council's approval of recommendations proposed by the Wall of Fame Subcommittee on October 20, 2008.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2008-77.

C. Claims Against the City

Sharon Artlip, Claim No. GL-008672 – Reject claim per Claims Administrator.

Action: Rejected Claim No. GL-008672 per Claims Administrator.

D. Extension of June 2007 Bicycle Transportation Account Grant Funds

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the request for a one year extension of Bicycle Transportation Account BTA 06/07-04-CC-03 funds to June 30, 2010 and directing Public Works staff to submit said request to Caltrans prior to November 17, 2008.

Speaker: Peter Loubal, El Cerrito, expressed concerns about the amount of funds requested for BART bike lockers, the need for additional lockers and asked for a public meeting prior to the item being finalized.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2008-78.

E. 2009 Integrated Resource Recovery Facility (IRRF) Rate Options

Approve a recommendation advising Councilmember Moore to vote on the City Council's endorsement of the "as calculated option" for determining IRRF "All But Collection" rates for calendar year 2009.

Action: Approved recommendation.

F. Strengthen Assembly Bill 32 Scoping Plan – Submitted by Councilmember Abelson

Commend the Air Resources Board for its proposed Scoping Plan and recommend that the scoping plan be changed to include: 1) Work closely with local governments to establish strong regional targets for greenhouse gas reduction through the SB 375 process; 2) Set a higher goal of 10 million metric tons in greenhouse gas reductions to be achieved from vehicle miles traveled; and 3) Provide technical and financial assistance and guidance documents to assist local governments in reducing greenhouse gases from transportation and land use, as well as other sectors, including energy and recycling as a key step forward toward implementing AB 32 and creating a more sustainable energy economy and direct the City Clerk to send a letter to each member of the Air Resources Board Member advising them of the City Council's recommendations.

Action: Approved recommendation.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

7. POLICY MATTERS

Presentation by the Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP) and Consideration of GRIP's Request for funding. *Requested by Mayor Jones.*

Presenter: Arthur J. Hatchett, Executive Director, GRIP.

Consideration of \$10,000 request for funding support by GRIP.

Speakers: Rosemary Loubal, El Cerrito, praised GRIP and the work it does and encouraged the Council to grant the \$10,000 funding request.

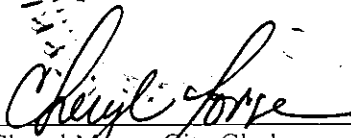
Action: Presentation heard. Moved, seconded (Abelson/Bridges) and carried unanimously to approve GRIP's \$10,000 funding request.

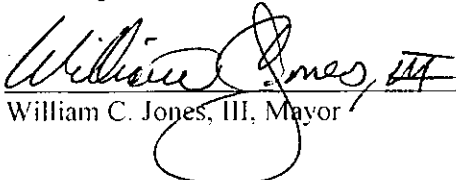
8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Mayor Jones reported that the City of San Pablo will be hosting the November Contra Costa Mayors Conference and will be celebrating long-time San Pablo City Councilmember Joe Gomes' service.
- B. Mayor Pro Tem Potter – No report.
- C. Councilmember Abelson reported that she received a letter from the California League of California Cities confirming her appointment as Vice-Chair of the Community Services Policy Committee. Additionally, Councilmember Abelson reported on her participation in the recent Railvolution mobile tour. Councilmember Abelson led a 30-40 person group tour in El Cerrito in an AC Transit Bus. The main theme of the conference this year was climate protection and smart growth. As a representative of the West Contra Costa County Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC) she attended the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) presentation on "Hot Lanes." The idea behind a "Hot Lane" is to make a High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane a "Hot Lane" when there is excessive capacity. Someone who pays for the privilege, including the driver of a single occupant vehicle, would be able to use the HOV lane for a fee. Any excess revenue would be devoted to transit projects. The topic is currently being debated by opponents and proponents of "Hot Lanes."
- D. Councilmember Bridges – No report.
- E. Councilmember Moore reported that San Pablo Councilmember Gomes has sat on the Waste Authority for the entire time he has been an elected official. The Waste Authority will be honoring Councilmember Gomes at a special dinner held after its next board meeting and will be celebrating Mr. Gomes' contribution to the Authority.

9. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 8:16 p.m.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the November 3, 2008 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.


Cheryl Morse, City Clerk


William C. Jones, III, Mayor