



AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, February 4, 2014 – 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 Rebecca Benassini
Councilmember Jan Bridges

Councilmember Mark Friedman
Councilmember Greg Lyman

This meeting will not be televised

ROLL CALL

7:00 p.m. CONVENE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE – Mayor Pro Tem Benassini.

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS (*Reports of Closed Session, commission appointments and informational reports on matters of general interest which are announced by the City Council & City Staff.*)

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

All persons wishing to speak should sign up with the City Clerk. Remarks are typically limited to 3 minutes per person. The Mayor may reduce the time limit per speaker depending upon the number of speakers. Kindly state your name and city of residence for the record. Comments regarding non-agenda, presentation and consent calendar items will be heard first. Comments related to items appearing on the Public Hearing or Policy Matter portions of the Agenda are taken up at the time the City Council deliberates each action item. Individuals wishing to comment on any closed session scheduled after the regular meeting may do so during this public comment period or after formal announcement of the closed session.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation in Recognition of Officer Matt Wong

Approve a proclamation congratulating Officer Matt Wong for his recognition by the Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 as the El Cerrito Police Department honoree for Police

Officer Appreciation Night to be held on February 12, 2014.

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 5(A) through 5(C)

A. Minutes for Approval

Approve the: 1) January 21, 2014 Regular City Council; and 2) January 29, 2014 Special City Council meeting minutes.

B. Quarterly Investment Report

Receive and file the City's Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending December 31, 2013.

C. Environmental Quality Committee Appointment

Approve an Environmental Quality Committee recommendation to appoint Robert Schaadt to the Environmental Quality Committee, effective March 11, 2014

6. CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL CLOSED SESSION

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE (*Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957*)

RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION – Mayor Abelson

7. ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The next City Council meeting is Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, California.

The City of El Cerrito serves, leads and supports our diverse community by providing exemplary and innovative services, public places and infrastructure, ensuring public safety and creating an economically and environmentally sustainable future.

- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk, (510) 215-4305. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).
- ***The Deadline for agenda items and communications*** is eight days prior to the next meeting by 12 noon, City Clerk's Office, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA. Tel: 215-4305 Fax: 215-4379, email cmorse@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us
- IF YOU CHALLENGE A DECISION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN COURT, YOU MAY BE LIMITED TO RAISING ONLY THOSE ISSUES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE RAISED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING. ACTIONS CHALLENGING CITY COUNCIL DECISIONS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE TIME LIMITATIONS CONTAINED IN CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE SECTION 1094.6.
- The City Council believes that late night meetings deter public participation, can affect the Council's decision-making ability, and can be a burden to staff. City Council Meetings shall be adjourned by 10:30 p.m., unless extended to a specific time determined by a majority of the Council.

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL PROCLAMATION

Commending and Congratulating Officer Matt Wong for his recognition by the Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 Police Officer Appreciation Program

WHEREAS, Officer Matt Wong assumed the position of Police Cadet on June 7, 2007 with the El Cerrito Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Officer Matt Wong assumed the position of Reserve Police Office on December 19, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Officer Matt Wong assumed the position of Police Officer on June 6, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Officer Matt Wong has shown leadership and dedication to the El Cerrito Police Department's Explorer Program; and

WHEREAS, Officer Matt Wong volunteered for the role as an Explorer Advisor; and

WHEREAS, Officer Matt Wong has demonstrated his dedication to the community and to the Police Department through his selfless contributions during challenging staffing periods; and

WHEREAS, Officer Matt Wong has displayed his dedication to his fellow men and women in Law Enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Officer Matt Wong, through his performance during the year has indeed been exemplary, and he was selected by his peers for recognition.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of El Cerrito does hereby commend Officer Matt Wong on the occasion of his recognition by the Richmond Elks Lodge No. 1251 – Police Officer Appreciation Night. The City Council extends sincere appreciation to Officer Matt Wong for his devotion to the mission, vision and values of the El Cerrito Police Department.

Dated: February 4, 2014

Janet Abelson, Mayor

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 21, 2014 – 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 Rebecca Benassini
Councilmember Jan Bridges

Councilmember Mark Friedman
Councilmember Greg Lyman

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bridges, Friedman, Lyman and Mayor Abelson all present.

Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Benassini

7:00 p.m. CONVENE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Abelson convened the City Council meeting at 7:01 p.m.

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

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Bridges announced that Mayor Pro Tem Benassini and her husband Scott, recently welcomed twin boys into their family. The family is doing well. Councilmember Bridges also noted that Cheryl Morse, City Clerk, was acknowledged recently by the California City Clerks Association for her work mentoring new City Clerks, and for her work on the Athenian Dialogue Committee and noted that she will be installed as an Athenian Leadership Society Fellow by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks this year.

Councilmember Lyman thanked the Human Relations Commission for hosting the annual Martin Luther King Jr. parade on January 20 and noted that it was the 25th anniversary of the event in El Cerrito. Mayor Abelson provided great remarks.

On February 1, 2014 there will be a grand re-opening of the Ohlone Greenway from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. BART has completed its retrofit of the superstructure that supports the BART tracks.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MYC) 2012 Pavement Management Award Recognizing the City of El Cerrito for having the most improved roads, with the greatest increase in pavement condition index (PCI) over a three-year period.

Yvetteh Ortiz, Interim Public Works Director and City Engineer, presented the MTC award to the City Council and explained that the award recognizes El Cerrito for having the greatest improvement in road conditions of any city in the jurisdiction of the Bay Area for a three year period. The award is significant because it recognizes the accomplishment of El Cerrito going from having one of the worst road conditions in the Bay Area in 2006 to one of the top three who have the best road conditions in 2012.

Mayor Abelson thanked staff for their hard work and thanked El Cerrito voters in particular for their support of Measure A in 2008.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, expressed concerns with the Police Department. He said he was stopped near Schmidt Lane and accused of injustice.

Tom Panas, El Cerrito, thanked the City and Community Outreach Specialist, Suzanne Iarla in particular, for supporting the Chung Mei Heritage Day at City Hall on December 18, 2013. The celebration was a great success. Mr. Panas provided the City Council with packets of selected pages from the Chung Mei Chronicles and written comments addressed to the Planning Commission about hardscape in the City. Mr. Panas also noted that the Planning Commission approved the Eden Senior Housing Project on December 18. Mitigation for the project includes historical interpretation about the Japanese nursery community. Mr. Panas also presented written comments to the Planning Commission regarding the City's hardscape.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation in Recognition and Memory of Angela Saridis

Approve a proclamation commending and recognizing the many contributions and positive impact on the community made by Angela Saridis to the El Cerrito Community and offering its condolences to Ms. Saridis' family on behalf of the grateful residents and patrons of the City of El Cerrito.

Chris Jones, Recreation Director, expressed his appreciation for Ms. Saridis and her work. He spoke about the positive effects Ms. Saridis had on staff, students, friends and the community and about her warm and caring personality. She was the heart and soul of the El Cerrito Swim Center who touched the lives of everyone she came into contact with. She will be greatly missed. Mr. Jones informed everyone that donations are being collected by her family, friends and staff from the Community Center for a memorial bench dedicated to Ms. Saridis' memory.

Mayor Abelson stated that Ms. Saridis was a very, very special and caring person. Ms. Saridis had a positive impact on many, many lives. Mayor Abelson thanked her family and friends for attending this evening and noted that her husband Harry is an integral part of the community.

Bridget Cooney, Aquatics Supervisor, presented certificates of recognition to Lifeguards Stephen Dunkle and Maximille Gonzales for displaying the qualities of level headedness and quick thinking during the emergency.

Action: Proclamation presented to Mr. Saridis.

B. Doctors Medical Center Fiscal Update and Declaration of Fiscal Emergency – Presentation requested by Supervisor Gioia, Board of Directors, West Contra Costa Healthcare District.

John Gioia, Contra Costa County Supervisor, stated that he was appearing before the City Council as a Director of the West Contra Costa Healthcare District. Director Gioia provided a history of the financial challenges facing Doctors Hospital and noted that seventy-five

percent of patients are on medical and medical care. Twelve percent are commercial pay by companies such as Health Net or Blue Cross. Eleven percent of the patients who receive services from Doctors Hospital are uninsured. Director Gioia stated that closure of Doctors Hospital Emergency Room would have a dramatic impact on county emergency medical services due to longer ambulance transport and waiting room times. The hospital operates a full service emergency heart attack and stroke facility that is very valuable to the area. The Hospital Board has declared a fiscal emergency and is exploring options. The hospital is exploring whether to give voters a choice as to whether they want to continue to fund the hospital or fund it in a way that makes it more attractive for affiliation with another hospital. The County has provided loans. Current projections are that the hospital will run out of funds by June 2014. Implementation of Obamacare could have a long term positive effect but will result in a short term loss of approximately \$2,500,000 per year.

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, expressed concerns over the possible loss of Doctors Hospital.

Action: Received presentation.

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 5A and 5B

Moved, seconded (Friedman/Bridges; Ayes – Councilmember Bridges, Friedman, Lyman and Mayor Abelson; Noes – None; Absent – Mayor Pro Tem Benassini) and carried to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5A and 5B as indicated below.

A. Minutes for Approval

Approve the: 1) December 17, 2013 Regular City Council; and 2) January 7, 2014 Special City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. West Contra Costa Youth Services Bureau Proclamation

Approve a proclamation commending the West Contra Costa Youth Services Bureau (WCCYSB) for improving the wellness of the community and providing services to the children, youth and families of West Contra Costa County and joining in the celebration of May 15, 2014 as the official 30th Anniversary date of the West Contra Costa Youth Service Bureau.

Action: Approved proclamation.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

7. POLICY MATTERS

A. Approve a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application to Unite the Hillside Natural Area and Restrict the Use of Specified Hillside Natural Area to Public Recreation and Open Space Only

Adopt a resolution approving the City's application for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for the acquisition of the Madera Hillside Natural Area Property (APN 505-142-014, -012 and 013) to unite the Hillside Natural Area and approving the grant requirement to restrict the conversion of the Hillside Natural Area properties, specified by the City in the grant application, from Open Space/Parks and Recreation to Public Recreation and Open Space in perpetuity. *Exempt from CEQA.*

Presenter: Melanie Mintz, Interim Community Development Director.

Speakers: Dave Weinstein, El Cerrito, Trail Trekkers and Open Space Campaign, stated his support for holding open space in perpetuity and reported that the Trail Trekkers (Trekkers) are doing fairly well with fundraising. The Campaign has raised \$28,000. The Trekkers are looking for additional donors and are about to begin a business outreach campaign. The Trekkers are also planning outreach efforts for neighborhoods, hikes, crowd funding and a Hillside Festival in the spring that will be educational and build excitement. Mr. Weinstein said that he believes the Trekkers will meet their fundraising goal.

Pamela Austin, El Cerrito, Treasurer of the Trail Trekkers and Open Space Campaign, stated

that fundraisers hope to meet and even exceed their fundraising goals so very little Measure WW funds are used. The majority of donations are small - \$100 or below. Ms. Austin, asked the Council to support the Trust for Public Land grant that is being written so the purchase can be completed.

Action: Moved, seconded (Friedman/Lyman; Ayes – Councilmember Bridges, Friedman, Lyman and Mayor Abelson; Noes – None; Absent – Mayor Pro Tem Benassini) and carried to adopt Resolution No. 2014-01 and directed staff to work with the Trust for Public Land to submit an application and map on behalf of the City that reflects a desire to include potential future recreational enhancements, particularly for the property known as the East Bay Municipal Utility District pad, located at the end of Snowdon Avenue.

B. Annual Council Liaison Reorganization and Appointments

Discuss City Council appointments to regional bodies and liaison appointments to local boards, commissions and committees and approve appointments for 2014.

Action: Moved, seconded (Friedman/Lyman; Ayes – Councilmember Bridges, Friedman, Lyman and Mayor Abelson; Noes – None; Absent – Mayor Pro Tem Benassini) and carried to approve appointments for 2014.

8. COUNCIL LOCAL AND REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENT REPORTS

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

Councilmember Lyman reported on his attendance at the January 16, 2014 Integrated Waste Management Authority Board meeting. The Board continues to consider what it will look like in the future. Richmond, which has been threatening to withdraw from the Authority for a year, is now thinking of remaining in the Authority. Councilmember Lyman has fought to preserve El Cerrito's stake in the dissolution of funds when the Authority disbands. El Cerrito residents have been paying for the integrated recycling facility for thirty years. The El Cerrito Recycling Center has been processing twice of what other communities have been contributing for the past twelve years. Half of the revenue resulting from recycling sales is a result of El Cerrito's contribution to construction of the building. Another change under consideration is whether the County will become a voting member. Councilmember Lyman hopes to have more information to share with the Council and public after attending the Authority's February meeting. Councilmember Lyman also noted that he and Mayor Abelson attended the Contra Costa Mayors Conference in Hercules.

Mayor Abelson announced that the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC) has hired a new executive director, John Nemeth. Mayor Abelson said that she and WCCTAC are looking forward to a successful relationship with Mr. Nemeth.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS

Item No. 7(A): Approve a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Application to Unite the Hillside Natural Area and Restrict the Use of Specified Hillside Natural Area to Public Recreation and Open Space Only

1. Maps delineating the Hillside Natural Area – *Submitted by Melanie Mintz, Interim Community Development Director.*

Other:

2. Chung Mei Heritage Day Materials and Comments for Planning Commissioners regarding hardscape – *Submitted by Tom Panas, El Cerrito Historical Society.*

9. ADJOURN REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING in memory of Ron Eggherman and Angela Saridis at 8:53 p.m.

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, January 29, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.
Hillside Conference Room

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

Janet Abelson – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Rebecca Benassini
Councilmember Jan Bridges

Councilmember Mark Friedman
Councilmember Greg Lyman

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Benassini, Bridges, Friedman, Lyman and Mayor Abelson all present.

6:00 p.m.

CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Abelson convened the special City Council meeting at 6:04 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – No speakers.

COMMISSION INTERVIEWS, STATUS AND APPOINTMENTS

Conduct interviews of candidates for city boards and commissions. Interviews may result in an announcement of appointment at the meeting. The City Council may also discuss and determine the scheduling and structure of future interviews.

Action: Conducted interviews. The City Council unanimously appointed the following individuals to the City's board, commissions and committees as indicated below:

Arts & Culture Commission

Michelle Jawad March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2016

Christopher Sterba March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2018

Citizens Street Oversight Committee

Matt Kelly March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2016

Design Review Board

John Thompson March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2018

Financial Advisory Board

Gregory Crump	March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2016
Dick Patterson	March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2016

Human Relations Commission

Amanda Glueck	March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2017
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Park & Recreation Commission

Glen Lubcke	March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2018
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Planning Commission

Michael Iswalt	March 1, 2014 – March 1, 2018
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ADJOURNED SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 8:32 p.m.



AGENDA BILL

Agenda Item No. 5(B)

Date: February 4, 2014
To: El Cerrito City Council
From: Geoff Thomas, Finance Manger
Lisa Malek-Zadeh, Finance Director/City Treasurer
Subject: Quarterly Investment Report for Period Ending December 31, 2013

ACTION REQUESTED

Receive and file the City's Quarterly Investment Report for the period ending December 31, 2013.

QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT REVIEW

The Quarterly Investment Report for October 2013-December 2013 shows that the City's investments had a par value of \$1,781,011 as of December 31, 2013. The decrease of \$2,484 from last quarter is due to the use of \$2,498 in excess reserves towards City Hall and Street Improvement debt service payments during the quarter, offset by interest earnings.

The City continues to have minimal investments that are not required for debt service reserves and to have limited, if any, interest earnings on restricted funds. Of the total amount invested, \$2,700 is invested in the pooled funds with the State Treasurer's Local Agency Investment Funds (LAIF); \$438,311 is held in money market funds; and \$1,340,000 is invested in agency debt investments.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The purpose of the City's Investment Policy is to provide guidelines for prudent investment of the City's idle funds and maximum efficiency of the City's cash management system. The ultimate goal is to enhance the City's economic condition while protecting the funds at all times. The City's investments comply with the "Authorized Investments" section of the Investment Policy.

Reviewed by:

Scott Hanin
City Manager

Attachment:

1. City of El Cerrito Quarterly Investment Report For Period Ending December 31, 2013

City of El Cerrito

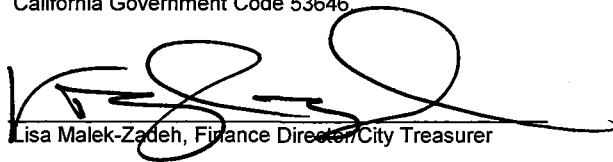
Quarterly Investment Report

For the Period Ending December 31, 2013

Agenda Item No. 5(B)
Attachment 1

FUND	INVESTMENT TYPE	INVESTMENT	TRUSTEE/ BROKER	PAR VALUE	COST	INTEREST OR YIELD	MATURITY DATE	COST/ 100	*MARKET VALUE
Pooled Investments	Pooled Fund	LAIF	CA State Treasurer	\$2,699.64	\$2,699.64	0.26%	N/A	100.00	\$2,699.64
Solar Project Financing	Prime Money Market	Deutsche Bank Prime Money Market	Deutsche Bank	\$248,375.96	\$248,375.96	0.01%	N/A	100.00	\$248,375.96
Swim Center Fund	Blackrock Institutional Money Market	Union Bank/Blackrock Liquidity	Union Bank of CA	\$185,339.56	\$185,339.56	0.01%	N/A	100.00	\$185,339.56
City Hall Debt Fund	Blackrock Institutional Money Market	Union Bank/Blackrock Liquidity	Union Bank of CA	\$1,799.16	\$1,799.16	0.01%	N/A	100.00	\$1,799.16
	Fed Natl Mtg Assn	Union Bank/ FNMA	Union Bank of CA	\$600,000.00	\$600,000.00	0.63%	9/26/2017	99.74	\$598,458.00
Street Improvement Fund	Blackrock Institutional Money Market	Union Bank/Blackrock Liquidity	Union Bank of CA	\$2,796.90	\$2,796.90	0.01%	N/A	100.00	\$2,796.90
	Fed Natl Mtg Assn	Union Bank/ FNMA	Union Bank of CA	\$740,000.00	\$740,000.00	0.63%	9/26/2017	99.74	\$738,098.20
TOTALS, as of December 31, 2013				\$1,781,011.22	\$1,781,011.22				\$1,777,567.42

I certify that this report is in compliance with the City of El Cerrito Investment Policy and that there are adequate funds available to meet the next six months of estimated expenditures as required by the California Government Code 53646.


Lisa Malek-Zadeh, Finance Director/City Treasurer



AGENDA BILL

Agenda Item No. 5(C)

Date: February 4, 2014
To: El Cerrito City Council
From: Maria Sanders, Environmental Analyst
Subject: Environmental Quality Committee Appointment

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve an Environmental Quality Committee recommendation to appoint Robert Schaadt to the Environmental Quality Committee, effective February 11, 2014.

BACKGROUND

An application to the Environmental Quality Committee (EQC) was recently received from Robert Schaadt. This application was distributed to all Committee members in advance of a Special Ad Hoc Membership Subcommittee Meeting held on January 14, 2014. During the Special Meeting, three members of the Committee interviewed Mr. Schaadt and agreed that he should be considered for membership recommendation. During the Regular Committee Meeting on January 14, which immediately followed the Special Meeting, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the Council that Mr. Schaadt be appointed to the Environmental Quality Committee.

Mr. Schaadt is an environmental professional and has demonstrated through his application, interview, and participation in EQC-sponsored events that he is committed to environmental quality and the mission of the Committee. He has also attended three consecutive regular Committee meetings during the past few months.

If the Council approves this recommendation, the number of Committee members will be 12 out of a possible membership total of 15, as established by Resolution 2008-13.

Reviewed by:



Scott Hanin, City Manager



**February 4, 2014
City Council Meeting**

**Agenda Item No. 5(C) – Environmental Quality Committee
Appointment
Attachment 1 – Candidate Application**

Hardcopies are available for review at:

Office of the City Clerk
10890 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, CA
(510) 215-4305

and

The El Cerrito Library
6510 Stockton Avenue
El Cerrito, CA