

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING (not televised)

Tuesday, October 15, 2019 – 6:15 p.m.

Hillside Conference Room

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, October 15, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers

Meeting Location:

El Cerrito City Hall

10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

6:15 PM ROLL CALL - CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pardue-Okimoto called the meeting to order at 6: 15 p.m.

Present: Mayor Pardue-Okimoto; Councilmembers Abelson, Fadelli, Lyman, and Quinto.

1. 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 and to items on the special meeting agenda only.

Cordell Hindler - commented on the number of vacancies for the Crime prevention committee, and desire to see an increase in youth engagement and participation on board and commissions.

2. COMMISSION INTERVIEWS, STATUS AND APPOINTMENTS

Action Proposed: Staff requests that City Council conduct interviews and, at the conclusion of interviews, confer with staff regarding the ongoing recruitments, any remaining vacancies, and the scheduling of further special meetings to conduct interviews (if applicable). Council may decide to make appointments at the conclusion of the meeting.

Contact: Holly M. Charléty, City Clerk, City Management

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Lyman/Quinto **Action:** Conducted three interviews and passed a motion to appoint Cortney Helion to the Arts and Culture Commission for a term of October 15 through March 1, 2022. **Ayes:** Mayor Pardue-Okimoto; Councilmembers Fadelli, Lyman, and Quinto **Noes:** Councilmember Abelson

3. ADJOURN 6:15 SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The special meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

7:00 PM ROLL CALL – CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Pardue-Okimoto called the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF
MOMENT OF SILENCE - *Councilmember Quinto***

2. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Pardue-Okimoto - announced the appointment of Cortney Helion to the Arts and Culture Commission.

City Manager Pinkos - thanked the community for their patience with the outage last week and reported around 800 residents affected.

Mayor Pardue-Okimoto - announced a community forum for saving Alta Bates on November 16 at the El Cerrito community center.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Cordell Hindler - invited council to bright star performance at the Contra Costa Civic Theater and Salesian high school pasta dinner, attending mayors conference next month, commented on cost of property in El Cerrito.

Peter Liddell - spoke regarding Kensington RFP and desire for residents to have the ability to vote on contract services.

Susan Duncan - thanked fire department for vegetation mitigation, spoke on lack of comfort station by PG&E in West County, and recent events should jolt preparedness for emergencies.

David Mandel - spoke regarding standard of care, and traffic calming changes needed at 1400 block of Navalier.

Linda Cain - spoke regarding concerns about potential BART development at the Plaza and parking reductions.

Romy Douglass - spoke regarding concerns about parking reductions and proposed development at BART Plaza station.

Al Miller - shared that Stege Sanitary District received a community outreach award from the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) for their Kids of the Bay program.

Ann Levine - spoke about safety, access and fairness issues with proposed development at Plaza BART.

Don Hubbard - spoke about confusion on letters received regarding fire abatement.

Buddy Akacić - spoke regarding concerns with BART beginning to act as a developer, and unused newspaper racks in the city.

4. **ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

All items on the consent calendar shall be acted upon in one motion, unless a member of the City Council or staff request separate consideration.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Lyman/Abelson **Action:** Passed a motion to approve the consent calendar as indicated below. **Ayes:** Mayor Pardue-Okimoto; Councilmembers Abelson, Fadelli, Lyman, and Quinto **Noes:** None

A. Shelter-in-Place Education Day Proclamation

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to approve a proclamation proclaiming November 6, 2019 as "Shelter-in-Place Education Day".

Contact: Holly M. Charléty, City Clerk, City Management

Action: Approved proclamation

B. Quarterly Cash and Investment Report

Action Proposed: Receive and file the City's Quarterly Investment Report for the Quarter ending September 30, 2019.

Contact: Mark Rasiah, Finance Director/Treasurer, Finance Department

Action: Received and filed.

C. Commission on Aging Appointment

Action Proposed: Approve an Commission on Aging recommendation to appoint Buddy Akacić to the Commission, effective October 15, 2019.

Contact: Bridget Cooney, Recreation Supervisor, Recreation Department

Action: Approved appointment

D. Urban Forest Committee Reappointment

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to approve an Urban Forest Committee recommendation to re-appoint Yan B. Linhart to the Urban Forest Committee for a second term, expiring on March 1, 2023.

Contact: Stephen Prée, Program Manager, Operations and Environmental Services

Action: Approved appointment

E. Authorization of S2 Grant Application

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution authorizing staff to submit an application for SB2 grant funds.

Contact: Sean Moss, Planning Manager, Community Development Department
Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director, Community Development Department

Action: Approved Resolution 2019-63

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Presentation on the 2020 Census - Complete Count

Action Proposed: Receive and file a presentation on the 2020 Census.

Contact: Darlene Drapkin, U.S. Census Bureau Partnership Specialist; Matt Lardner, Contra Costa County Census 2020 Census Outreach Coordinator

Presentation and Discussion: Provided a presentation on the importance of the 2020 census and responded to questions and comments by members of the council regarding inclusion of gender identity questions, presentation to seniors, groups included for Asian population identification, identification of disabilities, city point of content, citizenship question exclusion, and cyber security.

Public Comments:

Cordell Hindler - spoke on desire to have presentation made to neighboring jurisdictions and reaching the homeless population.

Al Miller - spoke on potential use of library and other city facilities to provide access to computers for residents to complete the census.

B. Presentation on the Evacuation Process Using Contra Costa County's Community Warning System

Action Proposed: Receive and file a presentation on the Evacuation Process and Use of Contra Costa's Community Warning System (CWS).

Contact: Joe Grupalo, Battalion Chief, Fire Department

Presentation and Discussion: Joe Grupalo, Battalion Chief, provided an overview of the presentation. Charlie Crocker, CEO and Robert Shear, Founder responded to questions and comments raised by members of the council regarding event response versus prediction, time frame of research period for needed sensors, and established evacuation zones.

Public Comments:

Denise Sangster - spoke regarding the need for this progress, need to provide better communication from the city, undergrounding power lines, and need to address unhealthy trees.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Cost Hearing Regarding Fire Hazard Abatement of a Public Nuisance for Properties Identified and pursuant to El Cerrito Municipal Code Chapter 16.26 Notice published 10/5/2019

Action Proposed: Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion adopt a resolution confirming the cost of abatement of public nuisance conditions resulting from the presence of weeds, rubbish, litter or other flammable material on private properties designated in Exhibit A to the resolution as authorized by El Cerrito Municipal Code Chapter 16.26.

Contact: David Gibson, Fire Marshal, Fire Department

Michael Pigoni, Fire Chief, Fire Department

Presentation and Discussion: Damien Carrion, Fire Prevention Officer, provided an overview of the item and answered questions raised by members of the council regarding number of properties abated in recent years, process for reimbursing the cost to the general fund, notifications to affected properties.

Mayor Pardue-Okimoto opened public hearing.

Public Comments:

Cordell Hindler - spoke regarding hillside properties and potential fire hazard.

Tom Xu - spoke regarding personal circumstances and conditions of properties owned, and dissatisfaction with abatement bidding process.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Lyman/Abelson **Action:** Passed a motion to close the public hearing. **Ayes:** Mayor Pardue-Okimoto; Councilmembers Abelson, Fadelli, Lyman, and Quinto **Noes:** None

Council Discussion: Clarified if administration costs would be waived if paying the contractor directly, access to detailed bills, and notifications provided.

Moved/Seconded: Councilmember Lyman/Abelson **Action:** Passed a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-64. **Ayes:** Mayor Pardue-Okimoto; Councilmembers Abelson, Fadelli, Lyman, and Quinto **Noes:** None

7. POLICY MATTERS

8. CITY COUNCIL LOCAL & REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

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

Councilmember Abelson - reported attendance at chamber luncheon, and recognition event for retirement of Joan Carpenter from County District 1.

Councilmember Quinto - reported attendance at Antioch Mayors Conference, celebration event for signing of AB1842, Hazardous Materials Commission meeting, Kensington Fire open house, Sip and Savor event, and Urban Forest Committee meeting.

Councilmember Lyman - reported potential RecycleMore rate increase coming, and currently interviewing for an executive director.

Councilmember Fadelli - reported attendance at Sip and Savor event, will be attending annual League of CA Cities conference this week, and encouraged visiting the city's website for facts on Measure H.

9. ADJOURN REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.



Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto, Mayor

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the special and regular City Council meetings of October 15, 2019 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Holly M. Charléty, MMC, City Clerk