

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, March 20, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

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

Gabriel Quinto – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto
Councilmember Paul Fadelli

Councilmember Janet Abelson
Councilmember Greg Lyman

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Fadelli, Lyman, Pardue-Okimoto, and Mayor Quinto all present.

7:00 p.m. CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Quinto convened the regular City Council at 7:00 p.m.

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

Councilmember Abelson stated that she attended a presentation on the latest Internal Revenue Service rules at the Chamber of Commerce. She urged residents to apply to serve on the Crime Prevention Committee and Urban Forest Committee. Both committees have long standing vacancies waiting to be filled. Councilmember Abelson also attended an AC Transit breakfast workshop.

Councilmember Lyman reported that the Charter Committee met on March 10. The committee is progressing with development of a draft charter for the City Council's consideration.

Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto invited all to attend the First Wednesday Celebration at the El Cerrito Library on April 4. Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto also reported that the Environmental Quality Committee will be looking at re-evaluating city environmental fees and has developed a policy subcommittee for this. She encouraged all to enroll in the Deep Green program that offers 100% renewable energy. It is only \$5 more per month than PG&E. Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto also invited all to attend the City's Facilities Master Plan public meetings that will be held in the Council Chambers on March 29 and May 23, the Butterfly Pollinator Workshop on March 27, Earth Day on April 21, Hillside Festival on May 4-6, and Bike

to Work Day on May 10.

Mayor Quinto reported that he attended an AC Transit breakfast workshop with Councilmember Fadelli and Councilmember Abelson on the future of AC Transit in West Contra Costa County. The new L line on San Pablo Avenue will have double-decker buses and a service route to the new Salesforce bus terminal. He also attended the Gilman Fields Joint Powers Authority (JPA) meeting. All of the Gilman JPA cities are looking forward to the building of a new clubhouse, restrooms, and expansion of the parking lot. On March 8 Mayor Quinto attended the Police Department Swearing-In Ceremony with Councilmember Fadelli and congratulated all the police officers. On March 10 he attended the full-house film screening of 'Tomorrow' at City Hall. Mayor Quinto thanked the Environmental Quality Committee for hosting the screening and also thanked Contra Costa County Supervisor Gioia for speaking at the event. On March 11 he attended the Camp Herms Boy Scouts and Eagle Scouts' graduation ceremony and also spoke at Christ Lutheran Church about El Cerrito becoming a charter city on March 12. On March 16 he attended Golden Gate Business Association luncheon and enjoyed seeing local businesses receive their awards. Today he met with a group of residents at St. Johns Senior Center and attended the Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting with Councilmember Abelson.

Councilmember Fadelli attended the Charter Committee meeting and the climate change film screening on March 10. At the Financial Advisory Board meeting the Board discussed the mid-year budget update which is on the council agenda this evening. Councilmember Fadelli announced that one month from today the Arts and Culture Commission and El Cerrito Poet Laureate Maw Shein Win will be gathering with local poets at the Community Center for poetry readings and an open microphone. The Economic Development Committee and the Arts and Culture Commission are working together to promote arts in the City and boost our economy simultaneously. One of the ideas is to have local musicians playing at local restaurants.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, stated that he has seen the El Cerrito Police Department coming into his neighborhood and feels that this is unacceptable. He also expressed appreciation for the Environmental Quality Committee's work plan presentation.

Brigitta Turnipseed, El Cerrito, expressed concerns about the condition of certain areas of Castro Park, particularly the wood-chip groundcover which has spread to the street, and the neglect of landscaping at the top of the park. Ms. Turnipseed also expressed concerns about the garage behind Cameron School that is in need of paint and her desire for a police patrol at night.

Doug Merritt, El Cerrito, expressed concerns about the need for landscaping near Castro Clubhouse.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, invited all to attend the Library First Wednesday Library Hours Celebration on April 4.

Susan Schwartz, Friends of Five Creeks, expressed concerns about flood risk in the Creekside Park Area. She urged the City to plan for the increased probability of high tide, large storms and climate change.

Sherry Drobner, El Cerrito, thanked Chief Keith for convening a community meeting regarding public safety. She expressed concerns regarding the increase in property theft. Ms. Drobner informed the City Council that the Berkeley City Council

unanimously passed an ordinance on surveillance technologies last week to protect the civil liberties and privacy of its residents. Ms. Drobner would like the city to study Berkeley's new ordinance and improve the City's surveillance ordinance.

4. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 4(A) through 4(D)

Moved, seconded (Pardue-Okimoto/Lyman) and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 4(A) through 4(D) as indicated below.

A. Approval of Minutes

Approve the March 6, 2018 Special City Council and Regular City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Amendment to City Classification Plan

Adopt a resolution amending the City's Classification Plan to authorize the reclassification of Administrative Clerk - Specialist to Management Assistant in the Community Development Department.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2018-14.

C. Authorize Annual Report for Landscape and Lighting Assessment District

Adopt a resolution directing NBS Local Government Solutions (NBS) to prepare and file the annual Landscape and Lighting Assessment District No. 1988–1 report for Fiscal Year 2018-19.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2018-15.

D. Annual Progress Report on the General Plan 2017

Receive and file the attached General Plan Annual Progress Report. *Exempt from CEQA.*

Action: Received and filed.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation Recognizing March as American Red Cross Month

Approve and present a proclamation declaring March 2018 as American Red Cross Month in the City of El Cerrito and encouraging all Americans to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

Presenter: James Lyons, Contra Costa Leadership Council.

Speaker: Cordell Hindler, Richmond, expressed appreciation for the Red Cross.

Action: Moved, seconded (Lyman/Fadelli) and carried unanimously to approve the proclamation. Presented to James Lyons, Contra Costa Leadership Council and Peter Liddell, Red Cross volunteer.

B. El Cerrito Police Department Body Worn Camera Program

Staff will provide an overview of the deployment plans for body worn cameras for police department personnel.

Presenter: Paul Keith, Chief of Police.

Speakers: Al Miller, El Cerrito, expressed appreciation for the care, thoughtfulness, and attention to detail that has gone into developing a body worn camera policy. Mr. Miller asked how recording by School Resource Officers would be done and how collaborative review of video would work.

Action: Received presentation. Discussion held.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None**7. POLICY MATTERS****Fiscal Year 2017-18 Mid-Year Budget Update**

Receive an update on city revenues and expenditures for the first six months of the fiscal year through December 31, 2017 and adopt a resolution authorizing amendment to the Fiscal Year 2017-18 budget and approving new spending limits.

Presenter: Mark Rasiah, Finance Director/City Treasurer. In addition to the mid-year budget update, Mr. Rasiah also introduced the City's new budgeting tool, OpenGov, to the City Council and public.

Speaker: Cordell Hindler, Richmond, encouraged the City Council to approve the item.

Action: Moved, seconded (Lyman/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried to adopt Resolution No. 2018–16.

8. CITY COUNCIL LOCAL AND REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

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

Councilmember Lyman reported that the West County Integrated Waste Management Authority Board continues to look at the document which governs its Joint Powers Agreement. At its last meeting the Authority Board looked at what the reserve of the organization would be. RecycleMore has an annual operating cost of approximately \$1,000,000 which is their total budget. The recommendation by a third-party consultant and the JPA City Mangers is to have an eight-month operating reserve. The Authority Board also identified a capital account of \$1.2 million. After much debate, the Board set the reserve amount at \$750,000. The Marin Clean Energy (MCE) Board met and has a good budget and policy with expansions moving forward.

9. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 9:36 p.m.**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS****Item No. 5(B) El Cerrito Police Department Body Worn Camera Program**

1. Presentation slide listing other agencies that use Body Worn Cameras – *Submitted by Paul Keith, Chief of Police.*
2. Comments regarding policy considerations – *Submitted by John Del Arroz, El Cerrito.*
3. Comments regarding upcoming Crime Prevention Committee agenda – *Submitted by Mollie Hazen, El Cerrito.*

Item No. 7 Fiscal Year 2017-18 Mid-Year Budget Update

4. Powerpoint presentation – *Submitted by Mark Rasiah, Finance Director.*

Other:

5. Guide to the 2018 Tax Changes – *Submitted by Councilmember Abelson.*
6. Creekside Park area: The long view – *Submitted by Susan Schwartz, Friends*

of Five Creeks.

7. Photographs of Castro Park Area – *Submitted by Doug Merritt, El Cerrito*

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of March 20, 2018 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Morse", written over a horizontal line.

Cheryl Morse, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabriel Quinto", written over a horizontal line.

Gabriel Quinto, Mayor