

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, March 6, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.
Hillside Conference Room

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, March 6, 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.

6:30 p.m.

CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Quinto convened the special City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – *No speakers.*

COMMISSION INTERVIEWS, STATUS AND APPOINTMENTS

Discuss commission and committee candidate interviews and commission recruitment. Discussion may result in an announcement of appointments at the meeting.

Action: The City Council announced the following appointments:

Citizens Street Oversight Committee – Paul Allen appointed to a term concluding on March 1, 2022.

Design Review Board – John Thompson re-appointed to a term concluding on March 1, 2022 and Benjamin Chuaqui for a term concluding on March 1, 2022.

Human Relations Commission – Jessica Laird and Margo Parisi re-appointed to a term concluding on March 1, 2022.

Parks and Recreation Commission – Jun Sunseri appointed to term concluding on March 1, 2022.

Planning Commission – Greg Crump and Joy Navarrete appointed to a term concluding on March 1, 2022.

Contra Costa County Library Commission Alternate – John “Barry” Koops nominated for appointment with a term to be determined by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and Contra Costa County Library Administration.

ADJOURNED SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 6:48 p.m.

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 7:03 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE was led by Mayor Gabriel Quinto.

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Lyman announced that he had represented the City at the Tom Bates Sports Fields new artificial turf installation. The fields are used more than any other recreational field on the west coast. It was a great pleasure to see the fields re-open with a concussion protection pad and cork infill. More than two hundred youths were using it on Saturday. Councilmember Lyman thanked the City Council for their continuous support of the project. The Tom Bates Sports Field Joint Powers Authority is achieving the vision it had eighteen years ago. Councilmember Lyman also announced that the Charter Committee is continuing to meet. On February 12 the Committee reviewed and discussed examples of city charters and on February 26 the Committee reviewed a draft charter prepared by the City Attorney. On March 10 another Charter Committee meeting will be held at City Hall to review the next version of the charter. Also, on March 10, the Environmental Quality Committee will present a free film screening of “Tomorrow” at City Hall, which showcases solutions to climate change around the world.

Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto attended a California League of Cities webinar on the housing crises. There are several legislative bills that have been introduced to address housing issues including a push for more transit-oriented development and new development protocols that would encourage or allow more freedom for BART to do more things on its land. Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto also attended the crab feed hosted by the El Cerrito Police Employees Association to raise money for the department’s canine program. She also attended the opening of Black Panther movie at the Cerrito Theater. Today she met with the *Save Alta Bates Task Force* who is planning another community forum that will be held in Contra Costa County. Canvassing to raise awareness of the hospital closure is scheduled to occur on April 11 and 12. If anyone is interested in participating they should contact Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto by email.

Councilmember Abelson reported that she attended two city related crab feeds. She thanked all who worked on the Parks and Rec and Police Employees Association crab feeds. She thanked members of the public for raising much needed funds and scholarships for the David Hunter Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Police K-9

program. She also attended the Chamber of Commerce luncheon in which Mayor Quinto was the featured speaker.

Councilmember Fadelli attended the annual Police Officer Appreciation Night in Richmond and the Contra Costa Mayors Conference in Antioch. He announced that the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce resides in a new location above Doherty's Truck Rental. Councilmember Fadelli also announced that *Playland Not at the Beach* is looking for a new location to house its relics and historical items.

Mayor Quinto reported that he attended a West County Forum with the mayors of Hercules and San Pablo and spoke to the forum on their plans for their perspective cities. On February 20, he spoke to the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce about his plans for development in the coming year including affordable housing. A proclamation was presented to LimeBike from Fiona Ma's office. Mayor Quinto also received a resolution on February 21 from Senator Skinner and is grateful to be honored by her and the California legislature. Mayor Quinto also attended the West County Mayors Conference in Richmond with Richmond Mayor Tom Butt, and Hercules Mayor Chris Kelley. Those present received a presentation from a non-profit organization that focuses on climate change and rising waters. The organization is experimenting on ways to survive floods in North Richmond and new types of housing, roads, and plants that will be able to survive weather and climate change. On February 22, Mayor Quinto attended a ribbon cutting for a new dental office in El Cerrito Plaza and also attended the League of California Cities East Bay Division meeting where the group discussed housing measures that the League is supporting. On March 1, Mayor Quinto attended the Mayors Conference in Antioch with Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto and Councilmember Fadelli. Today he met with Sakura Kai at Alvarado School. Mayor Quinto read a letter from the Sakura Kai Senior Center thanking him for his support of the Sakura Kai program. Sakura Kai has accepted the West Contra Costa Unified School District's offer for a new meeting space at Alvarado School.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Michael Fischer, El Cerrito Library Commission representative, spoke in support of Consent Calendar Item No. 4(I) and encouraged the City Council to approve the recommendation to send a letter. It affects the City because the extra funding that goes to the Institute will eventually go to the Contra Costa County Library system for its programs.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, announced that on April 4, the Library will be open on Wednesday for the first time since 1998. The First Wednesday Celebration will be a free party to celebrate extended service of library hours in El Cerrito. Mr. Miller invited all to attend the party at the Library from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 4 to celebrate a new era of library service. The business sponsor is East Bay Sanitary Service.

Dave Weinstein, President, El Cerrito Historical Society, reported on the 2017 achievements of the El Cerrito Historical Society. The Society was very busy in the City's Centennial year. In addition to hosting seventeen events, the Society started a speakers' bureau, coordinated a visit from descendants of the City's founding family, the Castros, and acquired the Chamber of Commerce archive. This year, the Society will offer at least six to eight programs. On March 15, a program about Native American Heritage will be offered in the community center. Other programs include tours, oral histories and movies on a YouTube channel, and more publications and research. The Society is looking to get more young people involved and is also looking for extra space to store more of its archives.

Howdy Goudey, El Cerrito, reminded all that it has been six months since the City passed its affordable housing strategy and noted that although work has been done, there are many priorities that were identified in the strategy that also need to be worked on.

Rabbi Bell, El Cerrito, stated that Rabbi Menachem Schneerson dedicated his life to the betterment of mankind. Education is not just about accumulating knowledge but also about building character with an emphasis of moral and ethical values. Rabbi Bell said that through the vision of Rabbi Schneerson, countless lives have been touched and inspired. It is crucial to teach our children to be kind and loving citizens. Rabbi Bell thanked the City Council for supporting the proclamation on Consent Calendar Item No. 4(G).

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

Moved, seconded (Abelson/Lyman) and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 4(A), 4(B), 4(D) through 4(G) and 4(I) and 4(J) as indicated below. Item Nos. 4(C) and 4(H) were removed at the request of Councilmember Fadelli for the purpose of clarification.

A. Approval of Minutes

Approve the February 6, 2018 Special City Council and Regular City Council and February 20, 2018 Special City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Form 130 – Designation of Authorized Agents

Adopt a resolution designating the City Manager, Finance Director and Public Works Director as the City's agents to provide required assurances and execute agreements for the purposes of obtaining financial assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for disaster aid; approving the corresponding Cal OES Form 130; and authorizing the City Manager to file the Cal OES Form 130 with Cal OES and submit all related documentation.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2018-08.

C. Support California Proposition 69 and Oppose Senate Bill 1 Repeal

Adopt a resolution supporting Proposition 69, the June 2018 constitutional amendment to prevent new transportation funds generated by Senate Bill 1 from being diverted for non-transportation purposes and opposing the proposed November 2018 ballot proposition (Attorney General #17-0033) that would repeal Senate Bill 1 and make it more difficult to raise state and local transportation funds in the future. *Exempt from CEQA.*

Action: Removed from the consent calendar at the request of Councilmember Fadelli for clarification. Moved, seconded (Fadelli/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2018-09.

D. Recognizing Tibetan Uprising Day and Affirming Support for the People of Tibet

At the request of the El Cerrito Human Relations Commission, adopt a resolution declaring: 1) March 10, 2018, the 59th anniversary of the Tibetan national uprising, as "Tibet Day" in the City of El Cerrito and display the Tibetan flag at City Hall; 2) Supporting federal legislation supporting Tibetan people that is currently pending in the United States Congress; and 3) Declaring El Cerrito's expression of solidarity with the Tibetan people and their just, peaceful and non-violent movement to remind the world of ongoing suppression of human rights and freedom in Tibet and the continuous

degradation of culture, religion, land and identity of the Tibetan people by China.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2018-10.

E. International Women's Day and Women's History Month Proclamation

Approve a proclamation designating March 2018 as Women's History Month and March 8, 2018 as International Women's Day in the City of El Cerrito, and encouraging all residents to reflect on, honor, and celebrate the history, courage, commitment, accomplishments, and contributions of women, not only in El Cerrito but throughout America.

Action: Approved proclamation.

F. Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring March 2018 as Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month in the City of El Cerrito and encouraging all community members to pledge, "Spread the Word...One Pill Can Kill."

Action: Approved proclamation.

G. Education and Sharing Day Proclamation

Approve a proclamation designating March 27, 2018 as Education and Sharing Day in the City of El Cerrito and calling upon educators, volunteers and residents, to reach out to young people and work to create a better, brighter, and more hopeful future for all.

Action: Approved proclamation.

H. Support for Proposition 68 – The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018

At the request of Councilmember Abelson, adopt a resolution supporting Proposition 68, The California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 which will be placed on the June 5, 2018 statewide ballot and approving the membership and listing of the City as a member of the Californians for Clean Water and Safe Park Coalition.

Action: Removed from the consent calendar at the request of Councilmember Fadelli. Moved, seconded (Fadelli/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2018-11 as amended to change the resolution title and some of the references regarding Senate Bill 5 to Proposition 68 as appropriate.

I. Support the Reauthorization of the Library Services and Technology Act and Funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services

Approve a recommendation authorizing the Mayor to sign and send a letter to Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Kamala Harris, and Congressman Mark DeSaulnier supporting the reauthorization of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and urging them to support the maintenance of funding for the for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget.

Action: Approved recommendation.

J. Cash and Investments Report for Quarter Ending December 31, 2017

Receive and file the City's Quarterly Investment Report for the quarter ending December 31, 2017.

Action: Received and filed.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Environmental Quality Committee Workplan

Receive and discuss the Environmental Quality Committee's presentation regarding the Committee's accomplishments, activities, goals and workplan. The City Council may provide feedback as desired.

Presenters: Rebecca Milliken, Vice-Chair, and Mark Miner, Chair, Environmental Quality Committee.

Action: Received presentation.

B. Presentation on Contra Costa County Library Commission Activities – *Presentation by Michael Fischer, Commissioner.*

Action: Received presentation.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Proposed New User Fees for the Community Development Department and the Recreation Department

Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion adopt a resolution approving fees for the Community Development Department and the Recreation Department. *Exempt from CEQA.*

Presenters: Margaret Kavanaugh-Lynch, Development Services Manager and Tony Thrasher, Wildan Financial Services.

Mayor Quinto opened the public hearing.

Speakers: Howdy Goudey, El Cerrito, expressed concerns with the omission of data in Exhibit A, the accuracy of the fees, charges for electrical fees and stated that the ala carte menu is a mess and needs more attention. Mr. Goudey encouraged the City Council to look at deferring or waiving fees for affordable housing, stated that the fee schedule is not ready to be approved and that the proposed fees need a longer public review period.

Robin Mitchell, El Cerrito, expressed concerns about the increase in the proposed appeal fee. Ms. Mitchell stated that the fee impedes the democratic process and also noted that fees do not take into account or accommodate owner/builder projects.

Moved, seconded (Abelson/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to close the public hearing.

Action: Moved, seconded (Lyman/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2018-12 as amended to revise Exhibit A to incorporate changes suggested by Councilmember Lyman, including changes to Table A2, specifically, valuation based building permit fees that are in Exhibit A will go into effect in sixty days will be 90% of full cost recovery rather than 85% and will be adjusted administratively as part of their implementation in the Master Fee Schedule and a revised Exhibit B (Recreation Department Fees) as provided to the Council at the dais with changes as recommended in an oral report by Recreation Director, Chris Jones. The appeal fee was also reduced to \$500. At Councilmember Lyman's request, information from the tables provided in the Wildan Financial Services fee study report shall also be included in Exhibit A to clarify the manner in which the fees will be charged.

The enacting clause of the resolution are also modified to reflect that the resolution shall become effective immediately. Fees for Community Development services set

forth in Exhibit A shall go into effect in sixty days after passage and adoption. The value-based fees for building services shall be 90% of the 100% value and then increase automatically on July 1, 2019 as set forth in the revised Exhibit A. Exhibit B as amended and orally revised by the Recreation Director shall go into effect immediately.

Moved, seconded (Lyman/Abelson) and carried unanimously to direct staff to return to the City Council, as part of the budget process, with proposals for revised building department fees that subsidize fees to promote the policies the City Council has provided over the years and emphasized this evening.

7. POLICY MATTERS

Alameda County Transportation Commission San Pablo Avenue Corridor Project Charter

Adopt a resolution taking the following actions: 1) Authorize the City Manager to execute a Project Charter with the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC), as the Sponsoring Agency, and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA), West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC), Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District (AC Transit), Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART), and the cities of Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, Albany, Berkeley, and Oakland, (collectively the Partnering Agencies) for the San Pablo Avenue Corridor Project; and

2) Designate a City Council member to participate in a Policy Advisory Committee if necessary. *Exempt from CEQA.*

Presenter: Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director.

Action: 1) Moved, seconded (Lyman/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2018–13.

2) Moved, seconded (Fadelli/Lyman) and carried unanimously to designate Councilmember Abelson to serve on the policy advisory committee.

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 RecycleMore elected its new Chair, Ben Choi, Richmond and Vice Chair, Cecilia Valdez, San Pablo, in February. RecycleMore received correspondence from the State declaring that it is now fully in compliance with Assembly Bill 1826. On February 15, Councilmember Lyman attended a Marin Clean Energy (MCE) board meeting and reviewed the draft budget for the next fiscal year. The budget will probably be adopted this month. Councilmember Lyman reported that there was an item about streamlining Public Works on the February 15 MCE agenda that the City could potentially look into and consider adopting in the future.

Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto attended her first Urban Forest Committee meeting. The Committee received a presentation from PG&E regarding their efforts to deter fires in both urban and non-urban forestry areas. She also noted that Arbor Week is March 7-14.

Councilmember Abelson reported that in January the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee redid its assignments. In February the Contra Costa Transportation Authority also reorganized. Councilmember Abelson was appointed to the Planning Committee.

Councilmember Fadelli reported that the Human Relations Commission created a subcommittee to review the Martin Luther King Celebration and also discussed upcoming Loving Day plans. Councilmember Fadelli announced that the Rosie the Riveter Annual Benefit Dinner will be at the Berkeley County Club this year on April 7. More information can be located on Rosie the Riveter website.

Mayor Quinto reported that he attended an Economic Development Committee meeting and discussed plans for San Pablo Avenue.

9. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 10:02 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

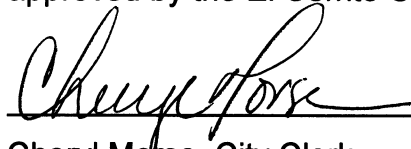
Item No. 6 Proposed New User Fees for the Community Development Department and the Recreation Department

1. Revised Exhibit B to the proposed resolution – *Submitted by Chris Jones, Recreation Director and Cheryl Morse, City Clerk.*

Other:

2. El Cerrito Historical Society Accomplishments in 2017, Goals for 2018 – *Submitted by Dave Weinstein, President, El Cerrito Historical Society.*

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 March 6, 2018 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Cheryl Morse, City Clerk



Gabriel Quinto, Mayor