

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 2, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.

Members:

Mayor Paul Fadelli

Mayor Pro Tem Gabe Quinto · Councilmember Janet Abelson
Councilmember Lisa Motoyama · Councilmember Tessa Rudnick

Join via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/92180752680?pwd=SG9hckJtYmMrSVpWNUFhQTVMck9MZz09>

Meeting ID: 921 8075 2680 **Passcode:** 071139

or Dial In: 1-408-638-0968

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, teleconference restrictions of the Brown Act have been suspended, as well as the requirement to provide a physical location for members of the public to participate in the meeting.

Members of the public can watch or listen to City Council meetings as follows:

1. Cable T.V. Broadcast on KCRT Channel 28
2. Radio Broadcast on FM 88.1 Or 97.7
3. Livestream Online at www.el-cerrito.org/CouncilMeetingMaterials
4. Via Zoom using the meeting information listed above.

Each period for public comment will be announced. Public Comments may be submitted one of two ways:

- Via Zoom using the “Raise Hand” icon to request to speak. If joining by phone, dial *9 to "raise your hand."
- Via email to cityclerk@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us. Email must contain in the subject line **Public Comments – Not on the Agenda or Public Comments – agenda item #.**

To ensure City Council receives your written comments prior to taking action, they must be received by **4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting**. All written comments received by this deadline will be provided to the City Council and posted online in advance of the meeting.

Comments received after the deadline will be provided to the City Council and included with supplemental materials after the meeting. **No written comments will be read into the record.**

7:00 P.M. ROLL CALL – CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Fadelli called the meeting to order at 07:00 PM.

Present: Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick

Absent: None

1. TELECONFERENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS

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 and staff.

City Manager Pinkos - provided an update on Covid19 status, vaccines, and federal stimulus funds; shared the passing of City employee Maria Sanders.

Mayor Fadelli - encouraged support of federal stimulus packet and reported letter of support sent, announced appointment as alternate to Contra Costa Transportation Authority, reported attendance at the West Contra Costa Mayors and Supervisors meeting.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Remarks are typically limited to 3 minutes per person. The Mayor may reduce the time limit per speaker depending upon the number of speakers and may limit the total time for public comment to facilitate the completion of business on the agenda. 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 will be heard prior to the City Council taking action on each item.

All written comments submitted prior to and during the meeting were posted online as supplemental materials and incorporated into the official meeting record. Written public comments for matters not on the agenda were received from Cordell Hindler, John Stashik, Leslie D. Adams, Gary Prost, Sue and Paul Duncan; and presentation item #5C from B.J Thorsnes (2 submissions) and Daniel Schulman.

Oral Public Comments:

William Ktsanes - requested less restrictive zoom settings.

Rishi Singh - shared appreciation for Maria Sanders environmental work, spoke regarding community connections and social emotional taskforce.

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 Abelson/Mayor Pro Tem Quinto **Action:** Approved the consent calendar as indicated below. **Ayes:** Mayor Fadelli, Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, Councilmember Abelson, Councilmember Motoyama, Councilmember Rudnick **Noes:** None

A. Approval of Minutes

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to approve the City Council Meeting minutes from January 19, February 1, February 2, February 16, and February 23, 2021.

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

Action: Approved minutes including an amendment to February 2nd minutes under council communication by Mayor Fadelli, adding "for restaurant food orders" to the end of the statement.

B. Women's History Month Proclamation

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to approve a proclamation designating March as "Women's History Month" and March 8, 2021 as "International Women's Day" in the City of El Cerrito.

Contact: Alexandra Orologas, Assistant City Manager, City Management

Action: Approved proclamation

C. Arbor Week Proclamation

Action Proposed: Pass a motion to approve a proclamation declaring March 7 through March 14, 2021 as Arbor Week in the City of El Cerrito.

Contact: Stephen Prée, Environmental Programs Manager, Public Works Department

Action: Approved proclamation

D. Environmental Quality Committee Appointment Recommendations

Action Proposed: Approve an Environmental Quality Committee recommendation to appoint Buddy Akacic and Chris Lynch to the Environmental Quality Committee, effective March 2, 2021.

Contact: Will Provost, Operations + Environmental Services Manager; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Public Works Department

Action: Approved appointments

E. Urban Forest Committee Reappointment

Action Proposed: Approve an Urban Forest Committee recommendation to reappoint Cathy Bleier to the Urban Forest Committee effective March 2, 2021.

Contact: Stephen Prée, Environmental Programs Manager; Will Provost, Operations + Environmental Services Manager; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Public Works Department

Action: Approved appointment

F. Resolution Recognizing March 10, 2021 as the 62nd Anniversary of the Tibetan National Uprising, and Affirm Support to the People of Tibet

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution declaring: 1) March 10, 2021, the 62nd anniversary of the Tibetan national uprising, as “Tibet Day” in the City of El Cerrito; and 2) Declaring El Cerrito's expression of solidarity with the Tibetan people and their just, peaceful, and nonviolent movement to remind the world of the 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.

Contact: Alexandra Orologas, Assistant City Manager, City Management

Action: Approved Resolution 2021-07

G. California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Form 130 - Designation of Authorized Agents

Action Proposed: 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.

Contact: Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Public Works Department

Action: Approved Resolution 2021-08

H. Designating Primary and Alternate Board Members to the Municipal Pooling Authority of Northern California (MPA)

Action Proposed: Adopt a resolution designating the Assistant City Manager as Primary Board Member and the City Manager as Alternate Board Member to the Municipal Pooling Authority of Northern California (MPA).

Contact: Alexandra Orologas, Assistant City Manager, City Management

Action: Approved Resolution 2021-09

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Introduction of Eevelyn Mitchell, Poet Laureate

Action Proposed: Receive and file a brief introduction to the City's new Poet Laureate.

Contact: Alexandra Orologas, Assistant City Manager, City Management

Presentation: Outgoing Poet Laureate Dani Gabriel introduced new poet laureate Eevelyn Mitchell.

Public Comments:

Well wishes and congratulations to Eevelyn Mitchell were provided by Merci Richardson, Kim Jones, Cheryl Cotton, Vernetta and Jamila Crockett, Charnell and Stephanie Turner, Allison Cooper, Gatanya Arnic, Carla Davis, Stacey Strickland, and Tammy Mathews.

Action: Received and filed.

B. City of El Cerrito CalPERS Retirement Plan Presentation

Action Proposed: Receive and file a presentation from NHA Advisors regarding the City of El Cerrito CalPERS retirement plan.

Contact: Craig Hill, Managing Principal, NHA Advisors

Presentation and Discussion: Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding credit ratings, requirements for restructuring process, 115 trust and lump sum options, discount rate in relation to interest rates, and recommended contribution amounts.

Action: Received and filed.

C. Year One Rental Registry Data and Tenant Protections Task Force Recommendations Report

Action Proposed: Receive and file a presentation on Year One Rent Registry Data and the Tenant Protections Task Force Recommendations Report

Contact: Aissia Ashoori, Housing Analyst; Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director, Community Development Department

Presentation and Discussion: Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding section 8 affordable housing, database for public use and automation, Accessory dwelling units, amount of staff work compiling data, and outlook on just cause.

Action: Received and filed.

6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

7. **POLICY MATTERS**

A. **FY 2020-21 General Fund Budget Update for January 2021**

Action Proposed: Receive and file an update on City General Fund revenues and expenses for FY 2020-21 through January 2021.

Contact: Mark R. Rasiah, Finance Director/City Treasurer, Finance Department

Presentation and Discussion: Presenters and staff responded to comments and questions raised by members of the council regarding Tax Revenue Anticipation Note (TRAN) loan repayments, discussing with Financial Advisory Board (FAB) on unfunded liability, next steps in budget process, and FAB review of comprehensive financial reserve policy.

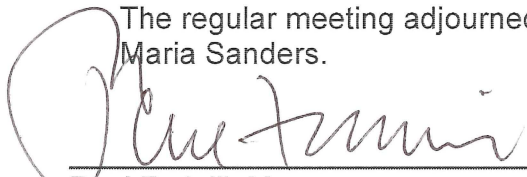
Action: Received and filed.

8. **CITY COUNCIL LOCAL & REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS** *Mayor and City Council communications regarding local and regional liaison assignments and committee reports.*

Mayor Pro Tem Quinto - announced El Cerrito Garden Club "Ask the Arborist" event on March 7th at 1:30 p.m., reported attendance at the Marin Clean Energy (MCE) Meeting and appointment to the executive committee.

9. **ADJOURN REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:48 PM in memory of City employee Maria Sanders.


Paul Fadelli, Mayor

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of March 2, 2021 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.


Holly M. Charléty, MMC, City Clerk