The Regular Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Mayor Gayle McLaughlin.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers, Butt, Lopez, Sandhu, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. Absent: Councilmembers Marquez, Rogers and Thurmond. (Councilmember Marquez arrived upon adjournment to Closed Session)

PUBLIC COMMENT

The deputy city clerk announced that the purpose of the Open Session was for the City Council to hear public comment on the following items to be discussed in Closed Session:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Subdivision [a] of Government Code Section 54956.9) – Richmond Residents for Responsible Antenna Placement and Planning (“RAP”), et al vs. City of Richmond.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9: Three Cases.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9 - One Case.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957.6) - City Attorney.

There were no public speakers.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:10 p.m. The Closed Session adjourned at 6:29 p.m. The Special Meeting of the City Council was reconvened at 8:18 p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Butt, Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. Absent: None.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Councilmember Butt stated a conflict of interest with Item L-2. He stated his firm has provided architectural services for the owner of the property of issue.

AGENDA REVIEW

Withdrew Item G-3 from the agenda.

Removed Items G-2, G-6, G-13, and G-14 from the Consent Calendar.

Items L-4 and L-1 heard directly after Presentations, Proclamations, and Commendations.
REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY OF FINAL
DECISIONS MADE AND NON-CONFIDENTIAL
DISCUSSIONS HELD DURING CLOSED SESSION

Interim City Attorney Randy Riddle reported the following:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Subdivision [a] of Government Code Section 54956.9) – Richmond Residents for Responsible Antenna Placement and Planning (“RAP”), et al vs. City of Richmond.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

- Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9: Three Cases.

- Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 54956.9 - One Case.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957.6) - City Attorney.

No reportable action taken on any of the above actions.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Corky Booze requested the Mayor open new businesses in the new transit village for people of Richmond.

Kathy Robinson spoke about her disappointment in the handling of a shooting at King School. There was no communication with the students and staff. She also stated Richmond should have a specific area for residents to obtain information about Richmond.

Elmas Martin spoke about the problems she is having at the Easter Hill Cortez Home Association with her water bill.

Dr. Henry Clark, Executive Director of the West County Toxic Coalition, encouraged everyone to march, Saturday, November 10, 2007, beginning at 12:00 p.m. from the Richmond BART Station to the Chevron Refinery, to demand that there be no more pollution and environmental racism in Richmond.

Jeff Ritterman spoke regarding the Chevron Expansion Plan.

Jerome Smith read a poem for Ethel Dotson.

Mary DeBenedictis spoke regarding the Canyon Oaks II Project.

Herk Schusteff spoke regarding the Canyon Oaks II Project.

Arnie Kasendorf invited everyone to attend the Commission on Aging’s 10th Annual Senior Winter Ball, on Saturday, December 8, 2007, from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at the Ford Point Craneway (The old Ford Assembly Plant) at the end of Harbor Way South.

Jackie Thompson spoke about a letter addressed to the Mayor from the Tent City Peace Move regarding their disappointment with the advertisement of the job description for the outreach worker for the Office of Neighborhood Safety.

Pat Coleman, National Institute of Art and Disability (NIAD Art Center) read a poem in gratitude to City Manager, Bill Lindsay for all his support.
Barbara Becnel, Executive Director of Neighborhood House in North Richmond thanked the City for hosting a general plan meeting last Saturday.

Kevin Hampton, Vice President of Tri City Richmond Ravens Youth Football Organization, announced that the teams had a great season. The Pee Wee and Junior Midget Teams will be playing for the regional championship on Sunday, November 11, 2007. Mr. Hampton requested that all Council and community leaders come out on Sunday, November 11, 2007, to support the Ravens and any monetary donations would be greatly appreciated.

Glen Williams spoke about the positive influences Kevin Hampton has had on his life.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Presentation of Certificates of Completion to the second graduating class of the Richmond BUILD Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Skills Training Program. Sal Vaca, Director of Employment and Training, gave an overview of the item. Councilmembers Marquez, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates and Mayor McLaughlin presented Certificates to: Aundre Collins, Santiago Bernal, Victor Mejia, Fernando Salguera, Tracy Pitts, Ernesto Ramirez, Adrian Ramirez, William Moy, Maurice Hightower, Timothy McKnight, Mona Wilson, Richard Osborn, Shakeyta Levy, William Anaya, Keyana Young, James Alvarez, and Kenyon Roy.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Marquez, all items marked with an asterisk (*) were approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Butt, Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Councilmember Thurmond. Mayor McLaughlin abstained on Item G-17.

*-Approved a contract with the Oakland Private Industry Council to procure goods and services on behalf of Richmond WORKS and in support of the East Bay Works One Stop Career Center System for a term beginning November 6, 2007, and ending October 30, 2008, in an amount not to exceed $31,359.

A proposal to approve the responses given by the Fire Chief to findings and recommendations made in the Contra Costa County Grand Jury Report #0707, "The West County Fire Protection Montage" was presented. Fire Chief Banks gave an overview of the item. On motion of Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Rogers, approved the responses given by the Fire Chief by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Councilmember Butt.

The following item was withdrawn: Approve - a contract between H&H Builders, Inc. and the City of Richmond in the amount of $24,000, for removal and replacement of the roof at the Fire Department Training Center.
- Adopted Resolution No. 111-07 appointing the City's Risk Manager to the Board of Directors of the Contra Costa County Municipal Risk Management Insurance Authority and appointing the City's Human Resources Management Director as the City's alternate member.

- Approved a contract amendment with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, raising the contract limit from $24,999 to $74,999, for contract negotiations, additional employee training, and additional legal consultation for the period of July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008.

A proposal to approve a contract amendment with Armistead Investigative Services, raising the contract limit from $10,000 to $30,000, for additional expenses associated with an on-going investigation. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Rogers, approved a contract amendment with Armistead Investigative Services, by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: Councilmember Butt.

- Authorized the Finance Director and Employment & Training Director to execute a loan agreement between the General Fund and Employment & Training Department to advance the amount of $416,000 to Employment & Training for use in their ongoing Youth Development programs, with this advance repaid from funds generated by a development condition of approval for the Pulte Homes project.

- Adopted Resolution No. 112-07 revising the authorization list on the Local Agency Investment Fund accounts to reflect the current staff assignments in the Finance Department.

- Adopted Resolution No. 113-07 approving the execution and delivery of an ISDA Master Agreement and schedule to effect an Interest Rate Swap Transaction with Bear Stearns Capital Markets in connection with the City's Pension Obligation Bonds, Series 2005.

- Approved the purchase of 20 police cars through the State of California's CMAS contract from budgeted FY 2007/08 Equipment Replacement funds for a total cost of $545,190.

- Approved the purchase of 10 Ford Escape Hybrids from budgeted FY 2007/08 Equipment Replacement funds for a total cost of $254,588.40.

- Approved the purchase of one Type IV Modified Mini Van and one Para transit Type V Modified Raised Top Handicapped Van through the State of California CMAS contract for a total cost of $88,833.68 from budgeted FY 2007/08 Equipment Replacement Funds.

A proposal to approve a one year contract, with two one year options, with Valley Oil Company, the lowest bidder, to provide fuel to the City of Richmond for a total cost of $500,000 per year was presented. Roscoe Ward, Public Works, gave an overview of the item. Corky Booze spoke on this item. On motion of Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Rogers, approved a one year contract, with two one year options, with Valley Oil Company, by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond,
Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Butt.

A proposal to approve a contract with Hanson Aggregate Mid-Pacific, Inc. for $200,000 to provide asphalt and related materials to the City of Richmond for pavement maintenance and repairs was presented. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Marquez, approved a contract with Hanson Aggregate Mid-Pacific, Inc., by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Butt.

*-Adopted Resolution No. 114-07 for the application of grant funds for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program under the Section 164.56 of the Streets and Highways Code.

*-Approved a contract amendment with the law firm of Renne, Sloan, Holtzman & Sakai for services of Interim City Attorney. This amendment will increase the amount of the contract by $65,000, and extend the contract period for an additional 60 days from November 9, 2007, through January 8, 2008.

*-Approved a confidentiality agreement with Chevron to facilitate an audit of payments of Utility User Tax by Chevron. Mayor McLaughlin abstained on this item.

*-Approved the Land Use Agreement between the City of Richmond and the Richmond Certified Farmers Market Association for the lease of the northern section of the parking lot located on Barrett Avenue between 24th Street and 25th Street weekly on Fridays.

*-Approved a contract amendment with Orrick, Herrington, and Sutcliffe for legal representation in the lawsuit captioned Parchester Village Neighborhood Council vs. City of Richmond, increasing the payment amount by $75,000, for a total of $85,000, and extending the term expiration from December 2007, until December 2008.

*-Approved a contract amendment with the Mejorando Group to work with employees City-wide to improve service delivery throughout the organization, increasing the payment amount by $15,000 for a total amount not to exceed $65,000.

*-Approved appointments to the Community Development Commission: Rhonda Harris (Southside) and Alyssa Newman (Annex); Richmond Youth Baseball Advisory Board: Yvette Woods and Antoinette H. Lawrence; Commission on Aging: Ella M. Sewell; re-appointments to the Richmond Youth Baseball Advisory Board: Frank Hancock Jr.; and Commission on Aging: D'Emanuel Grosse Sr.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

The deputy city clerk announced this was the time set, pursuant to published notice, to conduct a public hearing to adopt Resolution of Vacation No. 899 Ordering the Vacation of an Alleyway off Wright Avenue between South 13th Street and Marina Way South. Mayor McLaughlin declared the public hearing open. There were no public speakers. On motion of
Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Marquez, closed the public hearing by the unanimous vote of the Council. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Viramontes adopted Resolution No. 899 by the unanimous vote of the Council.

The following item was continued to a meeting in December 2007. A public hearing to consider the following options: (1) uphold the Planning Commission decision to deny the Type 20 Alcohol Beverage License transfer from 546 Harbour Way to 544 Harbour Way; or (2) uphold the appeal request, thereby reversing the Planning Commission denial of the application and approve the Type 20 Alcohol Beverage License transfer from 546 Harbour Way to 544 Harbour Way.

The following item was continued to November 27, 2007. A public hearing to consider on the subject appeal located at 10879 San Pablo Avenue and take one of the following actions: (1) Affirm the Design Review Board’s approval by denying the appeal, and reaffirming the Board’s findings and statements identified in the August 22, 2007 staff report and grant the Design Review Permit; or (2) Modify the Design Review Board’s approval and provide staff direction to prepare findings and statements for approving the project subject to any proposed modifications and grant the Design Review Permit; or (3) REVERSE the Design Review Board’s approval by upholding the appeal and providing staff with direction to prepare findings and statements for project denial.

RESOLUTIONS

A proposal to adopt the following resolutions to hold a Special Municipal Election to make revisions to the City of Richmond Telecommunications and Video Users’ Tax: (a) Resolution declaring the existence of an emergency necessitating the submission to the voters of the City of Richmond an ordinance adding chapter 13.54 to the City of Richmond Municipal Code, (b) Resolution calling and giving notice of the holding of a special municipal election to submit to the voters of the City of Richmond an ordinance adding chapter 13.54, and (c) Resolution requesting the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County consolidate a special municipal election to be held on February 5, 2008, with the Statewide Presidential Primary Election to be held on the same date was presented. Finance Director, Jim Goins, gave an overview of the item. Speakers were Corky Booze and Jerome Smith. On motion of Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Viramontes, adopted Resolution No. 115-07 declaring the existence of an emergency necessitating the submission to the voters of the City of Richmond an ordinance adding chapter 13.54 to the City of Richmond Municipal Code; adopted Resolution No. 116-07 calling and giving notice of the holding of a special municipal election to submit to the voters of the City of Richmond an ordinance adding chapter 13.54; and, adopted Resolution No. 117-07 requesting the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County consolidate a special municipal election to be held on February 5, 2008, with the Statewide Presidential Primary Election, by the unanimous vote of the Council.
A proposal to adopt a resolution of the City of Richmond opposing U.S. military involvement in Iraq and Iran was presented. A motion was made by Mayor McLaughlin to adopt a resolution. An amendment to the motion was offered by Councilmember Marquez to add “be it further resolved that the Richmond City Council appreciates and supports our men and women in uniform for serving our country”. Councilmember Butt seconded the amendment. Mayor McLaughlin did not accept the amendment. Mayor McLaughlin suggested adding “whereas the City of Richmond recognizes service that is of benefit to our country”. A substitute motion was made by Councilmember Marquez, seconded by Vice Mayor Bates, to add “be it further resolved that the Richmond City Council appreciates and supports the men and women in uniform for serving our country”. Mayor McLaughlin offered a friendly amendment to add “the City of Richmond appreciates the service and very much see the need for addressing the bringing home of the troops in terms of them serving our needs”. Councilmember Lopez suggested adding recognizes services and calls for the immediate redeployment of troops in Iraq. A call for the question was made by Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Sandhu. Speakers were: Tony Sustak, Jerome Smith, Andres Chang, and Mary Bernier. The substitute motion passed and Resolution No. 118-07 was adopted by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Butt, Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, and Vice Mayor Bates. Noes: None. Abstentions: Mayor McLaughlin. Absent: None.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

This item heard directly after Item L-4. In the matter to review the Land Use alternatives and change areas that have been developed through the community process for the update of the General Plan and give staff additional direction and receive a status report on the General Plan update and provide direction to staff and the Planning Consultant. The City Council received an overview of the item from Planning Director, Richard Mitchell, who turned the presentation over to Planning Consultant, Daniel Iacofano of MIG. Mr. Iacofano gave a PowerPoint presentation of the options and introduced Simon Alejandro, who gave a brief report on the fiscal impact of each option. Speakers were Tony Sustak, Jeff Ritterman, Nel Benningshof, Nick Despota, Raymond Landry, Barbara Bream, who spoke for Nancy Skinner, Barbara Stauss, Juan Reardon, Jerome Smith, Dr. Henry Clark, Bill Pinkham, Carolyn Gopalan, Misha Rashkin, Jackie Thompson, Ron Shoop, Tom Waller, Jim Bates, Eleanor Loynd, Charles Smith, Josh Genser, Anne Moore, Bob Herbst, Judy Morgan, Maria Logondo, Whitney Dotson, and Naomi Williams. A motion was made by Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Rogers, to extend the meeting 45 minutes to complete the current item followed by Item I-1. The motion passed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. Noes: Councilmember Butt. Abstentions: None. Absent: None. Speakers continued with Sheryl Lane, Rhonda Harris, Shelly Davis, Adrienne Harris, Tanya Boyce, Andres Soto, Mike Daley, Herb Schusteff, Tarnel Abbott, Lynette Gibson McElhaney, Jim Levine, John Cockle, Mel Davis, Corky Booze, and Kevin Hampton. Councilmember Lopez stated staff should focus on change areas and get analysis on options one, two, and three. She requested more fiscal analysis in the change areas. Following discussion, a motion was made by
Councilmember Viramontes to coordinate with the calendar of the General Plan Advisory Committee’s (GPAC), GPAC to make final recommendations on maps and the 20 change areas, and recommendations be given to the City Council to discuss and review at a retreat in January or February 2008. The motion failed for lack of a second. Discussion continued and a motion was made by Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Marquez, to make a decision on California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) ranges at a dedicated meeting of the Council. Discussion ensued and Councilmember Rogers suggested a third alternative be added to look at areas which share in common that they are very attractive both as recreational uses and as possible development sites. These areas should be looked at as part of a shoreline access improvement plan. A motion was made by Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Thurmond to extend the meeting until 1:15 a.m. The motion passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** Councilmember Butt. **Abstentions:** None.

In the matter to consider directing the Planning Commission to conduct a hearing in accordance with Richmond Municipal Code Section 15.04.990 to consider revocation of a permit to install a cellular antenna at 260 Water Street. (Councilmember Butt excused himself from the meeting). Mayor McLaughlin and City Attorney, Randy Riddle, gave an overview of the item. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Viramontes to authorize the city attorney to continue negotiations and if the matter is not resolved by December 1, 2007, staff is directed to place this item on the Planning Commission’s Agenda for a revocation hearing. Speakers were: Corky Booze, Tony Sustak, Robin Carpenter, Chris Spencer, Jonathan Swett, Andy Olmsted, Debra French, Bonnie Jo Cullison, Richard Neidhardt, Rob De La Rosa, Kathleen McKinley, Martin Fineman, Michael Adachi, and Jim Madow. Councilmember Rogers offered a friendly amendment to the motion to allow staff to negotiate for 10 days from November 6, 2007. The amendment was not accepted. Staff will be allowed until December 1, 2007, for negotiations. Staff will provide an update of the status on November 27, 2007. A substitute motion was made by Mayor McLaughlin, seconded by Councilmember Thurmond, to direct staff to refer this item to the Planning Commission for a revocation hearing. The City Council adjourned to Closed Session at 2:30 a.m. to discussion this item, which was Item A-1 on the Closed Session Agenda. The City Council reconvened at 2:35 a.m. to continue this item. Mayor McLaughlin added a friendly amendment to the motion stating the motion was
not being made for health reasons but to examine the permitting process and any possible violations of the code. The substitute motion failed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Viramontes, and Vice Mayor Bates. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Butt. Vice Mayor Bates added a friendly amendment to the original motion stating the motion was not being made for health reasons but to examine the permitting process and any possible violations of the code. The original motion passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Butt.

In the matter to direct staff to initiate negotiations with Contra Costa County and other third parties as necessary to locate a new community health center at a site within the City of Richmond if the selected site contains property owned by the City. Steve Duran, Director of Redevelopment Agency, gave an overview of the item. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Viramontes, directed staff to initiate negotiations with Contra Costa County and other third parties on the site located at 23rd and Bissell by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Butt.

This item was heard directly after Presentations, Proclamations, and Commendations. In the matter to provide an update and direction to staff regarding on-going and future efforts to reduce violence and receive a status report from the Office of Neighborhood Safety. Devone Boggan gave a report of the on-going and future efforts to reduce violence in the City of Richmond. Speakers were: Corky Booze, Jim Jenkins, Raymond Landry, Juan Reardon, Jackie Thompson, Tanya Boyce, Simms Thompson, Jr., and Jeff Ritterman. Davone Boggan will continue to give updates to the Council.

In the matter to nominate and approve a voting delegate and an alternate to cast the City of Richmond's votes during the business meeting of the National League of Cities Annual Meeting. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Marquez, selected Councilmember Sandhu as voting delegate and Councilmember Marquez as the alternate by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Lopez, Marquez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Butt. On motion of Mayor McLaughlin, seconded by Vice Mayor Bates, extended the meeting for 5 minutes by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Lopez, Rogers, Sandhu, Thurmond, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Butt.

The following item was continued to November 27, 2007:

In the matter to discuss City policy and direct staff relative to requiring that Union Pacific Railroad clean up graffiti on railroad property next to the I-580 entrance to Richmond.

The following item was continued to November 27, 2007:

In the matter to direct staff to investigate allegations of Union Pacific Railroad violating City of Richmond Blight Abatement Laws.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Marquez announced there will be a Public Safety Meeting on Thursday, November 8, 2007, at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:54 a.m. in memory of Ethel Dotson and Eddie Christian. The next City Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 27, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

________________________
City Clerk
(SEAL)
Approved:

________________________
Mayor

Councilmember Marquez announced that the President of the League of California Cities has appointed him as Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee again this year.