RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, April 26, 2011

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:12 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Rogers – (arrived after adjourning to Closed Session), Boozé, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Butt, and Mayor McLaughlin. Absent: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

CITY COUNCIL

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957.6): City designated Representatives: Jack Hughes, Leslie Knight, and Lisa Stephenson Employee Organization or Unrepresented Employees: SEIU Local 1021, IFPTE Local 21, RPOA, RPMA, Local 188, and RFMA.

There were no public speakers.

The Evening Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:13 p.m. The Closed Session adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

The Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:48 p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers, Beckles, Boozé, Ritterman, Rogers, and Mayor McLaughlin. Absent: Councilmembers Bates and Vice Mayor Butt.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Naomi Williams stated that all the Easter Egg Hunts were well attended and thanked Jerrold Hatchett for being the Easter Bunny.

Leonard Taylor encouraged Richmond voters to vote yes on Measures C and D.
Cordell White gave comments regarding street vendors selling in the parks without health permits. Mr. White stated he has also observed people selling drugs at the skate park in Nicholl Park.

Sims Thompson suggested that town hall meetings should be conducted in order to inform the community about things happening in the City.

Jackie Thompson gave comments regarding the need for establishing a Southside substation due to all the crime occurring in the immediate area.

Mayor McLaughlin read information from Dorothy Fox regarding “Uniting a Healthy Community Celebration honoring Fred Jackson” to be held on May 15, 2011 from 4p.m. to 7 p.m. at Richmond P.A.L. Tickets are $50 per person.

AGENDA REVIEW

None.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Councilmember Beckles presented a proclamation celebrating the life and accomplishments of Marshal "Major" Taylor -1878-1932 to Raymond Newman, County Mental Health Services, and Jennifer Lyle.

Mayor McLaughlin presented certificates of appreciation to Maria Benjamin from CHDC of the Earn It, Keep It Save It Program Volunteers. There were 70 volunteers. There will be a picnic honoring the volunteers on May 21, 2011, at Marina Bay.

Mayor McLaughlin read a proclamation declaring May 2011 National Historic Preservation Month presented to Rosemary Corbin, Amanda Elliot, Lois Boyle, Richmond Museum of History, and Sandi Genser-Maack. Vice Mayor Butt announced that the City of Richmond will receive the prestigious California Preservation Award. Councilmember Booze asked that things in the African American community be recognized also, such as the Pullman Hotel. Cordell White gave comments.

REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY OF FINAL DECISIONS MADE AND NON-CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSIONS HELD DURING CLOSED SESSION

Attorney Scott Dickey reported that there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

STUDY SESSION

The matter to receive a presentation by the Richmond Public Library Foundation regarding fundraising efforts on behalf of the Library was
presented by Mike Oliver. Sandi Genser-Maack, President of the Richmond Public Library Foundation gave an overview. Nick Despota presented a PowerPoint. Mr. Despota stated that the Bookmobile is quite large and there is a need for a smaller book van to be able to drive around some areas of Richmond. $35,000 has been raised so far and $100,000 is needed to purchase the van. Cordell White gave comments.

A presentation of Contra Costa College Capital Bond Initiative was given by President McKinley Williams. The purpose of the presentation was to solicit the city’s support via a resolution for a capital improvement bond measure. There were bond measures approved in 2002 and 2006 that were used for all of the colleges in the district. The proposed bond would be for $97 million and would only be used for improvements at Contra Costa College within a 10-year period. Councilmember Beckles requested that senior citizens be exempt from the bond.

A presentation from Caltrans on their I-80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (ICM) Project was given by Edric Kwan. The Caltrans I-80 Integrated Corridor Mobility (ICM) Project will later require the City of Richmond to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding and operations and maintenance (O&M) agreement. It is contemplated that Caltrans would be responsible for the operations and maintenance of devices installed in the state right of way, with local jurisdictions responsible for O&M costs within their local jurisdiction. Under such an arrangement, the current estimated fiscal impact to the City of Richmond for the operations and maintenance (O&M) agreement is $37,940 annually. The $93 million projects are proposed to enhance the effectiveness of the existing transportation network by integrating traffic management operations for freeway and parallel arterials in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Don Gosney gave comments.

The matter to receive a presentation regarding the draft Wastewater Collection System Master Plan and proposed improvement projects was presented by Chad Davisson. There is no impact to the General Fund for any of the projects identified as part of the wastewater collection system master plan. If approved by the City Council, the next three (3) years of capital improvements identified within the master plan will be funded by wastewater enterprise revenue bond funds. As part of the City’s long-term financial strategy, the City Council approved a sewer rate increase which was necessary to secure these bond funds. The master plan identifies specific improvements which need to be performed within the next three years in an attempt to comply with the terms of the Baykeeper settlement. The City’s Wastewater Enterprise (“The Enterprise”) consists of three major components: (1) the collection system, (2) the treatment plant and (3) the outfall system. The master plan development and presentation are focused specifically on the wastewater collection system. The collection system includes approximately
185 miles of collection pipes and ranges in age from 60-100 years. Most pipes are six inches in diameter. In addition, the collection system also includes 12 sewage pumping stations, and two engineered overflow weirs. A significant portion of the sewer collection and treatment infrastructure within the Richmond Municipal Sewer District is reaching the end of its service life. Due to this aging and failing infrastructure, the City experiences numerous sanitary sewer system overflows annually, totaling millions of gallons. Councilmember Ritterman asked that the coordination of street cuts and sewer line repairs be coordinated.

(11:04 p.m. - Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Booze) extended the meeting 20 minutes. Vice Mayor Butt voted 'no'.

The matter to receive a presentation from Professor Jason Corburn regarding Health Equity in Richmond was presented by Shasa Curl. Professor Corburn presented a PowerPoint, which indicated that there is a gap between life expectancy among different ethnicities and that where you live affects your health. Councilmember Rogers requested a study that analysis the reasons for higher morbidity rates in certain areas. City Manager, Bill Lindsay, stated that all City departments will include the health element in the budget process and will also be included in the General Plan update process.

(11:22 p.m. - Councilmember Ritterman, seconded by Councilmember Booze, extended the meeting until finished. Vice Mayor Butt voted 'no'.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

The matter to discuss and direct staff to send a letter to Assemblymember Wes Chesbro, Chair of the California Assembly Natural Resources Committee, with copies to Assemblymember Nancy Skinner, Senator Lonnie Hancock, Senator Mark DeSaulnier and the California League of Cities, stating that the Richmond City Council has taken a position opposing AB 880 (V. Manuel Pérez) Environmental quality: CEQA: expedited environmental review, which is scheduled to be heard by the Assembly Natural Resources Committee on Monday, May 2, 2011 was presented by Mayor McLaughlin. Greg Karras and Torm Nompraseurt gave comments. Councilmember Bates expressed concern on how this action would affect the Chevron refinery retrofit. A motion by Mayor McLaughlin, seconded by Vice Mayor Butt, approved by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Beckles, Booze, Ritterman, Rogers, Vice Mayor Butt, and Mayor McLaughlin. Noes: Councilmember Bates.
Absent: None. Abstentions: None.
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 p.m. in memory of Ernestine Berriman, and Ken Elliot, Shannon Elliot’s father who is a maintenance leadworker in the Parks and Landscaping Department, to meet again on Tuesday, May 3, 2011, at 6:30 p.m.

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor