

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, March 27,
2012**

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Butt, Ritterman, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Absent:** Councilmembers Boozé and Vice Mayor Rogers. (Councilmember Boozé and Vice Mayor Rogers arrived after adjourning to Closed Session).

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

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE
EVALUATION (Government Code Section
54957.6):**

City Attorney

There were no public speakers.

The Evening Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:10 p.m. The Closed Session adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

The Special Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers, Bates, Beckles, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Rogers, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Absent:** Councilmember Boozé arrived at 6:33 p.m. *Councilmember Beckles left the meeting at 9:06 p.m. due to an emergency situation.*

READING OF THE CODE OF ETHICS

City Clerk Diane Holmes read the Code of Ethics.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilmember Butt presented a check in the amount of \$1,594,069.02 from the Rosie the Riveter Trust to the City of Richmond to fully repay the bridge loan approved by the City Council in connection with the restoration of the Maritime Center.

Cordell Hindler expressed his displeasure with the Richmond Police for stopping a friend of his for shaving in public.

Jackie Thompson corrected a statement that was made by Councilmember Ritterman at the March 20, 2012, City Council Meeting. Ms. Thompson stated that she was the one that scheduled a meeting with Councilmember Ritterman only to discuss how she was treated at a meeting with the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS).

Antwon Cloird stated that the City Council's behavior goes against the City's Code of Ethics.

Sims Thompson stated that the City of Richmond should address issues that are brought before the City Council by citizens.

Reverend Wesley Ellis stated that the City Council should also include the North Richmond area when making improvements in the City of Richmond.

Don Gosney stated that the City Council Meetings should be conducted in a manner that allows the City Council to address the City's business.

The following individuals spoke in support of the Men and Women of Valor: Dennis Tate, Dwight Adams, Gerald Bilbo, Reggie Russell, Steve Johnson, and Teri James.

Mike Ali encouraged the City Council not to endorse the parcel tax proposed by the West Contra Costa Unified School District.

Texanita Bluitt stated that citizens are concerned about the way the City Council was conducting business. She also encouraged Richmond Police Officers to enforce the laws that citizens are supposed to adhere to.

Tamish Walker spoke in support of the ONS. She stated that she prays that Councilmember Boozé would respect himself and would encourage ONS Director Devone Boggan and the Office of Neighborhood Safety staff to continue to work to save the lives of the citizens of Richmond.

Jeff Rutland stated that all citizens of Richmond need to work together to stop the violence.

Bea Roberson reminded everyone to attend the “Save a Life” training on Saturday, April 14, 2012, at the Nevin Center. Individuals may register for free classes at the American Red Cross.

Eleanor Thompson spoke in support of the ONS and stated that if the Director Devone Boggan left the ONS many young people could not find work with Employment and Training.

Tiombe Mashama spoke in support of the ONS.

Toxanne Alexander spoke in support of the Green Main Street Project.

Reverend Charles Newsome spoke in support of the ONS.

Antwon Jacobs spoke regarding his negative experience with City Government and the unacceptable behavior of the Richmond City Council.

Andres Soto stated that voter’s suppression may be accomplished through voter alienation. He stated that the unacceptable behavior of Councilmember Boozé was his way of alienating people against the Richmond City Council, the Richmond community, and others in a way to suppress votes. Mr. Soto encouraged citizens to follow the money, and it would lead back to where the voter’s suppression started, with Councilmember Boozé.

Michael Parker encouraged citizens to remember the murder of Trayvon Martin. He stated the Trayvon’s murder should remind the citizens of Richmond that the problems of Richmond are not just the problems of Richmond; they exist in the society and in the world. Mr. Parker stated that Trayvon Martin was a victim of racism and white fears which created institutions that allowed people to create vigilantes. Mr. Parker stated that he was pleased that the City of Richmond found alternatives that are progressive rather than reactionary thanks to the Richmond Police Department and the ONS.

Eduardo Martinez stated that volunteers are what make the City of Richmond great. He thanked the Men and Women of Valor, Men and Women of Purpose, Linda Snyder, and Reverend Henry Washington. If all the citizens of Richmond could unit as one garden of peace, it would be wonderful, starting with the City Council.

AGENDA REVIEW

Moved Item G-1 before Open Forum for Public Comment; withdrew Items I-1 and I-2 from the Agenda; move K-1 before I-3.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Mayor McLaughlin joined by Councilmembers Bates and Boozé presented a proclamation acknowledging the 79th Anniversary of the Galileo Club, the 73rd Anniversary of the Galileo Club Women Auxiliary, and Jimmy Rampoldi as recipient of the Galileo Club's 2012 Outstanding Service Award. Councilmembers Bates and Boozé gave comments. Members of the Galileo Club and Women's Auxiliary gave comments. Cordell Hindler also gave comments.

Mayor McLaughlin presented certificates recognizing the contributions of the Richmond Main Street Ambassadors. Director of Richmond Main Street Amanda Elliott gave comments and introduced Ambassadors and Partners who also gave comments regarding the experiences offered by Richmond Main Street. Antwon Cloird, Cordell Hindler, and Councilmember Beckles gave comments.

Mayor McLaughlin presented a proclamation honoring Richmond Tales 2012 Family Literacy Festival. The festival would be held on Sunday, April 29, 2012, noon to 4:00 p.m. in the Civic Center Plaza. Chair of West County Reads Kevin Hufferd thanked all the sponsors of the event and gave highlights of the events scheduled for the festival. Eduardo Martinez and Cordell Hindler also gave comments.

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

City Attorney Bruce Goodmiller reported that there were no reportable actions.

STUDY SESSION

Withdrew from the agenda the matter to receive a report from City Council Public Policy Intern Anna Johnson on the Office of Neighborhood Safety.

Withdrew from the agenda the matter to direct the city manager to contract with an outside agency to conduct a forensic audit of the Office of Neighborhood Safety.

The matter to receive a presentation of the Five-Year Financial Plan prepared by the Finance Department and provide comments to staff was presented by Finance Director James Goins, Finance Department staff Antonio Buella, Andrea Miller, Susan Segovia, and Assistant City Attorney Bruce Soublet. Cordell Hindler gave comments.

STUDY AND DIRECTION TO STAFF SESSION

The matter to study and consider "only" the following items relating to the efficiency and effectiveness of City Council meetings: (1) Establish an estimated time when each agenda item was anticipated to be heard by the City Council; (2) The city manager will designate one or more staff members who will be available at the Council Chambers from one-half hour prior to the regular meeting until the end of the meeting to answer any questions from the public about items on that night's agenda; (3) All presentations and proclamations would be heard on the fourth Tuesday except for truly time sensitive ones; and (4) Inform members of the public that the city clerk may state their support or opposition to an item on their behalf, instead of them actually speaking was presented by Vice Mayor Rogers. A motion was made by Councilmember Bates, seconded by Councilmember Boozé to hear the speakers that have signed up to speak on the item and then refer the item to a committee, appointed by Mayor McLaughlin, to come back to the City Council with a recommendation. The following individuals gave comments: Cordell Hindler, Jackie Thompson, and Naomi Williams. A substitute motion was made by Councilmember Butt to allow only the next speaker, adjourn, and continue the item to April 3, 2012, failed for lack of a second. The speakers continued with Pam Saucer Bilbo, Mike Ali, Reverend Wesley Ellis, Bea Roberson, and Don Gosney. A substitute motion was made by Councilmember Boozé to table the item failed for lack of a second. Councilmember Boozé withdrew his second on the original motion and Vice Mayor Rogers seconded the item. The original motion failed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Butt, and Vice Mayor Rogers. **Noes:** Councilmember Boozé and Mayor McLaughlin. **Abstentions:** Councilmember Ritterman. **Absent:** Councilmember Beckles.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

The matter to adopt a resolution approving the final mitigated negative declaration and approve a contract with Bay Cities Paving and Grading, the lowest responsive bidder, for the Via Verdi Repair Project San Pablo Creek Culvert Replacement in an amount not to exceed \$5,716,850.60, and approve a total budget of \$6,574,378.19 to provide for a city-controlled construction contingency not to exceed 15% City Engineer Edric Kwan and Tawfic Halaby gave an overview. A Bay Cities Paving and Grading representative gave comments. Bea Roberson gave comments. A motion was made by Councilmember Ritterman, seconded by Councilmember Butt to approve the final mitigated negative declaration and approve a contract with Bay Cities Paving and Grading. A friendly amendment was offered by Councilmember Bates to direct staff to submit a monthly report indicating the number of Richmond employees, subcontracts, and payroll information. The amendment

was accepted and **Resolution No. 43-12** was adopted and a contract with Bay Cities Paving and Grading was approved by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Boozé, Butt, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Rogers, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m. in memory of Trayvon Martin, a 17-year old teen who was fatally shot in Florida, to meet again on Tuesday, April 3, 2012, at 6:30 p.m.

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor