RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, October 25, 2016

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL


PUBLIC COMMENT

The city clerk announced that the purpose of the 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 LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Subdivision [a] of Government Code Section 54956.9):

City of Richmond vs. Chevron USA

LIABILITY CLAIMS - (Government Code Section 54956.9):

Patrick Jackson vs. City of Richmond
Raymond Dryer vs. City of Richmond

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957.6):

Title: City Attorney

Cordell Hindler gave comments regarding the performance evaluation for the city attorney.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:07 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:31 p.m., by Mayor Butt, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, McLaughlin, Myrick, Pimplé, Vice Mayor Martinez, and Mayor Butt. Absent: None.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.
AGENDA REVIEW

On motion of Vice Mayor Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Beckles, added an urgency item regarding a Cal Youth Soccer Grant Program application for discussion at the end of the agenda by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

E-1. Councilmembers Beckles and Myrick presented a proclamation recognizing Joseph Jackson for his contribution to the Richmond Youth Council.

E-2. Councilmember McLaughlin and Mayor Butt presented a proclamation to Herb Permillion, who is a long-time Panhandle Annex resident that has contributed to his community and is featured in a documentary called "California Typewriter". The recipient, Bea Roberson, and Kathleen Erwin gave comments.

E-3. Councilmember Pimplé and Mayor Butt presented a proclamation recognizing October 9th as National Chess Day and designating October as Chess Month in the City of Richmond. T.C. Ball also known as “The Black Night” of the West Coast Chess Alliance gave comments.

E-4. Mayor Butt presented a proclamation commemorating the 15th Anniversary of Richmond Main Street Initiative (RMSI). RMSI Executive Director Amanda Elliott, RMSI Boardmember Cynthia Hyden, and City of Richmond Economic Development Administrator Janet Johnson gave comments. Ms. Elliott announced the Richmond Main Street 15th Anniversary celebration on November 3, 2016, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., at the Riggers Loft Wine Company located at 1325 Canal Boulevard.

E-5. Mayor Butt announced the City of Richmond Boards and Commissions vacancies as of October 25, 2016, and asked that interested residents send applications to the City Clerk. Jackie Thompson gave comments.

REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY OF FINAL DECISIONS MADE DURING CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Bruce Goodmiller stated that there were no final actions taken.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Bill Lindsay reported that the Richmond Promise college scholarship program was officially a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that could receive tax-deductible donations.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Bea Roberson gave comments regarding the Richmond Progressive Alliance and the Police Department’s purchase of new tasers and body camera equipment discussed at the City Council meeting on October 18, 2016.

Andrew Dyes gave comments regarding financing for the Richmond Police and Fire Departments.
Richmond Sol Youth Soccer League Representatives Ken Quiros and Diego Garcia expressed concerns regarding the conditions of the bathrooms, surrounding areas, and safety at the city’s Martin Luther King Park. Mr. Garcia requested access to more soccer fields in the city.

Naomi Williams expressed appreciation for parking accommodations made at the Commission on Aging’s Zydeco Dance held on Saturday, October 22, 2016. Ms. Williams also gave comments regarding the game of chess.

Mark Wassberg gave comments regarding the Brown Act, constitutional rights, and the Richmond Progressive Alliance.

Richmond Main Street Boardmember Cindy Haden confirmed that the Richmond/El Cerrito Police and Fire Toy Drive Program was taking place this year. Only the first 500 families would be served by signing up on November 5, 2016, starting at 8:00 a.m. at the E.M. Downer YMCA located on South 20th and Main Streets.

Jackie Thompson expressed concerns regarding political campaigning rules in the Council Chamber and conduct of public speakers during Open Forum. Ms. Thompson requested that the Code Enforcement Division investigate the vacant residence on the 100 Block of 37th Street.

Rick Perez gave comments regarding the City Council meetings rules and procedures, the Pedie Perez case, and the Richmond Police Department. Mr. Perez recommended de-escalation training for police officers.

Jenine Ball expressed concerns regarding councilmembers attentiveness during Open Forum.

Gerald Smith gave comments regarding the term “adequate equipment” with regard to the Police Department and the case of Williams vs. Pennsylvania.

Patricia Perez pled for “changes.”

Arts and Culture Commission Co-Chair Sylvia Ledezman announced that she was the contest winner for the photo of the Richmond Marina printed on the covers of the Contra Costa County November 2016 Election Voter Information and Pollworker Reference guides.

Cynthia Armour announced that the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) had vacancies. BPAC meetings were held every second Monday at 5:30 p.m. in the City Hall building.

Councilmember Pimplé extended the Sikh communities' appreciation for support following a violent attack of a Sikh member.
I-1. The matter to receive a presentation and adopt a resolution approving the Addendum to the Richmond General Plan Update Environmental Impact Report and the final Climate Action Plan (CAP); and approve an amendment to the contract with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) for completion of the final CAP, increasing the contract amount by $30,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed $354,832; and direct staff to include an option of purchasing 100 percent renewable "Deep Green" electricity for city facilities as part of the mid-year budget review process; and direct staff to develop an energy efficiency and renewable energy incentive program was introduced by Administrative Chief Shasa Curl and presented by ESA Representative Jeff Caton, Project Manager Lina Velasco, and Environmental Manager Adam Lenz. Mr. Caton’s Powerpoint presentation included the following topics: definition of a CAP; community co-benefits framework; Richmond Green House Gas (GHG) emissions profile; the four CAP goals; Richmond’s GHG emissions trends; community input and partnerships; public review of the CAP; key revisions to the final CAP and environmental review; the CAP and General Plan Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; implementation action items and summary of ten actions that the community could take to support climate goals; pilot implementation with GRID Alternatives $816,000 investment for solar installations; key implementing actions; and operationalizing the CAP. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Bates recommended that staff conduct a study to track bicycle lanes usage on Barrett Avenue and South 23rd Street. Richard Stollings and Cynthia Armour gave comments. On motion of Councilmember Beckles, seconded by Vice Mayor Martinez, accepted staff’s recommendations and approved Resolution No. 101-16 by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

I-2. The matter to receive a report from Contra Costa Animal Services (CCAC) Director Beth Ward on the state of the department and services for the City of Richmond was presented with a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the following topics: CCAC’s departmental divisions; 2015 year-end review; years 2011 to 2015 live animal release rate comparison; Richmond animal services; shelter operations, adoptions, and transfers; animal medical services; field services; volunteers; CCAC’s administration and clerical division; activities on the horizon; opportunities and challenges; and four steps to support the local shelter. Discussion ensued. Ms. Ward announced the phone number to call to report deceased or stray animals was (925) 335-8300. Mayor Butt suggested that Ms. Ward provide clarification to the Police Department regarding barking dog complaints. Jackie Thompson gave comments.

I-3. The matter to receive a presentation from the Berkeley Film Foundation regarding its policies and potential clientele in Richmond was presented by its Program Director, David Bergad. Mr. Bergad was seeking a partnership with the city and a $10,000 grant from the city to support independent film makers. Discussion ensued. Mayor Butt requested Mr. Bergad to contact the Mayor’s Office for further discussion on this matter.

I-4. The matter to receive a report from the Housing and Community Development Director on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 Rental Assistance Program activity in the City of Richmond was presented by Housing and Community Development Director Tim Jones. Discussion ensued. Jackie Thompson gave comments.
The matter of an urgency item to authorize the city manager to send a letter of commitment of $20,000 in matching funds for the State of California Youth Soccer Grant Program application to be submitted by the Sports Fields Joint Power Agreement (JPA), with any grant proceeds to be used to construct new project elements at the Gilman Sports Fields was introduced by Mayor Butt. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Bates recommended that staff request the Sports Fields JPA to use the population for each city it represents to determine the number of teams that will utilize the facility for equal representation. Bea Roberson, Richard Stollings, and Diego Garcia gave comments. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Martinez, seconded by Councilmember Bates, authorizing the city manager to send letter of commitment of $20,000 and a second letter stating the commitment was sent in good faith and that the city expects to have an evaluation of the soccer fields usage to achieve equity for all cities. The motion passed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmember Bates, McLaughlin, Pimplé, Vice Mayor Martinez, and Mayor Butt. Noes: Councilmember Beckles. Abstentions: Councilmember Myrick. Absent: None.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS; REFERRALS TO STAFF, AND GENERAL REPORTS (INCLUDING AB 1234 REPORTS)

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m., in memory of Richmond Businessman Frank Pio and SS Red Oak Victory Ship/Rosie the Riveter Nature Volunteer Ivan Peter Sturman, to meet again on Tuesday, November 1, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.

Pamela Christian
Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Tom Butt
Mayor