

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, May 23, 2017

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ben Choi, Eduardo Martinez, Gayle McLaughlin, Melvin Willis, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Jael Myrick and Vice Mayor Jovanka Beckles arrived after the roll was called.

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):

In re Bond Insurance Litigation

There were no public speakers.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 6:01 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:38 p.m., by Mayor Butt, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, McLaughlin, Willis, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Myrick arrived after the roll was called.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

Item K-1 was moved for discussion directly before item J-1.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

E-1. Councilmember McLaughlin presented a proclamation acknowledging Mr. Tim Wilson for his contribution and commitment to the music program at Lovonya Dejean Middle School. West Contra Costa Unified School District Coordinator of Visual and Performing Arts Patrick Martin gave comments.

E-2. The Council presented a proclamation declaring June 2017 as Diversity Celebration Month in the City of Richmond and to fly the flags of Juneteenth, Native American Powwow, and the Rainbow Flag the entire month of June. Naomi Williams announced the Juneteenth parade on June 17, 2017, starting at 10:00 a.m. Mark Wassberg and Cesar Zepeda gave comments.

E-3. Mayor Butt presented certificates to the Richmond Crime Prevention TECHS All-Stars Reading Is Fun Book Club students. Youth Program Coordinator Felicia Taylor gave an overview of the book club and acknowledged supporters.

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

City Attorney Bruce Goodmiller reported that the Council authorized a favorable settlement agreement with Ambac, a bond insurance company, regarding an ongoing litigation.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Bill Lindsay elected to dispense with a report in the essence of time.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Naomi Williams announced that she was informed that a traffic study conducted at Center and 37th Streets qualified the intersection for a four-way stop sign. Ms. Williams expressed her gratitude to all involved.

Mark Wassberg gave comments regarding immigration, United States citizenship, and constitutional rights.

Andre Jackson encouraged City of Richmond leaders, pastors, and homeowners to participate in the 'Sweeping the City' event on Saturday, May 27, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Men & Women of Valor, 1350 Kelsey Street, Richmond. Registration began at 8:30 a.m.

Rick Perez and Patricia Perez gave comments regarding the Pedie Perez case and their attendance to a police and citizens barbershop forum.

Ben Therriault expressed his appreciation to City of Richmond leaders and staff for attending the Police Department's formation on Thursday, May 18, 2017. Mr. Therriault requested the Council to take a stand against Senate Bill 620 regarding mandatory minimums for firearm offenses.

K. Harley announced that she had a petition posted on www.change.org called the 'Value Human Life Bill'. Ms. Harley requested clarification on the City of Richmond's policy against distribution of flyers by the public in the Council Chamber.

Kathy Robinson gave comments regarding homelessness and violence.

(Discussion ensued regarding the policy on distribution of flyers by members of the public in the Council Chamber. The Council recommended that this matter be placed on a future agenda for further discussion).

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Vice Mayor Beckles, seconded by Councilmember Willis, the item(s) marked with an (*) were approved by the unanimous vote of the City Council:

*I-1. Approved a lease agreement with Dutra Group for tug and barge operations at Basin 2 of the Point Potrero Marine Terminal, providing annual revenue to the Port of \$198,000.00. The lease term is for five years beginning June 1, 2017, with one five-year extension at the option of the tenant.

*I-2. Adopted **Resolution No. 55-17** authorizing the installation of a 4-way stop traffic control at the intersection of Ohio Avenue and 2nd Street. This item was continued from the May 16, 2017, meeting.

BUDGET SESSION

J-1. The matter to receive a continuation of presentations from the May 16, 2017, City Council meeting from department representatives, providing an overview of their proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18 was introduced by Finance Director Belinda Warner and Budget Administrator Markisha Guillory. Ms. Warner provided an explanation for the variances in benefits budgetary line items as requested by the Council at its May 16, 2017, meeting. The following departments presented PowerPoint presentations that highlighted their proposed mission, goals, staff, and operating budget: Successor Agency (to the Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency); Water Resource Recovery (WRR); and Port. Discussion ensued. The Council requested more information from the WRR Department regarding impacts to stormwater management by proposed Senate Bill 231 (to redefine "sewer" to include stormwater).

STUDY AND ACTION SESSION

K-1. The matter to receive a presentation by Friends of the Public Bank of Oakland (FPBO) and adopt a resolution to endorse the efforts of the City of Oakland to create a public bank for Oakland and to investigate the possibility of forming a partnership with any future public bank of Oakland or regional public bank was introduced by Councilmember Martinez. FPBO Attorney Craig Brandt provided an oral report. Discussion ensued. Marilyn Langlois gave comments. Further discussion ensued. A motion was made by Councilmember Martinez to adopt said resolution, seconded by Councilmember Willis. Further discussion ensued. A friendly amendment by

Mayor Butt to omit the last two “be it further resolved” statements from said resolution was not accepted. Another friendly amendment by Councilmember Myrick to omit only the last “be it further resolved” statement from said resolution was not accepted. Further discussion ensued. The initial motion adopted **Resolution No. 56-17** by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, McLaughlin, Myrick, Willis, and Vice Mayor Beckles. **Noes:** Mayor Butt. **Absent:** None. **Abstentions:** None.

K-2. The matter to receive a report from the Council-established committee of bargaining unit representatives concerning its recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2017-18 budget was introduced by City Manager Bill Lindsay. The following representatives presented recommendations: Richmond Police Officers Association President Ben Therriault; International Federation of Professional and Technical Employees (IFPTE), Local 21 Representative Dee Karnes; IFPTE, Local 21 Executive Management President Tim Higaes; Richmond Fire Management Association Representative Marcus Rayon; and Service Employees' International Union, Local 1021 Representatives Meredith Staples and Yen Do.

K-3. The matter to review and discuss options for City of Richmond paratransit service and provide direction to staff continued from the May 16, 2017, meeting was introduced by City Manager Bill Lindsay. Project Manager Lori Reese-Brown presented a Powerpoint presentation that highlighted the following: Transportation Division organizational chart; statement of the issues; current operating environment and budget deficit; programmatic and service challenges; employee service changes report; and recommended cost-effective options to consider. Discussion ensued. The Council requested staff to consider local taxi companies for paratransit service as an option instead of private transportation companies. The following speakers gave comments: Peter Engel, Naomi Williams, Sam Casas, Marisol Contreras, and Maria Contreras. Mr. Lindsay provided responses to ‘The Sustainable Paratransit Option (TSPO)’ budget and recommendations proposed by Program Coordinator Sam Casas. The Council suggested the use of Medi-Cal reimbursements to increase revenue for paratransit services. The Council requested responses to the fundamental questions listed on the TSPO document for each of staff’s recommended options for paratransit service. The Council directed staff to explore the following three options and return to the Council at a future meeting with costs and feasibility: (1) seek the services of a contract service provider (either private or public) that can provide paratransit service; (2) provide service for non-ambulatory passengers only, and seek a contract with a ride-sharing service to provide services to ambulatory passengers; and (3) merge Richmond’s paratransit service with a qualified paratransit service provider having the experience, resources, and ability to provide an efficient paratransit program. The Council requested staff to provide the pros and cons of each option. The Council suggested that the cost per trip would be reduced with increased ridership. The Council requested staff to research how other transportation agencies provide temporary replacement

workers when permanent workers were out on leave. The Council requested staff to explore the use of one-time Environmental Community Investment Agreement (ECIA) funds to offset the paratransit program's budget deficit.

(At approximately 10:56 p.m., a discussion ensued regarding the urgency of item K-4 and continuing the item to the next meeting. A motion made by Councilmember Myrick to extend the meeting to 11:20 p.m. to provide policy direction to staff for item K-4, seconded by Councilmember McLaughlin, passed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, McLaughlin, Myrick, and Willis. Noes: Vice Mayor Beckles and Mayor Butt. Absent: None. Abstentions: None).

K-4. The matter to discuss and provide direction to staff regarding (1) the proposed process for the Environmental Community Investment Agreement (ECIA) Grant Fund Category 3, City Council Approved Award, and (2) the guidelines and application for Category 4, Community Services Mini-Grant Award; and authorize staff to initiate the approved processes for Fiscal Year 2017-18 was presented by Senior Management Analyst LaShonda White and Supervising Office Assistant Patrick Seals. The Powerpoint presentation highlighted the following: Current grant categories 1 and 2; proposed Category 3, Council Award (\$50,000); proposed Category 4, Community Service Mini Grant (\$50,000); and next steps. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Willis, to accept staff recommendations. Further discussion ensued. The Council requested staff to add a column to the list of Category 3 applicants to show those with operating costs of less than 10% of revenues. The Council recommended that the review and evaluation work to determine Category 3 grant awards be performed by staff on an objective basis, and not by the Council. The motion maker amended the initial motion to accept staff recommendations and re-address award criteria for Category 3 when staff returns to the Council to review the ECIA budget at a future meeting. The amended motion passed by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

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

Councilmember Martinez reported that he traveled to Fresno and Visalia, California to discuss water rights.

Councilmember Willis reported on the 'Taste of Richmond' event held on May 20, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:17 p.m., in memory of the following: former Mayor's Office Assistant Ms. Bobbie Arnold; former City of Richmond Police Department Chaplain George Epps; City of Richmond Finance Department employees' father Jerry Gurule Sr.; and retired Richmond

police officers Rufus Kennedy and Doug Maples, to meet again on Tuesday, June 6, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

Pamela Christian

Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Tom Butt

Mayor