RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, October 24, 2017

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 6:02 p.m., by Mayor Thomas K. Butt, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ben Choi, Eduardo Martinez, Jael Myrick, Ada Recinos, Melvin Willis, Vice Mayor Jovanka Beckles, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. Absent: None.

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):

Menlo Westridge vs. City of Richmond

There were no speakers.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 6:02 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:33 p.m., by Mayor Butt.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, Myrick, Recinos, Willis, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor Butt. Absent: None.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

Item J-3 was moved for discussion immediately following approval of the Consent Calendar.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

E-1. Vice Mayor Beckles read a proclamation, co-sponsored by Councilmember Willis, recognizing October as National Bullying Prevention Month. The vice mayor stated that the proclamation would be forwarded to West County Child and Adolescent Services. Cordell Hindler gave comments.
E-2. Mayor Butt presented a proclamation to the Richmond Food Policy Council declaring October 24, 2017, to October 28, 2017 as Food Week in the City of Richmond.

E-3. Mayor Butt presented a Mayoral Certificate of Commendation to Mr. Antonio “Tony” Hernandez in recognition of his valiant actions responding to a house fire in Richmond. Don Gosney gave comments.

E-4. Mayor Butt announced recent resignations from City of Richmond Boards, Commissions, and Committees and announced vacancies on City of Richmond Boards, Commissions, and Committees as of October 24, 2017, and asked that interested individuals send applications to the City Clerk. The following speakers gave comments: Cordell Hindler, Connie Portero, and Diego Garcia. Discussion ensued concerning the Point Molate Community Advisory Committee.

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

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

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Bill Lindsay reported that the City of Richmond received from GRID Alternatives the 2017 Solar Access Champion Award honoring the city’s renewable energy and environmental justice leadership. Mr. Lindsay announced that the City of Richmond had partnered with the Richmond Community Foundation to build the city’s first all-electric zero net energy home through its social impact bond program.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Cordell Hindler displayed job descriptions for the City of Berkeley’s deputy and assistant city manager. Mr. Hinder explained that both positions were assigned to attend Berkeley boards and commissions meetings. Mr. Hindler requested timely City Council meetings. Mr. Hinder expressed his gratitude for the Council’s acknowledgment of his Richmond boards and commissions recruitment efforts.

Kathy Robinson acknowledged the councilmembers and staff that visited a homeless program in Richmond. Ms. Robinson expressed concerns regarding the lack of funds in the City of Richmond’s budget for the homeless. Ms. Robinson urged the Council to provide financial support to the homeless.

Don Gosney gave comments regarding solar units installed throughout Richmond. Mr. Gosney inquired about why the City of Richmond was absent of solar units at its facilities and parking lots. Mr. Gosney recommended that a study session be agendized to discuss the matter further.
Theresa Russell gave comments regarding former members of the Office of Neighborhood Safety Operation Peacemaker Fellowship program that allegedly committed crimes. Ms. Russell expressed concerns that the program’s success guidelines were insufficient and demanded transparency and accountability.

Mr. Stollings requested information on Richmond’s community policing and expressed concerns regarding transparency.

Eleanor Thompson gave comments regarding police shootings and racial profiling. Mrs. Thompson clarified that negative comments against police officers applied only to those that have displayed misconduct.

Rick Perez expressed that he was the number one recipient, on behalf of Pedie Perez, of bullying by the Richmond Police Department. Mr. Perez gave comments regarding police misconduct and citizens distrust.

Naomi Williams announced the Holiday Helpers Fundraising Breakfast on November 10, 2017, at 7:30 a.m. at Courtyard by Marriott Hilltop. Minimum donation was $20.00 (tax deductible) to support the Richmond Fire and Police Toy Program. Ms. Williams commended Richmond resident Cordell Hindler for his participation at various community meetings.

Patricia Perez announced that her family’s purpose for attending City Council and community meetings was to bring awareness to citizens regarding the Pedie Perez case. Ms. Perez distributed handouts to the Council.

**CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR**

On motion of Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Recinos, the item(s) marked with an (*) were approved by the unanimous vote of the City Council:

* I-1. Introduced an ordinance (first reading) establishing the wages, salary, and compensation for the new classification of Hearing Examiner, Rent Program (Salary Range No. 3.1 $9,024 - $14,364/month).

* I-2. Introduced an ordinance (first reading) establishing the wages, salary, and compensation for the new classification of Executive Director, Rent Program (Salary Range No. 3.1: $9,024-$14,364/month).

* I-3. Introduced an ordinance (first reading) establishing the wages, salary, and compensation for the new classification of Deputy Director, Rent Program (Salary Range No. 2.1 $8,087 - $12,873/month).

* I-4. Adopted Resolution No. 124-17 amending the City of Richmond's Position Classification Plan to add the new classification of Hearing Examiner, Rent Program.

* I-5. Adopted Resolution No. 125-17 amending the City of Richmond's Position Classification Plan to add the new classification of Executive Director, Rent Program.
*I-6. Adopted Resolution No. 126-17 a resolution amending the City of Richmond’s Position Classification Plan to add the new classification of Deputy Director, Rent Program.


*I-8. Adopted Resolution No. 127-17 updating the 2006 City Council Expense and Expenditure Policy which regulates travel and reimbursements for the mayor and councilmembers.

STUDY AND ACTION SESSION

J-1. The matter to receive a report regarding the City’s effort to implement the Fair Chance Access to Affordable Housing ordinance; determine what roadblocks, if any, are preventing implementation; and hear recommendations on how best to implement the ordinance was introduced by Councilmember Myrick. City Manager Bill Lindsay presented a Powerpoint that highlighted the following: ordinance coverage; developed inventory of affordable units; outreach to housing providers and tenants; appeal hearing process; and program cost. Discussion ensued. Kara Brodfuehrer and LaDamien Flowers gave comments.

J-2. The matter to receive a presentation and report regarding the City of Richmond’s 2017 Community Survey results, and provide direction to staff as appropriate was presented by Senior Management Analyst LaShonda White. Ms. White’s Powerpoint highlighted the following: uses of survey results; 568 total surveys; survey respondent demographic; high-level highlights; survey results: maintaining and enhancing the physical environment, promoting a safe and secure community, public safety, promoting economic vitality, economy and income, promoting sustainable communities, self-reported health, promoting effective government, community characteristics, special topics, and programming needs for youth; top issues to address in the next two years; other reports; demographic and geographic comparisons reports; “how are results being used?”; and next steps. Discussion ensued. The Council requested survey results related to affordable housing. The Council requested the percentage of surveys returned based on Richmond’s population and geographical areas. Cordell Hindler gave comments.

J-3. The matter to receive a report regarding the City of Richmond Homeless Taskforce was introduced by Councilmembers Willis, Choi, and Myrick. Richmond Crime Prevention Coordinator Michelle Milam presented a Powerpoint that highlighted the following: vision, mission, and establishment of the Homeless Taskforce; taskforce members and activities; homelessness in Richmond; “where can the homeless go?”; recipe for failure and urgency for the City of Richmond to address homelessness issues; numerous encampments on the public
right-of-way in Richmond; 2017 Point in Time Count annual survey results; Mobile Homeless Coordinated Outreach Referral Engagement (CORE) teams; Contra Costa County Coordinated Entry Model; CORE data for Richmond; 2017 Taskforce Retreat; homeless data enhancement; priority #3: establish a “Safe Park” community; priority #2: create a City of Richmond homeless fund; and priority #1: support and augment mobile homeless services. Discussion ensued. The Council requested staff to provide all councilmembers with data and a map of Richmond homeless encampments. The following speakers gave comments: Cordell Hindler, Daniel Barth, Kathy Robinson, and Carole Johnson.

J-4. The matter to receive a presentation on Zero Net Energy (ZNE) building best practices and provide direction to staff was presented by Environmental Manager Adam Lenz, Planning Project Manager Lina Velasco, and Energy Solutions Consultant Nate Dewart. Mr. Lenz provided background information and presented a Powerpoint that highlighted the following: recommended action; ZNE definition; Climate Action Plan implementation; green energy leadership; residential greenhouse gas inventory; benefits of electrification; gas vs. electric heat pump; Richmond Community Foundation social impact bond ZNE pilot homes; gas meter installation costs; new construction building cost differential; California Green cost-effectiveness study (PG&E 2016); state building code process; potential ZNE building concepts; ZNE incentive program elements; and a reiteration of the council recommended action. Discussion ensued. A motion was made by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Vice Mayor Beckles, to accept the recommended action directing staff to develop 1) a ZNE ordinance with minimum requirements that go beyond the California Building Energy Code; and 2) ZNE incentive-based programs using Environmental and Community Investment Agreement funding. The Council recommended that staff seek energy efficiency subsidy funding from Pacific Gas and Electric and Marin Clean Energy. The motion passed by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

(At approximately 10:09 p.m., Councilmember Willis departed the meeting).

J-5. The matter to receive a report on the Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commission Delegation to Zhoushan, China to attend the 3rd Annual International Island Tourism Conference was presented by Councilmember Martinez, Port Director Jim Matzorkis, and Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commissioner Eric Peterson. Councilmember Martinez’s Powerpoint highlighted the following: Richmond Delegation at the welcome banquet; Richmond both at tourism expo; connections made throughout the conference; Richmond-Zhoushan Friendship Commissioner Sara “Min” Zhao’s representation at the expo; representatives for the Richmond-Zhoushan Educational Initiative; International Tourism Development and Investment Forum; promoting Richmond; sister city agreement and gift for the City of Richmond from Zhoushan; conversations and interest in
Richmond at the conference; Maritime and Zhejiang Ocean universities; importance of sister cities; and next steps. Eric Peterson gave comments.

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

Councilmember Martinez reported on his attendance at a conference, sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Estuary, on sea level rise.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 p.m., in memory of former City of San Pablo Mayor Joe Gomes, to meet again on Tuesday, November 7, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

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Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

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Mayor