

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, October 6, 2020

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Thomas K. Butt via teleconference.

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Contra Costa County and Governor Gavin Newsom issued multiple orders requiring sheltering in place, social distancing, and reduction of person-to-person contact. Accordingly, Governor Gavin Newsom issued executive orders that allowed cities to hold public meetings via teleconferencing (Executive Order N-29-20).

DUE TO THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDERS, attendance at the City of Richmond City Council meeting was limited to Councilmembers, essential City of Richmond staff, and members of the news media. Public comment was confined to items appearing on the agenda and was limited to the methods provided below. Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting utilized teleconferencing only. The following provides information on how the public participated in the meeting.

The public was able to view the meeting from home on KCRT Comcast Channel 28 or AT&T Uverse Channel 99 and livestream online at <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/3178/KCRT-Live>.

*Written public comments were received via email to cityclerkdept@ci.richmond.ca.us. Comments received by 1:00 p.m. on October 6, 2020, were summarized at the meeting, put into the record, and considered before Council action. Comments received via email after 1:00 p.m. and up until the public comment period on the relevant agenda item closed, were put into the record. Public comments were also received via teleconference during the meeting. **Attached herewith all written public comments received.***

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ben Choi, Demnlus Johnson III, Jael Myrick, Vice Mayor Nathaniel Bates, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmembers Eduardo Martinez and Melvin Willis arrived after the Open Session adjourned to Closed Session.

City Manager Laura Snideman requested the Council to consider adding an emergency item to the Closed Session agenda that was related to her ability to perform. The request was made as set forth in the Brown Act guidelines for adding an urgent item to the agenda during the meeting and required a two-thirds vote. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, added an emergency performance evaluation for the city manager as the last item on the Closed Session agenda by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson, Myrick, Willis, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Martinez. **Abstained:** None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The city clerk announced the public comment procedures and 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 -
ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of Subdivision (d) [as applicable] of Government Code Section 54956.9):

One case

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING
LITIGATION (paragraph (1) of Subdivision [d] of Government Code Section 54956.9):

Yanez v. City of Richmond et al.

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
(Government Code Section 54957.6):

Agency Representatives: Jack Hughes

Employee organizations:

1. SEIU Local 1021 Full-Time Unit
2. SEIU Local 1021 Part-Time Unit
3. IFPTE Local 21 Mid-Level Management Unit
4. IFPTE Local 21 Executive Management Unit
5. Richmond Police Officers Association RPOA
6. Richmond Police Management Association RPMA
7. IAFF Local 188
8. Richmond Fire Management Association RFMA

EMERGENCY ITEM ADDED DURING THE MEETING

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
(Government Code Section 54957):

City Manager

There were no public comments via teleconference.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:04 p.m.
Closed Session adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Butt via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Choi, Johnson, Martinez, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Myrick arrived after roll call. Councilmember Willis was absent for the entire meeting.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

The name of an appointee listed for item G-13 was corrected to state, “Nakari ~~Sydney~~ **Syon**”. Item H-1 was continued to the October 20, 2020, City Council meeting. Item G-13 was removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion at the end of the agenda.

The city clerk announced the public comment procedure published in the agenda.

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

Interim City Attorney Rachel Sommovilla stated there were no final actions to report.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Laura Snideman announced there were two virtual community forums on investing in Richmond's youth programs and services on October 7, 2020. Additional information was available online at www.richmondyouth.org or by calling (510) 620-6523. Ms. Snideman also announced there was a listening session in honor of Manufacturing Day on October 9, 2020, and a virtual Spirit and Soul Festival on October 17, 2020.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals gave comments via teleconference:

Mike Parker expressed concerns regarding the current status of the City of Richmond's budget deficit and financial obligations. Mr. Parker gave comments in support of California State Proposition 15 and the City of Richmond's Measure U on the November 3, 2020, General Election ballot. Mr. Parker encouraged everyone to promote and vote in support of the proposition and measure.

Randy Joseph announced the Richmond Reimagining Public Safety Working Group's open forum event on October 8, 2020, on Facebook Live. Mr. Joseph encouraged everyone to complete a survey on the working group's Facebook and Instagram pages. Mr. Joseph provided his email at RFJoseph23@gmail.com for additional information.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Myrick, the items marked with an (*) were approved by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson, Martinez, Myrick, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Willis. **Abstained:** None.

***G-1.** Approved a contract amendment No. 4 with Goldfarb & Lipman, LLP to increase its contract limit by \$60,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$100,000, to continue to assist the Community Development Department with the implementation of recent housing laws, including SB 35, SB 330, AB 881, and completing updates to the City of Richmond's inclusionary housing ordinance, with a term ending June 30, 2022.

***G-2.** Adopted **Resolution No. 105-20** extending the age limit of the Richmond Youth Council members to 23 years of age and establishing a quorum as half of the appointed members plus one.

***G-3.** Approved the minutes of the September 8, 2020, Special Meeting of the City Council and the September 15 and 22, 2020, Regular Meetings of the City Council.

***G-4.** Approved a contract with HR&A Advisors, Inc. to provide technical assistance to complete an Economic Development Action Plan (EDAP), which consists of a Short-Term Local Business Recovery Action Plan (STLBRAP) and a Business and Investment Attraction Strategy (BIAS) for a contract amount of \$140,000, and a contingency amount of \$20,000, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$160,000, and term ending December 31, 2021.

***G-5.** Received the City of Richmond's Investment and Cash Balance Report for the month of August 2020.

***G-6.** Approved an agreement with Boudreau and Associates to secure permits and related activities for the maintenance dredging of Terminal 2 in an amount not to exceed \$165,000.

***G-7.** Approved: (1) the Subscription License Agreement and (2) the Perpetual License Agreement with Innovative Interfaces, Inc.'s Integrated Library System (ILS) that includes maintenance and support, web hosting, specialized modules to enhance services, a subscription to Link+ resource sharing, and staff training, in an amount not to exceed \$160,000 per year for a five-year period, effective July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2025.

***G-8.** Proclamation declaring September 26 to October 4, 2020, as National Drive Electric Week in the City of Richmond.

***G-9.** Proclamation declaring October 7, 2020, as California Clean Air Day in the City of Richmond.

***G-10.** Approved a contract with Xebec Data Corp to provide weekly Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) services that allow the City to import Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E), East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) bills and energy data usage into the City of Richmond's web-based Energy Manager database to process city utility bills via electronic payments in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 per five year period for Fiscal Years 2020-2021 through 2024-2025 with the option to extend at five-year intervals through the life of the Energy Manager software or until there are alternative formats in which the utility companies submit their billing.

***G-11.** Approved a sole-source contract with KAPPE Architects, to update the 2015 construction documents for the Parchester Community Center ADA Improvements to prepare them to bid and construction and provide construction support in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 at 900 Williams Drive.

***G-12.** Approved contract with Knorr Systems Inc. to replace the pool water heater at the Richmond Swim Center at 4300 Cutting Boulevard, in an amount not to exceed \$140,000.

G-13. The matter to approve the appointments of the following nominees to the Re-Imagining Public Safety Task Force: Mayor Butt: Joey Schlemmer, James Lee, David Tucker; Vice-Mayor Bates: Don Gosney, Ben Therriault, Linda Jackson-Whitmore; Councilmember Choi: Tania Pulido, Kristin Kilian Lobos, Marcus Njissang; Councilmember Johnson III: DeWanda Joseph, Armond Lee, Randy Joseph; Councilmember Martinez: Tamisha Walker, BK Williams, Andres Soto; Councilmember Myrick: Nakari ~~Sydney~~Syon, Deborah Small, Jasmine Frye; and Councilmember Willis: Laura Mangle, Luis Chacon, Shirley Leslie was introduced by Mayor Butt. Discussion ensued. The Council requested that the residential addresses for the appointees be provided to the city clerk. Randy Joseph and Mike Parker gave comments via teleconference. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, approved the appointments of said nominees to the Re-Imagining Public Safety Task Force by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson, Martinez, Myrick, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Willis. **Abstained:** None.

***G-14.** Adopted **Resolution No. 106-20** establishing the City of Richmond's Authorized Financing Firms list to provide equipment and vehicle lease-purchase financing options.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

H-1. Continued to October 2020, the matter to introduce an ordinance (first reading) amending section 15.04.104.020, Definitions, section 15.04.201.020, Land Use Regulations, section 15.04.201.030.A, Accessory Building Height, section 15.04.201.050.B, Accessory Building Height, section 15.04.202.020, Land Use Regulations, section 15.04.607.040, Calculation of Parking Requirements, and section 15.04.610.030, Accessory Short-Term Rentals ("Home-Shares") and repealing section 15.04.610.020, Accessory Dwelling Units, and adopting section 15.04.610.020, Accessory Dwelling Units and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units of the Richmond Municipal Code Regarding Accessory Dwelling Units and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units.

BUDGET SESSION

I-1. The matter to receive updates on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 budget overall, position control, deferred maintenance and capital improvements, the Rent Program cash position, and negative cash balances; and, adopt a resolution approving the FY 2019-20 year-end budget adjustments was introduced by Finance Director Belinda Brown. Mrs. Brown presented a Powerpoint that highlighted said updates and the following: Budget goals, the current deficit of \$6 million; FY 2019-20 General Fund year-end preliminary summary; FY 2019-20 year-end budget adjustments; and next steps. Discussion ensued. On motion of Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, adopted **Resolution No. 107-20** by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Johnson, Martinez, Myrick, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Willis. **Abstained:** None.

COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

J-1. The matter to receive a presentation from the Fire Department regarding wildfire prevention and preparedness in the City's Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones was introduced by Fire Marshal Eric Govan. Mr. Govan presented a Powerpoint that highlighted the following: Wildland Urban Interface; recent fires and fire history in Contra Costa and Alameda counties; very high fire hazard severity zones; Community Wildfire Protection Plans; Richmond Fire Vegetation Management Program; and wildfire preparedness and prevention. Emergency Services Manager Genevieve Pastor-Cohen presented the components of developing a family plan and evacuation. Mr. Govan concluded the presentation with educational resources available online at <https://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/wildfire>. Discussion ensued. The Council requested the Fire Department to present a plan addressing the City of Richmond's high fire zone areas at a future City Council study session.

J-2. The matter to authorize staff to seek reinstatement of board membership on the Oakland Airport-Community Noise Management Forum was introduced by Mayor Butt. Mayor Butt highlighted concerns from the community regarding the change of air flight paths over Richmond. Mayor Butt advised that if the board membership was accepted, the Council would appoint one City of Richmond official and resident to serve on the board to voice regional air path concerns. Discussion ensued. On motion of Vice Mayor Bates, seconded by Councilmember Myrick, authorized staff to seek reinstatement of board membership on the Oakland Airport-Community Noise Management Forum by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, Myrick, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Councilmembers Johnson and Willis. **Abstained:** None.

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

Councilmember Martinez announced that he attended a workshop regarding Community Engagement to Ownership co-hosted by the Richmond Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) team and the Healthy Richmond organization.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m., in memory of Willie Haywood, Betty Griffin, and Eunice Livingston, to meet again on Tuesday, October 20, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor

From: [Cordell Hindler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Subject: OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Date: Thursday, October 01, 2020 9:38:21 PM

hello Sabrina, i have a couple of comments for the record:

1. i have a member of the Youth Council who is working with me on a couple of Projects that i will share with Council at a later date.
2. also i feel that the City should allow 10 people to come back to the council chambers social distanced from one another and it would be very helpful.

sincerely
Cordell

From: [Cordell Hindler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Subject: BUDGET SESSION I-1. RECEIVE updates on the Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget overall,
Date: Thursday, October 01, 2020 10:06:47 PM

hello Sabrina, i have a couple of Comments in related to I-1

as i was looking at the Budget Adjustments in table 2.

if Memory serves correctly, i had suggested Koff and Associates to do the Class and comp Study

in Conclusion i have reviewed the presentation, i am Directing the Council to pass the ordinance

sincerely
Cordell

From: [Savitri Khalsa](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Cc: [Tom Butt - external](#); [Ben Choi](#); [Nat Bates](#); [Eduardo Martinez](#); [Demnlus Johnson](#); [Jael Myrick](#); [Melvin Willis](#); [Laura Snideman](#)
Subject: Public Comment Agenda Item J-2.
Date: Saturday, October 03, 2020 8:47:26 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)

Dear Honorable Richmond City Councilors, City Manager Snideman, and City Clerk Christian,

In reference to Agenda Item J-2. Please authorize Richmond city staff to pursue board membership on the **Oakland Airport Noise Management Forum**.

I own a small home in Richmond and do not want FAA flight paths shifted to fly over central city Richmond.

In a time where our fair city is already faced with pollution of many sorts. The noise pollution of train horns, freeway noise, sirens, gunshots, and fireworks are already too great in Richmond.

We do *not* need to add noise from aircraft flying overhead.

We have to show up as a city and represent our point of view.

I'm sure our city servants will do a wonderful job advocating on behalf of the citizenry.

Please take this opportunity and approve Agenda Item J-2, so Richmond can take action before flight paths are approved.

Thank you for your consideration.

Savitri Kaur Khalsa
531 29th St.
Richmond, CA 94804

