

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, November 24, 2020

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 6:00 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 November 24, 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, Eduardo Martinez, Vice Mayor Nathaniel Bates, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Jael Myrick and Melvin Willis arrived after the Open Session adjourned to Closed Session.

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

Hayes v. City of Richmond et al.

There were no public comments via teleconference.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 6:01 p.m.
Closed Session adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Butt via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Choi, Martinez, Myrick, Johnson III, Willis, Vice Mayor Bates, and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** None.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

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

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

City Attorney Teresa Stricker stated that there were no final actions to report.

REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Laura Snideman wished everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The following individuals gave comments via teleconference:

Tom Phelps and Marcus Shamoey gave comments regarding mutual aid agreements with the city and in opposition to fire station closures.

Jeanne Kortz and Pam Stello gave comments regarding difficulties not being able to speak during public comment at the recent Planning Commission meeting and in opposition to approval of the project without addressing all of the toxicity issues.

Tarnel Abbott gave comments regarding toxic chemicals at the Campus Bay/Zeneca site and asked that another Human Health Risk Assessment be conducted.

Gayle McLaughlin gave comments regarding the Zeneca site and stated that the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) was not doing the cleanup job properly. Ms. McLaughlin also stated that many members of the public were not allowed to speak during the Planning Commission meeting regarding this topic last week.

Carolyn Graves stated that public participation via teleconference in public meetings was challenging and problematic since COVID-19.

Deborah Bayer spoke in opposition of the Planning Commission's approval of the Campus Bay/Zeneca project due to many unresolved issues regarding the toxicity of the site.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Councilmember Johnson III, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, the items marked with an (*) were approved by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

***G-1.** Adopted **Resolution No. 129-20**, authorizing Veolia Water to manage and award contracts for the First Street and Bissell Avenue Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project to W.R. Forde, Inc. (construction) and Questa Engineering (testing and inspection) for an amount not to exceed \$366,594 [project cost of \$335,229 plus a 10% contingency cost of \$31,365].

***G-2.** Adopted **Resolution No. 130-20**, amending Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget to cover the cost(s) required to complete the Stormwater Master Plan by Nichols Consulting Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$41,000.

G-3. The matter to introduce an ordinance to amend Chapter 3.54 of the Richmond Municipal Code (RMC) entitled the Community Police Review Commission (CPRC) to allow the CPRC to provide further oversight was presented by Councilmember Myrick who provided an overview of the matter. Councilmember Martinez requested an addition to the ordinance under Section 3.54.080 (e) Powers and Duties to read as follows: *"and to serve in the promotional process for police officers"*. Attorney Bruce Soublet replied that this matter would have to be discussed for possible addition to the ordinance through the meet and confer process with the police union. The following individuals gave comments via teleconference: Yenny Garcia, Ben Therriault, Mike Parker, and Emily Ross. A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Martinez, introduced said ordinance, and was laid over two weeks for second reading, passed by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

***G-4.** Adopted **Ordinance No. 28-20 N.S.** amending Richmond Municipal Code Section 2.50 to extend the date of the Business Opportunity Ordinance through December 31, 2026.

STUDY AND ACTION SESSION

H-1. The matter to receive a report from Fire Chief Adrian Sheppard regarding the City's mutual aid agreement with other jurisdictions was presented by Vice Mayor Bates, Chief Sheppard, and Noah Brownlow. A PowerPoint presentation was given, which highlighted the following: Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid System; Mutual Aid Plan; Types of Aid; Aig Agreements; Local Mutual Aid; Operation Area Policies; Local Automatic Aid; Multi-Agency Response; Multi-Unit Response; Out of County Responses; and Recent Strike Team Deployment. Aaron Osorio and Luis Padilla gave comments.

H-2. Mayor Butt announced recent resignations from City of Richmond boards, commissions, and committees; and vacancies as of November 18, 2020, and asked that interested individuals send applications to the City Clerk.

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

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m., to meet again on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor

From: [Cordell Hindler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Subject: H-2 Boards and Commissions
Date: Thursday, November 19, 2020 8:31:48 PM

hello Sabrina, i have an update in regarding the Boards and Commissions, so i will be following up with De Anza and Richmond High to schedule a meeting to let the students know about the Richmond Youth Council, the department of children and youth Oversight Board and the Library Commission

Sincerely
Cordell

From: [Tania Pulido](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Subject: 3) Public Comment- agenda item G-3
Date: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 1:01:30 PM

Comment:
Goodevening Richmond City Council,

My name is Tania Pulido. I am a long-time Richmond resident and active community member. I urge you to adopt the ordinance proposed to empower the Community Police Review Commission to provide further oversight on incidents involving the police and hiring of new police officers. We use public funds to pay for the police and need a public process to deal with police and residents' incidents. I understand that confidentiality is important in some cases, but we need to strive to make the information accessible and open to the public. Transparency and accountability are key to creating trust in the community. Agencies cannot hold themselves accountable and need a third party to assist in making sure it's fair and open to public input. Thank you for your time, and thank you, Jael, for bringing this to the council. We need democratic processes when it comes to dealing with safety in our community.

From: [Cordell Hindler](#)
To: [City Clerk Dept](#)
Subject: Open Forum for public comment
Date: Thursday, November 19, 2020 8:27:55 PM

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

1. for a future agenda item, the city council should revisit the idea of bringing back the FINANCE, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and the Public Safety Standing Committees,
2. my projects are coming along just grand, and i will be updating the council on the progress soon

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