

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL**

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:09 p.m. by Mayor Gayle McLaughlin.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Rogers, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Butt, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Absent:** Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, and Boozé arrived after the City Council adjourned to Closed Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Deputy City Clerk Ursula Deloa announced that the purpose of the Evening Open Session was for the City Council to hear public comments on the following items to be discussed in Closed Session:

CITY COUNCIL

**LIABILITY CLAIMS - PENDING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9):**

California State Automobile Association vs. City of Richmond (Gragg)

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -
ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Initiation of litigation
pursuant to Subdivision (c) of Government Code Section
54956.9):**

One Case

**CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
(Government Code Section 54957.6):**

Employee organization or unrepresented employee(s):
Richmond Fire Management Association (RFMA); City
designated representative(s): Jack Hughes, Lisa Stephenson,
and Michael Banks

There were no speakers.

The Evening Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:10 p.m. The Closed Session adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

The Special Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Gayle McLaughlin who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Boozé, Ritterman, Rogers, Vice Mayor Butt, and Mayor McLaughlin.
Absent: None.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

Mayor McLaughlin announced that Item F-1 would be heard before Open Forum for Public Comment.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Leonard Taylor invited the community to the City of Richmond's Haunted House on Saturday, October 28th and Sunday, October 29th, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Sunday, October 30th, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Richmond Memorial Auditorium, 403 Civic Center Plaza.

Mary Thomas stated that she lost her son to violence in Richmond on June 19, 2011, and she thanked the Office of Neighborhood Safety for its support during her time of sorrow.

Antwon Cloird stated that the Director of the Office of Neighborhood Safety Devone Boggan refused to talk. He stated that Mr. Boggan insulted him by referring to him as a joke and asked City Manager Bill Lindsay to look into the matter.

Courtney Cummings announced that the Sacred Sites Peacewalk for a Nuclear-Free World began on October 22nd at the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant near San Luis Obispo. Walkers are traveling 15 miles a day to reach Richmond on November 5th. She urged everyone to join the peacewalkers for a free event to be held at the Native American Health Center in Richmond at 260 23rd Street from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Gail and Lavonda Vaughn spoke in support of the Cease Fire Program and urged the City Council to continue the program.

Richard Stollings expressed his appreciation for the City Clerk Diane Holmes. He stated that the City of Richmond should be appreciative for a dedicated long-term employee.

Billy Alexander spoke in regards to an article that appeared in the Letters to the Editor section of the Oakland Tribune on October 17, 2011, from Matt Vander Sluis regarding Point Molate.

Felton Clifton informed citizens about the Knowledge 4 Us Fellowship Clean and Sober Program. Knowledge 4 Us Fellowship's mission is *"to provide our clients with practical knowledge, resources and housing options promoting life-affirming principles that boost abilities, confidence and self-esteem in our clients. We incorporate strong community involvement activities in our fellowship."* Individuals were encouraged to visit www.knowledge4usfellowship.org or contact Director Sibby Lee at (510)776-1600 for more information.

Royce McLemore stated that she was evicted from senior housing by the Executive Director of Housing Tim Jones for housing her mother, who was 88 years old and dying, in her unit.

Jill McLemore spoke in support of her mother, Royce McLemore, who was being evicted from public housing. She requested that the City Council overturn the eviction.

Jackie Thompson stated that Mr. Jones could not evict anyone from senior housing without the courts. She stated that individuals should read their lease and learn the laws and their rights. Ms. Thompson also stated that the City of Richmond could not overturn an eviction. She also stated that as the Chair of the Housing Authority Commission she was willing to speak with Ms. McLemore

Michael Beer gave a status report regarding Chevron's property tax appeal.

Goretha Johnson stated that the missing lights on the Richmond Parkway near Parchester Village were a safety hazard. She also urged the City Council not to change the zoning in Parchester Village.

Jerome Smith read a poem by Langston Hughes entitled *Daybreak in Alabama* and stated that it would be *Daybreak in Richmond* when members of the City Council could embrace each others differences, when members of the City Council challenged blatant racist attacks from within from without, and when members of the City Council sold out the truth to justice, the common good.

Larry Lewis thanked the supporters and sponsors of the Red Carpet Experience held at the Craneway Pavilion on September 24, 2011. He also thanked Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Booze, and City of Richmond staff for their attendance at the event. Mr. Lewis reported that the community partners raised \$5000 from the event. Mr. Lewis also thanked the Headliner Company from Southern California for its donations. He also invited everyone to attend the Richmond PAL Costume Ball on Saturday, October 29, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. until midnight. Lastly, Mr. Lewis stated that Richmond resident Sheronda Williams was an Olympic hopeful for the 2012 games in London, England. He urged the community to support Ms. Williams in her journey to the Olympics by making donations to a special account for Ms. Williams with Wells Fargo Bank. The account was in Ms. Williams name; donations may also be made through PAL.

Margaret Jordan stated that Chevron's acts of generosity come with conditions.

Pastor Bernstein spoke in support of the Office of Neighborhood Safety and stated that he has carried a deep pain for the behavior he witnessed during the October 18, 2011, City Council Meeting from City Council Members as well as citizens in the audience.

Jeff Rutland and LaVern Vaugh spoke in support of the Office of Neighborhood Safety.

AGENDA REVIEW

Councilmember Rogers requested that Mayor McLaughlin continue Item I-1 to November 15, 2011. Mayor McLaughlin continued Item I-1 to November 15, 2011. She requested that staff place the item under Council as a Whole.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

This item was heard before Open Forum for Public Comment. Mayor McLaughlin presented a proclamation to the Arts and Culture Commission Liaison Michele Seville and Terry Hinte recognizing October 2011 as Richmond Arts and Humanities Month. Ms. Seville introduced the members of the Arts and Culture Commission and turned the presentation over to Giovanni Singleton who spoke on behalf of the California Poets in the schools program and Brenda Williams, Chair of the Richmond Writes! Committee who read the names of the winners and Mayor McLaughlin presented certificates.

Mayor McLaughlin joined by Councilmember Booze presented Certificates of Recognition to the winners of the Richmond Police Activities League's "Richmond's Finest," an amateur boxing exhibition held on September 24, 2011, at the Richmond Memorial Auditorium. Larry Lewis and Jackie Thompson gave comments. Councilmember Booze also introduced the coaches and announced that Simms Metal American was the main sponsor and paid for the floor in the arena.

REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY OF FINAL DECISIONS MADE AND NON-CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSIONS HELD DURING CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Randy Riddle reported that in the matter of California State Automobile Association vs. City of Richmond, the City Council approved a settlement in the amount of \$20,672.96.

STUDY SESSION

The City Council received presentations regarding the City of Richmond's membership in the Marin Energy Authority. Project Manager Shasa Curl gave an overview and introduced the presenters for the following items:

Dawn Weisz and John Dalessi of the Marin Energy Authority and Dalessi Management Consulting gave a presentation concerning the financial impact analysis for the City of Richmond's membership in the Marin Energy Authority and participation in the Marin Clean Energy Community Choice Aggregation Program.

Mark Fulmer and William Monsen of MRW & Associates, LLC, gave a presentation regarding their third-party review of the financial impact analysis, benefits, and risks of Richmond joining the Marin Energy Authority and participating in the Marin Clean Energy Community Choice Aggregation Program.

The City Council received a report from Fair Housing of Marin, under subcontract with Bay Area Legal Aid, on race discrimination in rental housing in the City of Richmond based on voice identification. Mayor McLaughlin gave an overview of the item and introduced Housing Attorney David Levin of Bay Area Legal Aide and Matt Oaklander of Fair Housing of Marin. The following individuals gave comments: Theresa Karr, Jerome Smith, and Jackie Thompson.

STUDY AND DIRECTION TO STAFF SESSION

The matter to hold a study and direction to staff as to revising meeting procedures to avoid the public being inconvenienced or unable to be present for at Council meetings by: (1) keeping first and third Tuesday meetings shorter by directing the city manager to schedule all presentations and proclamations for the fourth Tuesday meetings; and (2) directing the city manager to schedule a time certain for several items at each meeting *was continued to November 15, 2011.*

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m. in memory of Elmer Silver and Police Commissioner Delores Hembree to meet again on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, at 6:30 p.m.

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor