

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA,
January 24, 2012**

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Beckles, Butt, Ritterman, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Absent:** Councilmember Boozé arrived at 5:10 p.m. and Councilmember Bates and Vice Mayor Rogers arrived after adjourning to Closed Session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The City Council adjourned to Closed Session at 5:11 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL

The city clerk 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:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL
- EXISTING LITIGATION (Subdivision [a] of Government Code Section 54956.9): Municipal Pooling Authority of Northern California vs. City of Richmond; City of Richmond vs. Upstream Point Molate, LLC

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54956.8): Property: Point Molate Negotiators: Bill Lindsay and Upstream Point Molate, LLC Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment; Property: 1322 Canal Boulevard (General Warehouse) and Rigger's Loft; City Negotiators: Jim Matzorkis and Bill Lindsay; Other Negotiating Parties: General Services Administration (on behalf of the National Park Service) Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957.6): City Attorney

The Evening Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:11 p.m. The Closed Session adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 7:12 p.m. by Mayor Gayle McLaughlin who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RICHMOND HOUSING AUTHORITY ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Bates, Beckles, Booze, Butt, Ritterman, Vice Chairperson Rogers, and Chairperson McLaughlin; Housing Authority Tenant Commissioners Hall and Thompson. **Absent:** None.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

OPEN FORUM

Kenneth Davis stated that the City Council should form a committee of individuals who would attend City Council meetings to assist individuals speaking under public forum who may have difficulty understanding the process and procedures for council meetings and requested that the Housing Authority Commission consider this matter.

Commissioner Boozé requested that this matter be placed on a future Housing Authority meeting for

discussion. Housing Authority Director, Tim Jones replied that he will bring the matter back at the first available opportunity.

AGENDA REVIEW

None.

HOUSING AUTHORITY CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Commissioner Ritterman, seconded by Vice Chairperson Rogers approved the item with an (*) by the unanimous vote of the Commissioners.

*- Adopted **Resolution No. 1958** authorizing the Authority's Executive Director to procure services required to install a temporary modular unit at 319 25th Street and to execute a lease agreement for the modular unit with Lifelong Medical Care to provide healthcare services to underserved low-income residents with an emphasis on the residents of public housing.

PUBLIC HEARING

CONTINUED to February 7, 2012, a public hearing to discuss revisions to the Housing Authority's Admissions and Continuing Occupancy Policies and adopt a resolution to incorporate the revisions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RICHMOND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY/RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

ROLL CALL

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

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Leonard Taylor congratulated the city for securing Lawrence Berkeley National Lab establishing a new campus in Richmond.

Marena Brown and Otheree Christian thanked everyone who participated in the “Residents March for Change” in honor of Martin Luther King, which took place on January 14, 2012.

Dr. Connie Portero, Chair of the Recreation and Parks Commission, thanked all of those involved in making parks and recreation centers available to residents because they are such a vital resource.

Antwon Cloird thanked Mr. Lindsay for meeting with him and encouraging him to work with the Men and Women of Purpose. Mr. Cloird also stated that the local unions need to be ready and train the workforce for potential jobs relating to the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab Campus.

Gail Madison thanked the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory for coming to Richmond because the community needs the jobs.

Kay Wallace encouraged everyone to visit the newly opened Liberty Ship Café Co-Op located at the Richmond Farmer’s Market every Friday.

Kenneth Davis stated Councilmember Beckles was very rude to him during last week’s City Council meeting when she told him to “shut up”. He encouraged residents to view his website:
www.freerichmond.org.

Michael Robinson stated that he has not been able to get a progress report from the police department regarding his recent robbery case.

Juana Anker stated that she is embarrassed when she hears the young people in the community refer to the city council meetings as a comedy show.

Jackie Thompson stated that persons who address the City Council should be allowed to finish their sentence and not be cut off abruptly as soon as the buzzer sounds.

Pamela Saucer-Bilbo and Kevin McDonald, from the group Men and Women of Valor, expressed excitement about the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab coming to Richmond and stated many North Richmond residents are ready and willing to work.

Gerald Bilbo, from the group Men and Women of Valor, thanked Congressman Miller for inviting a young Richmond resident to attend President Obama's State of the Union Address.

Naomi Williams thanked the citizens of Richmond for helping bring the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab to Richmond. Ms. Williams also reminded the City Council to place a proclamation on the agenda commemorating Black History Month.

Eduardo Martinez commended the community and Councilmember Ritterman for working so hard to bring the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab to Richmond.

Maxine Henagan asked the City Council to try really hard to get along with each other. Ms. Henagan also stated that the Giant Avenue Road exit near the Richmond Parkway is very dark.

Barbara Becnel invited everyone to participate in the Occupy 4 Prisoners National Day of Action on Monday, February 20, 2012, at noon. For more information visit: www.occupy4prisoners.org.

Kathleen Sullivan thanked the City Council for hearing the recent presentation given by the Human Relations Commission regarding the City's Code of Ethics.

Ellen Gailing, photographer, thanked the city for the opportunity in being a part in bringing the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab to Richmond.

Mike Parker thanked the Human Rights Commission for making their Code of Ethics presentation to the City Council.

Councilmember Bates, seconded by Councilmember Boozé, added an emergency item to the agenda to commend those involved in bringing the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab to Richmond, passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Butt, Boozé, Ritterman, and Vice Mayor Rogers. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** None. **Abstain:** Councilmember Beckles and Mayor McLaughlin.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Mayor McLaughlin presented the Martin Luther King Jr. Community and Service Award to the following groups for their work in helping to build unity in our city, especially Black/Brown Unity: Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), to Amara Hicks, Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA), to Kathleen Sullivan, and The Latina Center. The following individuals gave comments: Miriam Wong, Barbara Becnel, Leonard Taylor, Naomi Williams, and Eduardo Martinez gave comments.

The City Council received a presentation from Girls Inc. of West Contra Costa County on the services provided to empower girls to be the best that they can be and to support their local community. Dr. Melanie Spears, Board President, Tyra Edwards, Program Director, and Jocelyn Perez gave comments. The following individuals also gave comments: Cordell Hindler, Leonard Taylor, and Antwon Clourd.

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

Attorney Bruce Goodmiller reported that there were no reportable actions.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD
CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion made by Councilmember Ritterman, seconded by Councilmember Boozé, adopted **Resolution No. 12-1**, amending the Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency Enforceable Obligation Payment Schedule (EOPS) pursuant to AB 1X 26.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Councilmember Boozé, seconded by Vice Mayor Rogers, the items marked with an asterisk (*-) were approved by the unanimous vote of the City Council:

*-Approved the grant-funded Police Department purchase of tactical night vision optics from Lawmen's & Shooters Supply, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$33,717. *This item was continued from the January 17, 2012, meeting.*

*-Adopted **Resolution No. 4-12**, authorizing the City Council of the City of Richmond to serve as the successor agency to the Richmond Community Redevelopment Agency (RCRA); and **Resolution No. 5-12**, electing to retain RCRA's housing assets and the functions previously performed by RCRA.

STUDY AND DIRECTION TO STAFF SESSION

The City Council received a presentation from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the status of cleanup of the United Heckathorn Superfund Site was presented by Penny Ready, Project Manager for the United Heckathorn site, Section Chief, Kelly Manheimer, Branch Chief, Kathleen Salier, and Community Involvement Coordinator, Jackie Lane. The site operated as a pesticide processing, packaging, and formulation facility from 1947 to 1966. There was an initial cleanup that took place between 1990-1998. 3,300 cubic yards of DDT contaminated soil was removed from the upland area and the contaminated soil was also capped with concrete to prevent erosion. During subsequent years, there has been an increase in

DDT levels in some areas, especially in the Lauritzen Channel. A community meeting will be scheduled at end of February 2012 regarding this matter.

The City Council received a presentation by Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) to hold banks accountable for the blight and foreclosures in Richmond neighborhoods and to consider recommendations of policy and program tools to address the blight and foreclosures. Debra Price, Chairman of Richmond Chapter of ACCE, presented a PowerPoint presentation. The Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment is a statewide community organization working with thousands of members in eleven counties creating transformative change by helping ordinary citizens to organize and take action. In December 2011, nationally foreclosures were down 14.5%, however in California, foreclosures are up 11%. Contra Costa County foreclosures are up 18.4%. The following individuals gave comments: Eduardo Martinez, Maximo Rivera, Melvin Lee Willis, Darlene Scruggs, Margaret Jordan, and Liana Molina. Discussion ensued. Code Enforcement Manager, Tim Higaes, stated he has identified funds in his budget to purchase additional cameras. A motion made by Councilmember Beckles, seconded by Mayor McLaughlin, directed the City Manager to look into the possible adoption by the city of a responsible banking ordinance; the possibility of leaving the owners in the home until the home is re-sold; and the use of flash cams, passed by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

*A motion by Councilmember Bates, seconded by Councilmember Boozé, to hear the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab item now, failed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates and Boozé. **Noes:** Councilmembers Beckles, Butt, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Rogers, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Absent:** None. **Abstain:** None.*

*(11:00 p.m. - A motion by Councilmember Ritterman, seconded by Councilmember Beckles to extend the meeting for 15 minutes, passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Beckles, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Rogers, and Mayor*

McLaughlin. and Noes: Councilmembers Bates, Boozé, and Butt. Absent: None. Abstain: None).

The City Council received a presentation from David Gray, Goldman School of Public Policy student, on the Solid Waste Program Evaluation. In 1986, the city entered into a 40 year contract with Richmond Sanitary Service. In 1991, the city joined a Joint Powers Authority with several other surrounding cities. In 2001, Republic Services acquires Richmond Sanitary Service. There was a 2003 Franchise Agreement Amendment which included no charge for weekly collection of City designated business areas; no charge for weekly collection for City buildings; no charge for weekly collection for City parks; two annual citywide cleanups; and bulky item collection. *(Meeting ended without completion of this item).*

(11:15 p.m. - A motion by Vice Mayor Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Beckles, to extend the meeting for 20 minutes, failed by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Beckles, Vice Mayor Rogers, and Mayor McLaughlin. Noes: Councilmembers Bates, Boozé, Butt, and Ritterman. Absent: None. Abstain: None).

CONTINUED the presentation sending a letter to State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson in support of the request from the West Contra Costa Unified School District to be removed from State control.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, February 7, 2012.

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor