

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA,
September 25, 2012**

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Mayor Gayle McLaughlin.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bates, Boozé, Butt, Ritterman, Vice Mayor Rogers, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Absent:** Councilmembers Beckles arrived at 5:40 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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):** Community Coalition Against Beverage Taxes et al vs. City of Richmond

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The Evening Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:38 p.m. The Closed Session adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL

The Special Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Mayor Gayle McLaughlin who led the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL

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

(Councilmember Booze requested clarification regarding placement of campaign literature by members of the audience on the chairs in the Council Chambers).

READING OF THE CODE OF ETHICS

City Clerk, Diane Holmes, read the Code of Ethics.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

Item I-1 was removed from the Consent Calendar. City Clerk, Diane Holmes asked that tonight's meeting be closed again in memory of former City Clerk, Eula Barnes, who was the first female and first African American to hold the position of city clerk. Also Ms. Holmes asked that the meeting be closed in memory of Joann Hayden, wife of former city clerk Harlon Hayden.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Karras stated that the Chemical Safety Boards testing of the pipe that failed and caused the August 6, 2012, Chevron Refinery Fire, will be completed in early December and sulfur has not yet been identified as the cause of the corrosion to the failed pipe.

Dexter Vizinou stated he is in favor of the soda tax due to his experience with his diabetic mother.

Antwon Cloird stated that the City Council has lost its purpose and does not conduct themselves appropriately.

Charles Smith stated that the community should vote “No” on Measure N.

Sylvia Gray-White stated that sugar can alter your brain and also and make you less smart.

Wesley Ellis asked why the clergy of Richmond don’t attend City Council meetings.

Carlton Lax invited the community to a bar-b-que at Miller Knox Regional Park on Sunday, October 14, 2012, from 11:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. given by Saffron Strands. Tickets can be purchased at www.saffronstrands.org for \$10 per person, \$15 per couple, and \$20 per family.

Eleanor Thompson stated that in order to regain decorum at City Council meetings, everyone needs to agree to disagree.

Mark Wassberg spoke against the soda tax measure.

Courtney Cummings invited the community to the Native Wellness Center on September 27, 2012, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. to encourage Native Americans to vote and register to vote.

Eric Avery thanked the City Council, the City of Richmond, and all other contributors, for their support given to the Richmond Half-Steppers Track Team.

Juan Reardon stated that the residents of 49th & Wall would like the city to take care of the sidewalks along the perimeter of the Miraflores Project. Mr. Reardon also stated that he was allowed to place the campaign flyers on the chairs of the Council Chambers.

Margaret Jordan, President of the Point Richmond Neighborhood Council, spoke in support of Altura Restaurant.

Marilyn Langlois gave comments regarding the International Hotel and thanked everyone for working on it.

Texanita Bluitt stated that it has been recommended to the school board that Spanish be taught to all non-spanish speaking students.

Eduardo Martinez asked all to conduct themselves with respect and civility during City Council meetings.

Neil Sinclair gave comments in support of the soda tax.

Michael Parker stated that the Richmond Progressive Alliance has a diverse membership and are in favor of the soda tax.

Andres Soto stated that the reason the community is being informed about the August 6, 2012, Chevron refinery fire is because the Chemical Safety Board has been providing the information.

AGENDA REVIEW

Item I-1 was removed from the Consent Calendar.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Mayor McLaughlin presented a proclamation acknowledging Fire Prevention Week October 7-13, 2012 to Fire Marshall Terry Harris and Deputy Fire Marshall Robyn Poindexter. Andres Soto gave comments.

Mayor McLaughlin presented a proclamation honoring Richmond Sports Clubs for their dedication to promoting sports and recreation among Richmond youth, and honoring the Safe Athletic Fields for Education (SAFE) Coalition for their efforts and advocacy for easier access and expanded sports fields in

Richmond to the following groups: Richmond Eagles, Richmond Little League, Richmond Eclipse Soccer, Richmond Steelers, Richmond Half-Steppers, and Richmond Grinders. Eduardo Martinez gave comments.

Mayor McLaughlin and Councilmember Beckles presented a proclamation in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month to Yenni Velasquez from the Latina Center. Andres Soto and Eduardo Martinez gave comments.

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

City Attorney, Bruce Goodmiller, reported that there were no reportable actions taken during closed session.

CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

The matter to approve the Second Amended 2012/2013 North Richmond Waste and Recovery Mitigation Fee Expenditure Plan specifying the activities, programs, and services to be funded by mitigation fees charged on material and waste processed at the Bulk Material Processing Center (BMPC), located at the West Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill (WCCSL), through June 30, 2013, as recommended for approval by the North Richmond Mitigation Fee Joint Planning Committee was presented by Lori Reese-Brown, City Manager's Office. Eleanor Thompson gave comments. A motion by Councilmember Butt, seconded by Councilmember Beckles, approved the expenditure plan by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

STUDY AND DIRECTION TO STAFF SESSION

The matter to receive a presentation on a proposed agreement between the City of Richmond and the SAFE (Safe Athletic Fields for Education) Coalition

of youth sports leagues that can provide improved access to community recreation fields so that the City and SAFE Coalition members can more effectively serve youth in the Richmond community, and provide direction to staff was presented by City Manager, Bill Lindsay. The following individuals gave comments: Eleanor Thompson, Andres Soto, and Eduardo Martinez. A motion by Mayor McLaughlin, seconded by Councilmember Beckles, approved the agreement, by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

STUDY SESSION

The City Council received a report from Mayor McLaughlin and Andres Soto of festival highlights from the 2011 North Richmond Shoreline Community Festival.

The City Council accepted the Annual Report from the Richmond Convention and Visitors Bureau (RCVB), which was presented by Janet Johnson, Assistant Business Representative, City Manager's Office and Michelle Itagaki, Richmond Convention and Visitors Bureau, who presented a PowerPoint. Councilmember Boozé stated the Hilltop freeway sign needs to be more visibly constructed in order to be more noticeable visible.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m., in memory of former City Clerk, Eula Barnes, and Joann Hayden, wife of former City Clerk, Harlon Hayden, to meet again on Tuesday, October 2, 2012, at 6:30 p.m.

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor