

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, January 28, 2014

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by Mayor Gayle McLaughlin.

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CITY COUNCIL

The deputy city clerk announced 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:

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957.6): Agency designated representatives: Bill Lindsay, Jack Hughes, Lisa Stephenson, and Bruce Soublet
Employee organization: Service Employees International Union (Local 1021)

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54956.8): Property: Westridge Apartments
Agency negotiators: Bill Lindsay, Jim Goins, Tim Jones
Negotiating party: Menlo Capital Group
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Subdivision (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9): One Case

LIABILITY CLAIMS - (Government Code Section 54956.95):
Claimant: Gary Lee
Agency: City of Richmond
Claimant: Ray Muhammed
Agency: City of Richmond

There were no public speakers.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:09 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL

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

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

None.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Mayor McLaughlin and Vice Mayor Beckles presented a proclamation recognizing Black HIV/AIDS Awareness activities in February to Junie Tate of Neighborhood House. Ms. Tate gave comments.

Mayor McLaughlin, Councilmembers Bates, and Boozé recognized each coach and player on the El Cerrito High School Varsity Football Team with a certificate for winning the North Coast Section Division III Championship. El Cerrito High School Varsity Football Coach Kenny Khan and his coaching staff gave comments.

Mayor McLaughlin presented the 2014 Martin Luther King Jr. Richmond Community Leadership and Service Award to Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE). Melvin Willis gave comments.

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor McLaughlin gave a PowerPoint Presentation of the "State of the City." Please visit <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/28194> to review.

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

City Attorney Bruce Reed Goodmiller reported that there were no reportable actions.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Sims Thompson stated that there were many improvements needed within the City of Richmond. He stated that the clothing donation bins throughout the City were not being maintained, and people were dumping trash near the bins.

Mike Ali stated that in the November 2014 elections the West Contra Costa County Unified School District will ask citizens to vote on another school bond. He encouraged citizens to vote against it.

Don Gosney gave comments regarding the limited amount of time citizens have to give comments regarding items on the agenda. He also stated that signage for Salutes Restaurant needs to be improved.

Texanita Bluitt reported that the poor conditions on the 1500 block of Maine Street need to be addressed. She also stated that the interior doors of the Kennedy Swim Center need to be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible.

Jackie Thompson expressed disappointment that community workers ignored her request for assistance with an individual requesting help at the Arco Gas Station on Cutting Boulevard, Sunday, January 26, 2014, 2:00 p.m. Ms. Thompson thanked Sylvia Fontano for staying with her as she spoke to the individual requesting help.

Mike Parker gave comments regarding minimum wage and presented studies regarding the affects of raising the minimum wage.

Marilyn Langlois invited everyone to join the Friday night walks with Cease Fire. She announced that Friday, January 31, 2014, Cease Fire will meet at New Hope Baptist Church, 321 Alamo Avenue in North Richmond. She also congratulated the City of Richmond for its crime reduction, and thanked the young men and women of Richmond for becoming peaceful citizens.

Kathleen Wimer and Joseph Puleo gave comments regarding the United States Chemical Safety Board (USCSB) findings regarding the Chevron fire.

Bea Roberson invited everyone to attend the Richmond Police Officer Activities League's Annual Luncheon, February 27, 2014, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Hall Holt Memorial Gymnasium, 2200 Macdonald Avenue; \$35 per person.

STUDY AND DIRECTION TO STAFF SESSION

The matter to receive a report on the results from the recent City Council-authorized public opinion survey relating to a potential sales tax measure to support pavement management programs, and provide direction to staff was presented by Finance Director James Goins, Charles Hestor of Godbe Research, and Associate Civil Engineer Tawfic Halaby. The City of Richmond commissioned Godbe Research to conduct a survey of local voters with the following research objectives: Gauge satisfaction with City services and financial management of public funds; assess potential support for a property owner assessment for street

repair or a general sales tax measure for City services and facilities, both with funding that cannot be taken by the State; identify the optimum tax type and amount at which property owners or voters will support the measures; prioritize projects and programs to be funded with the proceeds; test the influence or supporting and opposing arguments on potential voter support; and identify any differences in property owner and voter support due to demographic and/or voter behavioral characteristics. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Vice Mayor Beckles to direct staff to draft a ballot measure for the November 2014 Election for a half cents sales tax to improve quality of life and maintain and enhance city services and facilities, and receive a recommendation from staff to conduct a factual outreach to the public to give the public more information on both sides of the issue. The motion passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Butt, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** Councilmember Boozé. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** None.

Continued to February 25, 2014, the matter to receive a report from the Police Department and provide direction to staff regarding priorities and training needs of the Police Department, including potential grant funding to cover the cost.

In the matter to receive reports on Pedestrian and bicycle safety:

- a. A progress report on the implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan and Pedestrian Master Plan was presented by Associate Planner Kieron Slaughter, Engineering Infrastructure Administrator Patrick Phelan, and Associate Civil Engineer Tawfic Halaby. The report included a PowerPoint Presentation which highlighted high profile projects and enhancements included in the Bicycle Master Plan and Pedestrian Master Plan.
- b. A report on bicycle safety for cyclists and drivers sharing the road was presented by Vice Mayor Beckles, Najari Smith, and Coire Reilly.

(At 11:00 p.m. On motion of Mayor McLaughlin, seconded by Councilmember Myrick extended the meeting to complete this item including the speakers by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor McLaughlin. Noes: Councilmembers Bates, Butt, and Boozé. Abstention: None. Absent: None.)

- c. The matter to adopt a resolution approving the City's application for the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Article 3 Pedestrian and Bicycle Funding for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 and, if awarded, accept and appropriate the

funds for implementation of the Harbour Way Pedestrian and Bicycle Project was presented by Associate Civil Engineer Tawfic Halaby.

The following individuals gave comments: Don Gosney, Jackie Thompson, Nick Despota, Bea Roberson, Nancy Baer, Marilyn Langlois, Bill Pinkham, Adrienne Harris, and Garland Ellis. Coire Reilly submitted the following comments: “CCHS supports the development of a safe, welcoming biking environment and looks forward to continue working on these issues with the city.” A motion was made by Vice Mayor Beckles, seconded by Councilmember Butt to approve Items A, B, and C. Discussion continued, and on motion of Vice Mayor Beckles, seconded by Mayor McLaughlin ended debate by the unanimous vote of the City Council. The original motion to approve Items A, B, and C was approved and **Resolution No. 6-14** was adopted by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Butt, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Beckles, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** Councilmember Boozé. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** None.

Continued to February 25, 2014, the matter to consider policies to increase the use of vehicles in Richmond which produce less carbon emissions and less air pollution.

Continued to February 25, 2014, the matter to receive a presentation regarding the accessibility of the Civic Center Plaza for residents with disabilities and discuss potential actions the City can take to address the remaining concerns regarding this issue.

Continued to February 25, 2014, the matter to adopt safety improvements discussed at the January 15, 2014, Chemical Safety Board meeting, including adding a full time County chemical process safety inspection position at the Chevron Refinery (paid for by Chevron), and giving the County staff direct enforcement powers to implement safety improvements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:28 p.m. in memory of the wife of long time Richmond resident Jogendra Singh Pad, Cartoonist Morrie Turner, and American folk icon Pete Seeger to meet again on Tuesday, February 4, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor