

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, January 29, 2019**

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Mayor Thomas K. Butt.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Nat Bates, Demnlus Johnson III, Eduardo Martinez, Jael Myrick, Melvin Willis, Vice Mayor Ben Choi, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The city clerk announced 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 REAL PROPERTY  
NEGOTIATOR (Government Code Section 54956.8):**

Property: 601A Canal Boulevard  
Agency negotiators: Carlos Martinez and Ryan Smith  
Negotiating party: Watershed Nursery (Diana Benner and Laura Hanson)  
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

Laura Hanson gave comments.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 6:04 p.m.  
Closed Session adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m., by Mayor Butt.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

None.

**PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND  
COMMENDATIONS**

**E-1.** Mayor Butt and Councilmembers presented a proclamation and declared February 2019 as Black History Month in the City of Richmond.

**E-2.** Mayor Butt announced recent resignations from the City of Richmond Boards, Commissions, and Committees; and announced vacancies on City of Richmond Boards, Commissions, and Committees as of January 29, 2019, and asked that interested individuals send applications to the City Clerk.

**REPORT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY OF FINAL  
DECISIONS MADE DURING CLOSED SESSION**

City Attorney Bruce Goodmiller stated there were no final actions taken.

**REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Carlos Martinez announced that the Richmond Plunge repairs were completed and the reopening reception was Friday, February 1, 2019, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Mr. Martinez also informed that a new Housing Authority director was hired and began on Friday, February 1, 2019. The city council & staff had a Strategic Priorities Meeting on Friday, February 8, 2019, at the Hilltop Marriot. Mr. Martinez also announced that there was a special city council meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, to receive presentations from developers regarding the Point Molate Request For Proposals. Mr. Martinez attended the California League of Cities Conference in San Diego from February 13 through February 15, 2019.

**OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Dandie requested support for the Richmond High School students who expressed concern regarding poor street lighting across the street from the high school.

Don Gosney stated that the Plumber & Steamfitters Local 342 Apprentice Sign-Ups were from February 4<sup>th</sup> through February 8, 2019. For more information, call (925)686-0730 or e-mail [dongosney@comcast.net](mailto:dongosney@comcast.net).

Antwon Cloird stated that Gerald Hatchett had a stroke. Mr. Cloird also stated that many Richmond residents haven't worked on Richmond construction jobs.

Naomi Williams stated that commissioners interested in being members of a city board or commission should attend a board or commission meeting prior to applying.

Matt Holmes stated that the Urban Forestry Committee needed more representation from members of all the neighborhoods in Richmond.

Jamy Mosqueda requested an appointment with the city manager to discuss development at Hilltop Mall.

Nathaniel Spearman stated there were many uses possible at Point Molate that would bring revenue to the city.

Carolyn Wysinger gave comments regarding discrimination of the black community and the Lesbian Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Questioning (LGBTQ) community.

Angela Cox stated that the SAT Preparation Workshop was on March 2, 2019. The cost of the class was \$50 and an application could be downloaded from [www.richmondlibrary.org](http://www.richmondlibrary.org).

Rick Perez gave comments regarding the need for accountability and transparency of police officers.

Patricia Perez gave comments regarding SB 1421 and the court proceedings that have taken place and blocked the release of police officer records.

West Contra Costa Unified School Board Member, Mister Phillips, stated that Juan Crespi Middle School would possibly close. A town hall meeting was scheduled on Thursday, March 14, 2019, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Hilltop Church of Christ, to discuss the closure.

Bea Roberson stated street sweeping signs should be installed in the Richmond Annex and Panhandle neighborhoods.

Ben Theriault stated that the Richmond Police Officers Association joined other police departments regarding SB 1421 and whether the bill intended the retroactive disclosure of police officers' records.

### **STUDY AND ACTION SESSION**

**I-1.** The city council received a presentation from the City Manager's Office on City-wide Transportation Division efforts to support West Contra Costa County objectives and regional transportation planning goals for effective implementation was presented by Lori Reese-Brown, City Manager's Office, Transportation Development Services. **This item was continued from the December 18, 2018, meeting.** The following individuals gave comments: Jim Cunradi, Pam Bilbo, Nicole Harris, and Antwon Cloird. Councilmembers requested that staff attempted to mitigate the issue of long coal trains that blocked the intersection along Harbour Way and Marina Bay with the Richmond Pacific Railroad and Levin Terminal. The city council also requested that more emphasis was given on pedestrians and pedestrian safety in the integrated transportation plan and potential water taxi service.

**I-2.** The city council received a presentation about the Police Department's School Resource Officer (SRO) Program so that its workings, and recent history, as well as associated costs and expenses are known and understood, in order to assist the Council in setting future funding priorities related to the continuance of SRO staffing at Richmond schools was presented by Chief Allwyn Brown, Sargeant Lynette Parker, Officer England, and Finance Director, Belinda Warner. Discussion ensued. The following individuals gave comments: Ms. Dandie, Rick Perez, Gonzalo Rucobo, and Ben Theriault.

**I-3.** The city council received a presentation on the Richmond wastewater system, including sanitary sewer and wastewater treatment plant capital improvement planning and projects; and provided direction to staff on sewer use rate increases by Water Resource Recovery Department Manager, Ryan Smith. The planned increase proposed was from 5% to 7.5%. Discussion ensued. Cheryl Sudduth gave comments.

**I-4.** The city council received a presentation from Republic Services representatives on global recycling markets and policies, local outreach initiatives, existing contamination levels, and proposed recycling contamination surcharge options by Community & Economic Development Director, Sasha Curl, Sean Mober, Terry Singleton, and Reagan Chung, Republic Services. Discussion ensued. Don Gosney gave comments.

**COUNCIL AS A WHOLE**

**J-1.** The matter to approve appointments for the Mayor and Councilmembers to Regional Committees, Ad-Hoc Committees and Liaison Positions for the year of 2019 was presented by Mayor Butt. This item was continued from the January 22, 2019, meeting.

*(11:00 p.m. – A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Willis, extended the meeting 30 minutes, by the unanimous vote of the city council.)*

A motion by Councilmember Myrick, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the appointments with the following changes: **West Contra Costa Integrated Waste Management Authority (RecycleMore)** Members: Bates, Johnson, and Choi. Alternate: Myrick; **West County Agency** (JPA between the City of Richmond and the West County Wastewater District) Members: Myrick and Johnson. Alternate: Bates; and **West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee (WCCTAC)** Members: Butt, Johnson, and Choi. Alternate: Myrick. Councilmember Martinez made a substitute motion to appoint himself to the ECIA Transportation Oversight Committee. Mayor Butt called the substitute motion out of order. The motion passed by the following votes: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Johnson III, Myrick, Willis, Vice Mayor Choi, and Mayor Butt. **Noes:** Councilmember Martinez. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** None.

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

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 p.m., in memory of Burt K. Lee, and in honor of figure skater and Richmond resident, Alysia Liu for earning the 2019 U.S. Figure Skating Title, to meet again on Tuesday, February 5, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.

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Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

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Mayor