

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, November 26, 2019**

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Mayor Thomas K. Butt.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Nathaniel Bates, Demnlus Johnson III, Eduardo Martinez, Jael Myrick, Vice Mayor Ben Choi, and Mayor Thomas K. Butt. **Absent:** Councilmember Melvin Willis arrived at 5:36 p.m. during Public Comment.

**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 LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of Subdivision (d) [as applicable] of Government Code Section 54956.9):

One Case

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957.6):

Community Police Review Commission Investigative Officer

Ben Therriault and Rick Perez gave comments regarding the need for a fair and experienced Community Police Review Commission Investigative Officer.

The Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:37 p.m. Closed Session adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:31 p.m., by Mayor Butt, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Bates, Johnson III, Martinez(*for a portion of the meeting*), Myrick, Willis, Vice Mayor Choi, and Mayor Butt. **Absent:** None. Councilmember Martinez left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

**AGENDA REVIEW**

None.

## **PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS**

**E-1.** Mayor Butt and Councilmembers Martinez, and Vice Mayor Choi, presented a proclamation declaring November 30, 2019, as Small Business Saturday in the City of Richmond.

**E-2.** Councilmembers Bates, Martinez, and Vice Mayor Choi presented proclamations recognizing Michael Davenport for his contributions to the City of Richmond. County Supervisor John Gioia, representative for Mark DeSaulnier, Taylor Kimber, and a representative for Senator Barbara Lee also presented proclamations. The following individuals gave comments: Cordell Hindler, Antwon Cloird, and Larry Lewis.

**E-3.** Councilmember Martinez presented a proclamation applauding the selfless work involving hundreds of hours of labor by the devoted women and men of the Point Molate Friends, who improve and maintain both Point Molate Beach Park and its surroundings. Pam Stello and Kathleen Wimmer gave comments.

**E-4.** Mayor Butt announced recent resignations from City of Richmond boards, commissions, and committees, and announced vacancies as of November 20, 2019, and ask that interested individuals send applications to the City Clerk. Cordell Hindler gave comments.

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

Senior Assistant City Attorney Rachel Sommovilla reported that the city council directed staff to discuss a proposal with Attorney Scott Rafferty to extend the safe harbor period for 90 days regarding the district election matter.

## **REPORT FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

Interim City Manager Steven Falk stated there was no report.

## **OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Cordell Hindler announced that the Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council Annual Holiday Gathering was on Monday, December 9, 2019, from 6pm to 8pm. Mr. Hindler also stated that speakers should be allotted more time to speak during city council meetings.

Rick Perez and Patricia Perez gave comments regarding the shooting of Eric Reason in Vallejo, California by an off duty Richmond police officer.

AJ Jelani, president of Belding Woods Neighborhood Council, presented certificate of excellence awards to members who served on the Christmas on the Streets Project, toy giveaway, Richmond Got Talent Show 2010, and Peace on the Streets Organization. The award recipients were: Betty Harris, Sly Randolph, Barbara Craft, Officer Brown, Betty Smith, Mike, Clark Appleton, Rochelle Polk, Michelle Milam, Danny Sousa, Barbara Harris, Kathleen Sullivan, and Mayor Tom Butt.

Luis Padilla, Chris Snyder, Ken Burns, Jaime Gonzalez, Mike Croll, and Ben Therriault, gave comments against the

proposed ordinance regarding the potential closure of the Richmond Levin Terminal in Richmond.

Kathleen Sullivan thanked Michael Davenport for everything he did for the Richmond community throughout the years. Ms. Sullivan also announced that The Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP) opened a Warming Center 7 days a week and also offered food and services to the homeless.

Scott Rafferty stated he would consider a possible 90-day extension concerning district elections only if the Latino and Laotian communities were more included in the process.

Madalyn Law invited everyone to the Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council's Annual Gathering on Monday, December 9, 2019, at 2525 Macdonald Avenue.

### **STUDY AND ACTION SESSION**

**I-1.** The matter to receive a report regarding discretionary pay differentials was presented by Councilmembers Martinez and Councilmember Bates. Human Resource Director, Lisa Stevenson gave an overview of the matter. Discretionary pay differentials were provided to City employees for a variety of reason, primarily for when an employee is asked to take on additional duties or assignments that are not included in their regular job duties. Pay differentials are approved by the process of a Department Head completing an additional pay form, with an explanation for the request, along with the requested amount of the additional pay, which is then reviewed and signed by the Department Head and the Human Resources Analyst for that Department. The following individuals gave comments: Cordell Hindler, Everett Jenkins, and Ben Therriault. The city council directed staff to include a request on the mid-year report for an expenditure to hire a firm to perform a classification and compensation study for all city positions.

**I-2.** The city council received an annual report from the Richmond-Shimada Friendship Commission was presented by Councilmember Bates, City Council Liaison, Trina Jackson, and Shimada Commission Co-Chairperson Evan Sirchuk, which highlighted the following: Business exchange program; Commission hosted delegation from Shimada; 109<sup>th</sup> Obi Matsuri Festival; 2020 Ambassador Program; Richmond-Shimada Pen Pal Project; and the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Richmond-Shimada Friendship in 2021.

**I-3.** The matter to receive the 2018-19 Rent Program Annual Report was presented by Rent Board Director, Nicolas Traylor who presented a video and Powerpoint which highlighted the following: Rent Program Mission; Community stability supported by healthy housing, housing stability, housing affordability, fair return on investment; active enforcement of the Rent Ordinance; property enrollment; Rent Adjustment Petition Process; community education; profile of rental housing; profile of Richmond landlords; FY 18-19 Financial Summary; and the 5-year financial plan. The following individuals gave comments: Cordell Hindler, Jerrilee Doss, Lorraine Pitre, Norma Labat, Alex Lozano, Lissandra Lozano, Leisa Johnson, Vinay Pimple, and Mike Vasilas. The rent department could be contacted by calling 510-234-RENT (7368) or [rent@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:rent@ci.richmond.ca.us). Director Traylor could be contacted at [Nicholas.Traylor@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:Nicholas.Traylor@ci.richmond.ca.us). The city council directed staff to review tenant relocation fees to ensure they were

not excessive. The 5-year financial plan would be presented to the city council at a future meeting.

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

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:59 p.m., in memory of Jamarrea Frazier, student of Councilmember Demnlus III, victim of a homicide in North Richmond, to meet again on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.

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Clerk of the City of Richmond

(SEAL)

Approved:

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Mayor