

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, February 26, 2008

The Special Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin. Richmond Boy Scouts Troop Two led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Bates, Butt, Lopez, Sandhu, Thurmond, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Marquez, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Absent:** Councilmember Rogers (Councilmember Rogers arrived at 7:16 p.m.).

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

AGENDA REVIEW

None.

PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND COMMENDATIONS

Allan Wolken and Bill Davis gave an overview of the bench beautification and restoration project in Marina Bay. Diane Headler, Marina Bay Neighborhood Council, presented plaques to members of Boy Scouts Troops Nos. 100, 127, 11, and 2 who planned and managed the beautification and restoration of benches in Marina Bay and participated in the work. Mayor McLaughlin presented Certificates of Appreciation to the following Boy Scout leaders: Ryan Burkhardt and Daviddean Diaz of Troop 100, Kensington; Matthew Heilbronn of Troop 127, El Sobrante; and Leo Khalaf of Troop 11, Alameda. Leo Khalaf, on behalf of all the boy scouts and Ghirardelli Associates Inc. presented Mayor McLaughlin with a recycling box made of recycled milk junks.

Fire Chief, Michael Banks, introduced Fire Inspector, Robin Poindexter, who gave an overview of the Youth Academy Program and an update on the recruitment efforts for new cadets for 2008 and 2009. Inspector Poindexter introduced First Senior Lieutenant Trevor Arceneaux, who gave a brief overview of the program. The new lieutenants were: Second Senior Lieutenant Akil Voltaire, Lieutenant McNeil, Lieutenant Armond Johnson, and Lieutenant Darryl McDavid.

OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

A. J. Jelani stated that 1741 Burbeck is still a nuisance in the Belding Woods community. He announced his father, Schoolboy Cleve, passed away on February 5, 2008. He thanked Don Sanchez, ABC News, for his report. Mr. Jelani also stated that the Belding Woods Neighborhood Council thanked the Police and Fire Departments for helping with the Christmas and Food Give Away Program and also the Christmas for the Homeless Program. He also stated that the Christmas on the Streets was presented by the Peace on the Streets Organization. Visit www.schoolboycleve.com for more information on this organization.

Virgil Aguilar stated that Garvin Street from 23rd Street to 13th Street is in need of repaving.

Charles T. Ramsey shared positive news about the programs for Richmond residents. The Ivy League Connection is a program sending 14 Richmond residents to Ivy League summer studies programs this year, and is also presenting a scholarship for \$5,000 to a Kennedy High School Student to attend Cornell University this summer.

Jerome Smith spoke about the Chevron Expansion Project.

Simms Thompson Jr. stated the City Council showed good encouragement of citizen participation by having the boy scouts participate in the City Council Meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

A proposed resolution opposing any reduction in funds from the West Contra Costa County Unified School District (WCCUSD) Bond Program Master Plan Budget for renovations to Richmond schools was presented. Councilmember Butt rescued himself due to a conflict of interest. City Manager, Bill Lindsay, gave an overview of the item. Speakers were: Madeline Kronenberg and Charles T. Ramsey, Boardmember of the West Contra Cost Unified School District (WCCUSD). Mr. Ramsey made a commitment that the West Contra Costa Unified School District will meet with the Richmond City Council on a semi-annual basis. He also stated that currently there are no Richmond schools scheduled for closure. Discussion continued. Don Gosney completed a speaker's card but chose not to address the Council. Naomi Williams spoke on this item. Following discussion, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Marquez, seconded by Councilmember Rogers to rescind the resolution in the interest of harmony and goodwill between the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education and the Richmond City Council. Councilmember Bates offered an amendment to the motion to revisit this item if the school board fails to respond as indicated in their recommendations. Councilmember Lopez offered a friendly amendment to schedule a meeting within the next 60 days with the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education and the Richmond City Council. The amendments were accepted. Vice Mayor Marquez also included in his motion to rescind Item L-5 from the City Council Meeting of February 19, 2008, to direct staff to hire an educational consultant, under \$10,000, and report back to the City Council in 60-90 days on the legal options for the City of Richmond to file for Charter School status for 10 elementary schools in Richmond from the WCCUSD. The motion passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Butt, Lopez, Rogers, Sandhu, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Marquez, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmembers Butt and Thurmond.

STUDY AND DIRECTION TO STAFF SESSION

The purpose of the Study and Direction to Staff Session was as follows:

In the matter to review and approve the updated Civic Center Public Art element. Redevelopment Director, Steve Duran, introduced Winifred Day, Project Manager for the art component, who presented all the art elements to be incorporated into the new Civic Center. Simms Thompson, Jr. spoke on this item. On motion of Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Vice Mayor Marquez, accepted the art elements as presented by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Butt, Bates, Rogers, Sandhu, Viramontes, Vice Mayor Marquez, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmembers Thurmond and Lopez.

In the matter to receive an update on the Graduate School of Public Policy's environmental policy analysis and provide input on criteria preferences in order to receive a recommended environmental policy framework that will help the City establish environmental policy goals and priorities and methods for measuring policy impacts. Janet Schneider, Administrative Chief, gave a brief overview and introduced Sarah Minor-Massy, second-year graduate student with the Goldman School, who gave a PowerPoint presentation. Goals of the project were to recommend a comprehensive environmental policy framework that will allow the City of Richmond to identify environmental priorities and implement effective policies with measurable impacts. This framework will allow the Council to achieve its goal of making Richmond an environmentally sustainable place to live and work. Simms Thompson, Jr. spoke on this item. Councilmember Butt stated he was under the impression that the Council would come up with a list of issues of importance first before talking about how to implement. Mayor McLaughlin stated she would like to see policies other agencies already have in place. Councilmember Viramontes stated the survey put extreme positions on the environment. Councilmember Bates stated his concern about the process, costs, and the business communities that would be affected. Councilmember Thurmond suggested forming a smaller working group to give suggestions of how to move forward with this issue and bring the suggested issues to the City Council. City Manager, Bill Lindsay, stated he would withdraw the recommendation of the item as presented and staff will develop a process and menu of environmental policies to present to the City Council. A motion was made by Councilmember Bates, seconded by Councilmember Butt, to refer this item to the city manager to come back to the City Council with a recommended process and policies. Discussion continued and a substitute motion was made by Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Lopez, to direct the city manager to develop a financial strategy and give the City Council the opportunity to weigh in on issues such as revenue generation, etc. A friendly amendment was offered by Councilmember Lopez to include a methodology to measure outcomes of policies that are adopted. The friendly amendment was accepted. City Manager, Bill Lindsay, restated the motion for clarification as, "direct staff to prepare a comprehensive environmental policy and plan based

on the previous stated values of the City Council and include a financial analysis of various components and outcomes and outcome measures that can be used to evaluate their effectiveness". A friendly amendment was offered by Mayor McLaughlin to factor into the outcome analysis the outcome on the environment which can bring forward economic costs. The amendment was accepted. Councilmember Bates withdrew his original motion. The motion passed by the unanimous vote of the Council.

In the matter to receive an update on the status of commercial packaging waste reduction policy development and provide direction to staff as appropriate. Janet Schneider gave an overview of the item and introduced Jenny Oorbeck, Environmental Manager, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on preliminary data gathered to date. Jenny Oorbeck stated next steps include: continue ongoing research, create stakeholder group, survey and meet with restaurant owners, interview staff from neighboring cities regarding the effectiveness of their waste reduction policies, and comprehensive waste reduction recommendations to the City Council in April 2008. Councilmember Viramontes suggested staff start with the top generators of the waste stream that are most feasible for the City of Richmond to manage. Councilmember Rogers requested Ms. Oorbeck look into the following two waste management items: (1) apartments having clearly labeled dumpsters, and (2) sending internal document production via e-mail. Mayor McLaughlin stated that Richmond Sanitary Services provides recycling services to businesses upon request and requested information on the number of businesses not requesting recycling service pickup. The report was received by the unanimous consent of the Council.

This item was heard after Item G-5. In the matter to receive a status report on the Local Employment Ordinance. Employment and Training Director, Sal Vaca, gave an overview of the item and presented a PowerPoint presentation of the scope and goals to improve the Local Employment Ordinance. He stated the total direct Richmond hires for construction employment was 112, average hourly wage was \$20.16, and the average age of the 112 hires was 25. Mr. Vaca stated the next steps include: Standardize language in processes and procedures for RFPs, RFQs, contracts, contract awards, and notices to proceed; increase site visits and spot checks; increase participation in pre-bid, post award, and project meetings, develop a process for tracking and providing credit for hours worked by Richmond residents on non-City projects; and become members of Bay Area Contract Compliance Officers Association (BACCOA) to learn best practices and improve processes. Jennifer Lin spoke on this item. Councilmember Bates stated there are no sanctions and/or penalties when contractors don't meet the goals. Councilmember Sandhu suggested that contractors should show a good-faith effort to hire 20% Richmond residents prior to being awarded the contract. Councilmember Lopez offered the following recommendations to improve the Local Employment Ordinance: (1) sole sourcing a contract should be a last resort; (2) the contract should specify if the Local Employment Ordinance is not met, then the last payment will be withheld; (3) training for individuals

that receive and pay bills to make sure the last invoice meets local ordinance; and (4) department heads or contract managers should be held accountable to evaluate contractors. She also requested salary information by gender. Mr. Vaca stated that Employment and Training has released an RFQ to hire a consultant to help strengthen business opportunities. He expects to come to the City Council with a recommendation for a consultant within six to eight weeks. Councilmember Rogers requested the ordinance be revisited and referred to a committee to work on an amendment. Following discussion, a motion was made by Councilmember Viramontes, seconded by Councilmember Bates, to “accept the report and the Public Safety and Program Committee will review the ordinance and get consensus with the Public Safety Program Committee voting on amending the ordinance and take the time to meet with the business community and all stakeholders and bring it back to Council and the Finance Committee will look at the compliance issue”. Mr. Vaca recommended that the ordinance should be revised to make it a requirement that contractor’s workforce represents 20% of Richmond resident participation at the time their bid is submitted or at the reward of the contract. He also recommended clearly having the resources to ensure that the process and procedures are being followed. Mayor McLaughlin requested staff come back with a status report on the Local Business Ordinance (LBO). The motion passed by the unanimous vote of the Council.

This item was heard before Item G-5. In the matter to receive a status report on the Summer Youth Employment Program. Sal Vaca introduced Leonard McNeal, Co-Chair of the Richmond Workforce Investment Board Youth Council, who shared a report of the 2007 Summer Youth Employment Program and also introduced the goals to continue to expand the program for 2008. Mr. McNeal stated that the youth program is a crime-prevention program. It provides opportunities for youth to learn gainful skills. As jobs for youth go up, the crime rate goes down. There are 14,000, employment age, youth in the City of Richmond. During the 2007 Summer Youth Employment Program, 600 applications were accepted, and 452 applicants were placed in summer employment. Goals for 2008 include: employing 500 youth; raise \$500,000 to support the program; and secure funding, resources and improvements to achieve the eventual goal of serving 1,000 youth. Mr. McNeal encouraged the City Council to sponsor one summer youth with a contribution of \$100 each and he would contribute \$100 of his own money on behalf of the City Council. Councilmember Sandhu contributed \$100 to help sponsor a summer youth. Mayor McLaughlin thanked the staff for the report and all their efforts to make the program successful.

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

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:36 p.m. to meet again on Tuesday, March 4, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

Mayor