

**RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, April 2, 2013**

The Richmond City Council Evening Open Session was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The deputy 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:

**CITY COUNCIL**

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Initiation of litigation pursuant to Subdivision (c) of Government Code Section 54956.9):**

One Case

**There were no public speakers.**

The Evening Open Session adjourned to Closed Session at 5:33 p.m. The Closed Session adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Richmond City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor McLaughlin who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Butt, Myrick, Rogers, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Absent:** Vice Mayor Boozé, was absent during Roll Call..

**READING OF THE CODE OF ETHICS**

Deputy City Clerk Ursula Deloa read the Code of Ethics.

**STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None.

## **AGENDA REVIEW**

Removed Items I-4, I-5, I-8, I-9, and I-11 from the Consent Calendar; continued Item I-10 to April 16, 2013; and withdrew Item J-1 from the agenda to be agendaized on the April 16, 2013, City Council Agenda under Closed Session.

## **OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Yolanda Jones expressed disappointment that her business was not included on the small business certified contractor's list.

Charlie Walker expressed disappointment that black contractors are not given the opportunities to work on projects in Richmond.

Antwon Cloird gave comments that another councilmember apologized for comments made by a councilmember. He stated that councilmembers must respect one another.

Henry Parker invited everyone to the Second Annual "Reach for the Stars" Full Inclusion Fashion Show and Showcase working with children on the Autism spectrum, being held April, 27, 2013, at Lavonya Dejean Middle School, 3400 Macdonald Avenue, from 5:30p.m. to 9:00 p.m. tickets are \$10.00.

Joseph Puleo gave comments regarding the behavior of Human Resources Director and Assistant City Manager Leslie Knight and the lack of discipline for her behavior due to double-standards.

Etta Jones expressed disappointment that Yolanda Jones Construction Company was omitted from the small business certified contractor's list. She encouraged the city council to make sure that it does not happen again.

Kathleen Wimer stated that those on the public payroll must act above not only impropriety but above the appearance of impropriety. Ms. Wimer stated that the City of Richmond cannot have a reputation as being corrupt for our own future together. Therefore, whatever discipline was imposed on Ms. Knight's employment has to correct and extinguish this appearing of impropriety without granting any preferential treatment.

Alpha Buie gave comments regarding the plight of young African Americans seeking employment specifically ex-offenders returning to the community. She stated that many African American contractors are excluded from lists to bid for funding for their programs.

Paul Rodgers stated the residents living near Booker T. Anderson Park were not able to use the park because of the continuous use of the fields for soccer. He encouraged the City Council to exam the issue so that residents in the area were able to enjoy the park also.

Stacie Plummer gave comments regarding the Richmond Charter. She stated that charter was created by the Richmond voters based on an unwavering foundation of public trust. Ms. Plummer stated that the charter starts with where the city manager must live, the prosecutorial duties of the city attorney, and entrust powers and duties of the City Council, and Personnel Board. She also stated that trust cannot be off-limits to the people. Ms. Plummer also stated that a debate regarding public trust began with City Manager Bill Lindsay's press release.

Jackie Thompson stated that permits for soccer were issued for certain sections of Booker T. Anderson Park; however, the entire park was being used for soccer. Ms. Thompson also stated that bullying can be physical, mental, and emotional. She encouraged the City Council to review the Personnel Rules. She also stated that department heads should establish employee anti-bullying training.

Wesley Ellis stated that Councilmember Beckles should not flatter herself by thinking she could hurt his feelings. He stated that the rift between he and Councilmember Beckles began when she told him that he did not have a clue about anything, and called his name out among all the citizens seated in the Council Chambers.

Stan Fleury thanked Mayor McLaughlin and Councilmember Beckles for having the courage to start a discussion among the leadership of the City of Richmond regarding current issues taking place within the City of Richmond. Mr. Fleury stated that it was with great peril that issues were brought fourth to the City Council, and he encouraged the City Council to help employees and continue to listen to what they have to say.

Niechelle Gordan stated that she was trying to acquire a new business license within the City of Richmond and left a message with the appropriate department; however, no one returned her call. Mr. Lindsay will follow-up with the department.

Lalo Herrera gave comments regarding Human Resources Director and Assistance City Manager Leslie Knight stating she was the worst offender of the City's policies and procedures.

Andre Soto congratulated Councilmember Beckles for apologizing to the public for hurtful comments she made. He also thanked Mayor McLaughlin and Councilmember Beckles for

demanding accountability, justice, and equality for all employees within the City of Richmond. Mr. Soto also stated that the kind of favoritism that has been shown undermines the credibility of management and he hopes that issues are resolved in a fair and equitable manner that preserves the integrity of city government.

Raymond Dryer thanked the City Council for pulling the resolution regarding Human Resources Director and Assistance City Manager Leslie Knight and taking the issue to Closed Session to hear the report in its entirety. Mr. Dryer stated that as children you learn that taking something that does not belong to you was theft, and encouraged the City Council to following through with a proper decision.

Michael Beer stated that there will not be a Silly Parade this year and thanked the many organizations and individuals for past support.

Bea Roberson encouraged citizens to attend the Marine Clean Energy (MCE) Meeting, Monday, April 22, 2013, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room at Levone De Jean Middle School, 3400 Mac Donald Avenue; citizens will learn and be able to ask questions regarding their options when MCE rolls out its program.

Sam Casas encouraged the City Council to establish an ethics commission and also to demand a detailed budget to restore public trust.

Bishop Andre Jackson invited everyone to a public meeting with Senator Loni Hancock, Friday, April 5, 2013; 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the Richmond Council Chambers, regarding the findings of the Chevron fire.

Marilyn Langlois stated that according the investigative report summary released there has been a violation of public trust by Human Resources Director and Assistance City Manager Leslie Knight; a top leader that should be a role-model to all employees and should be held accountable. Ms. Langlois stated that since the information that was shared indicated a misuse of public funds, the public wants and needs to know what would be done about it. Ms. Langlois also stated that she supports the residents and city employees that are calling for honesty, integrity, and fairness.

Juan Reardon stated that Richmond residents pay taxes to pay salaries of city staff, and it was essential that residents could trust the people spending the money. Mr. Reardon stated that those that manage others should be held to the highest standards of accountability. Mr. Reardon also reminded everyone that when Mayor McLaughlin learned that an individual in her office was embezzling funds, she immediately terminated the individual and initiated criminal charges. He also stated that an investigation revealed that Human Resources Director and Assistance City

Manager Leslie Knight knowingly took money that she was not entitled to from the City of Richmond and has been given a pass by City Manager Bill Lindsay. He encouraged the Mr. Lindsay to following the example of Mayor McLaughlin and immediately stop tolerating fraud and remove those committing it.

Texanita Bluitt thanked the City Council for holding the joint meeting with the West Contra Costa County School Board and promoting renovations to the Kennedy Swim Center and schools throughout the City of Richmond. Ms. Bluitt stated that the community needs to work together to improve the quality of education for our children.

Rodney Ferguson stated that justice delayed was justice denied and that it was time for the City Council do the right thing. He encouraged the City Council to be an example to all people that were trying to get their lives together and if the City Council could not make the hard decisions, then it would be difficult for others to make the hard decisions.

Charles Smith started his address to the City Council by quoting from a speech by President Obama that stated “everyone plays by the same set of rules.” Ms. Smith stated that everyone playing by the same rules was one of the most cherished values. Mr. Smith stated that he would suggest that if Mr. Lindsay does not believe that Human Resources Director and Assistant City Manager Leslie Knight has committed crimes that merit the termination of her contract, then he was ethnically challenged.

Mike Parker thanked Stacie Plummer for the courage to demand that the City live up to the standards of integrity that citizens want. He also stated that a city only works when the citizens have trust in city government and that public trust in the City of Richmond leadership must be restored. Mr. Parker also stated that the City of Richmond must find a way to make it clear that there would be zero tolerance for any managers of the City of Richmond who believes that they are above the rules.

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

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

**CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR**

On motion of Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Councilmember Beckles all items marked with an (\*) were approved by the unanimous vote of the Council.

\*- Authorized the library and cultural services director to accept federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Reimbursement Funds in the amount of \$6,000, and approve an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2012/13 operating budget, increasing library fund revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$6,000, allowing these LSTA funds to be used to purchase literacy materials for the Literacy for Every Adult Program (LEAP).

\*-Approved a contract with CPS HR Consulting to develop and administer promotional examinations for Fire Captain, Fire Engineer, and Fire Inspector I in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 and for a term of April 3, 2013, to June 30, 2015.

\*-Adopted **Resolution No. 25-13** amending the City of Richmond's Position Classification Plan to add the new classification of Duplicating/Mail Specialist I/II and delete the classifications of Duplicating/Mail Assistant and Senior Duplicating/Mail Assistant.

The matter to introduce an ordinance for first reading establishing the wages, salary, and compensation for the new classification of Duplicating/Mail Specialist I (Salary Range No. 12: \$3,403 - \$4,137/month) and, the new classification of Duplicating/ Mail Specialist II (Salary Range No. 18: \$3,743 - \$4,551/month) was presented by City Manager Bill Lindsay. Diane Canepa gave comments. **The matter was continued to April 16, 2013, to gather more information.**

The matter to approve an amendment to the contract with Strongbuilt Construction Company for building repair work performed at 1350 Kelsey Street in the amount of \$5,912.77, increasing the total cost of the project to \$12,792.77, and extending the term through March 31, 2013, was presented by Project Manager Craig Murray. On motion of Vice Mayor Booze, seconded by Councilmember Myrick approved an amendment to the contract with Strongbuilt Construction Company by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Butt, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Booze, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Beckles.

\*-Approved an amendment to the lease of property located at 500 23rd Street (RichmondBUILD III), extending the term for the six-months ending June 30, 2013, at a cost of \$5,000 per month, for a total lease payment of \$30,000.

\*-Approved an amendment to the contract with The Glen Price Group to develop the Richmond Workforce Investment Board Strategic Plan for 2013-2017 and various grant applications by the agreed upon target dates. The amended contract term will be September 20, 2012, through December 31, 2013. The

contract amount will be increased by \$46,000 for an amount not to exceed \$55,500.

The matter to approve a one-year contract with Regina Almaguer, LLC for services as project manager of the Port of Richmond Public Art Project in an amount not to exceed \$33,750 was presented by Arts Director Michele Seville. Angel Perez, Bruce Beyaert, Tom Leatherman, and Fletcher Oakes gave comments. A motion was made by Councilmember Bates, seconded by Councilmember Beckles to approve a one-year contract with Regina Almaguer, LLC for services as project manager of the Port of Richmond Public Art Project. A substitute motion was made by Councilmember Butt to direct the Port Department to contribute the entire cost of \$600,000 and contribute \$225,000 to the Arts Advisory Committee and another \$225,000 to finish the Bay Trail Project failed for lack of a second. The original motion passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Rogers, Vice Mayor Booze, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** Councilmember Butt. **Abstentions:** Councilmember Myrick. **Absent:** None.

The matter to approve the following reappointments to: Commission on Aging: Myrtle Braxton, incumbent, term expiring May 19, 2015; Delores Johnson, incumbent, term expiring May 19, 2015; Beverly Wallace, incumbent, term expiring May 19, 2014; Eli Williams, incumbent, term expiring May 19, 2014; Human Relations and Human Rights Commission: Betty Burrus-Wright, incumbent, term expiring March 30, 2016; Point Molate Citizen Advisory Committee: Charles Smith, incumbent, term expiring May 3, 2015; Recreation and Parks Commission: Pam Saucer-Bilbo, incumbent, term expiring October 26, 2015; Economic Development Commission: Qiana Riley, incumbent, term expiring March 30, 2016, was pulled for public comments by Jackie Thompson. Following public comment on motion of Vice Mayor Booze, seconded by Councilmember Bates approved the reappointments by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

\*-Adopted **Ordinance No. 4-13** establishing the wages, salary, and compensation for the new classification of Source Control Superintendent (Salary Range No. 064D: \$7,277 - \$8,829/month).

The matter to approve an Advisory Services Agreement with Mortgage Resolution Partners, LLC to assist the City of Richmond in reducing the impact of the mortgage crisis, by advising on the acquisition of mortgage loans through the use of eminent domain, in order to restructure or refinance the loans and thereby preserving home ownership, restoring homeowner equity and stabilizing the communities' housing market and economy by allowing many homeowners to remain in their homes was presented by City Manager Bill Lindsay. *(At 11:00 p.m. on motion of Councilmember*

*Myrick, seconded by Mayor McLaughlin extended the meeting to finish the current item with Councilmember Butt voting Noe). Councilmember Butt left the meeting at 11:15 p.m.* Leland Chan and Melvin Willis gave comments. A motion was made by Councilmember Beckles, seconded by Councilmember Myrick to approve an Advisory Services Agreement with Mortgage Resolution Partners, LLC. Councilmember Myrick requested a report back from staff regarding loan criteria and specifics. A substitute motion was made by Vice Mayor Booze, seconded by Councilmember Bates to hold the item over for 30 days to gather more information. Following discussion, Councilmember Bates withdrew his second. The original motion to approve an Advisory Services Agreement with Mortgage Resolution Partners, LLC passed by the following vote: **Ayes:** Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Booze, and Mayor McLaughlin. **Noes:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Absent:** Councilmember Butt.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Withdrew from the agenda** the matter to adopt a resolution calling for restoration of public trust through the removal of an executive City employee from current position.

The matter to adopt a resolution in support of AB 218 (Dickinson) to expand the “Ban the Box” policy to state employment to eliminate the inquiry about criminal history on any initial employment application was presented by Councilmember Beckles and Mayor McLaughlin. Jackie Thompson, Marilyn Langlois, and Eduardo Martinez gave comments. On motion of Councilmember Beckles, seconded by Councilmember Myrick adopted **Resolution No. 26-13** by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

## **COUNCIL AS A WHOLE**

The matter to review the proposed Term Sheet for post-collection services as negotiated between RecycleMore and Republic Services and authorize an agreement based on this Term Sheet and review the proposed solid waste collection services based on the Term Sheet, and other possible modifications to collection services, and authorize staff to develop a proposed agreement with Republic Services regarding these service modifications for subsequent Council approval was presented by Sustainability Associate Jennifer Ly and Rob Hilton, from HF&H Consultants. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Booze, seconded by Councilmember Myrick to review the proposed Term Sheet for post-collection services as negotiated between RecycleMore and Republic Services and authorize an agreement based on this Term Sheet and review the proposed solid waste collection services based on the Term Sheet, and other possible modifications to collection services, and authorize staff to develop a

proposed agreement with Republic Services regarding these service modifications for subsequent Council. Councilmember Myrick offered a friendly amendment to negotiate the best deals for the citizens for Richmond as details are worked out. The friendly amendment was accepted. Councilmember Bates requested that staff prepare an analysis of the benefits of keeping the JPA. The motion including the friendly amendment was approved by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

The matter to discuss and give direction to staff regarding the Code Enforcement Department's use of contractors outside the City of Richmond for Code Enforcement demolitions was presented by Vice Mayor Boozé and Code Enforcement Manager Tim Higarres. This item was referred to the Public Safety Committee, and Vice Mayor Boozé also requested that a staff form a committee in addition to the Public Safety Committee specifically to discuss the issue.

The matter to consider directing the city manager to prepare a plan to publicize and to assist residents to take advantage of programs for free or reduced cost access to the Internet, including seeking out grants was presented by Councilmember Rogers and Mayor McLaughlin. Councilmember Bates suggested that staff outreach to the Richmond Neighborhood Councils to inform citizens. Jackie Thompson and Ken Maxey gave comments. On motion of Councilmember Rogers, seconded by Mayor McLaughlin directed the city manager to prepare a plan to publicize and to assist residents to take advantage of programs for free or reduced cost access to the Internet, including seeking out grants by the unanimous vote of the City Council.

The matter to receive a report from staff on the status of proposed solar powered streetlights along Richmond Parkway was presented Councilmember Beckles. City Manager Bill Lindsay gave an oral report. Councilmember Beckles directed staff to submit a feasibility study of solar powered streetlights. Vice Mayor Boozé stated that the installation of lighting on the Richmond Parkway was currently underway. Sims Thompson gave comments.

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

Councilmember Bate announced that Richmond citizen Myrtle Hunt passed and requested that Mayor McLaughlin adjourn the meeting in honor of her memory.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 p.m. in memory of Richmond resident Myrtle Hunt, to meet again on Tuesday, April 16, 2013, at 6:30 p.m.

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City Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved:

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Mayor