

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL EL CERRITO REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

MINUTES

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 19, 2010 – 6:40 p.m.
Hillside Conference Room

SPECIAL CONCURRENT CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING
Tuesday, January 19, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Meeting Location
El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Janet Abelson – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Ann Cheng
Councilmember William C. Jones, III

Councilmember/Agency Chair Sandi Potter
Councilmember/Agency Vice-Chair Greg Lyman

6:40 p.m. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Cheng, Jones, Lyman, Potter and Mayor Abelson present.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Abelson convened the Special City Council meeting at 6:46 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – No speakers.

COMMISSION INTERVIEWS, STATUS AND APPOINTMENTS

Conduct interviews of candidates for city boards and commissions. Interviews may result in an announcement of appointment at the meeting. The Council may also discuss scheduling of future interviews.

Action: The City Council conducted three interviews.

ADJOURNED SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 7:42 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers/Agency Members Cheng, Jones, Lyman, Potter (Agency Chair) and Mayor Abelson present.

7:30 p.m.

CONVENE SPECIAL CONCURRENT CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING

Mayor Abelson convened the Special Concurrent City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting at 7:44 p.m.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG** was led by Councilmember Jones.
2. **COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilmember Lyman reported on his attendance with Mayor Abelson and Councilmember Jones at the January 7 Contra Costa Mayors Conference. Jim Wonderman informed the Conference of a possible ballot measure calling for a state constitutional convention this November. More information can be obtained from repaircalifornia.org. Councilmember Lyman thanked the Public Works Department for cleaning out the storm drains on a holiday and for keeping the drains running during the storm. Senator DeSaulnier will be holding a Town Hall Meeting on January 21, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Pinole City Hall located at 2131 Pear Street. Councilmember Lyman also announced a Neighborhood Watch Program meeting March 22 at City Hall, the Bicycle Rodeo on May 22 and National Night Out Event on August 3, 2010.

Councilmember Jones commented on the state constitutional convention, stated that Mr. Wonderman provided a great presentation, and said that the measure will be the main issue on the Statewide November ballot.

Councilmember Potter stated that there are many possible initiatives in the June and November elections and suggested that staff prepare a listing of possible resolutions to support for Council consideration.

Mayor Abelson announced the following board and commission appointments: Carl Hampson is reappointed and Maggie Leighly is appointed to the Design Review Board for terms ending January 1, 2014. Leslie Adams is appointed to the Economic Development Board for a term ending January 1, 2014.

Elizabeth Block is appointed to the Human Relations Commission for a term ending January 1, 2014.

Margo Takemiya is reappointed to the Park and Recreation Commission for a term ending January 1, 2014 and Michele Jawad is appointed to a term ending January 1, 2014.

Thomas Halasz is appointed to the Arts and Culture Commission for a term ending January 1, 2014.

Mayor Abelson thanked everyone who interviewed for a position on the above commissions and stated that all candidates were qualified and talented and as a result of the interviews, the Council had difficult decisions to make.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Kathryn Ray, expressed her support and celebration of the Contra Costa Civic Theater's 50th Anniversary and invited all to attend the Theater's February 5 Opening Night performance of *Over the Tavern*.

Brit Johnson, invited all to celebrate the Theater's 50th Anniversary and attend the opening night performance of *Over the Tavern*, a 1959 period piece about a catholic family in Baltimore, Md.

4. PRESENTATIONS

National Night Out Award – El Cerrito Crime Prevention Committee

Presenters: Randy Calish, Chair and Mollie Hazen, Vice Chair, Crime Prevention Committee.

Action: Award presented. Chair Calish stated that the award is the 6th in a row that the city has received from the National Association of Town Watch. This year the city was ranked 24th nationally.

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Items 5A through 5D

Moved, seconded (Jones/Lyman) and carried unanimously to adopt Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5A through 5D in one motion as indicated below.

A. Minutes for Approval

1. Approve the December 14, 2009 Special Joint El Cerrito City Council / West Contra Costa Unified School District Board Meeting Minutes;

2. Approve the December 21, 2001 Special City Council, Special Concurrent City Council/Redevelopment Agency Meeting and Special Redevelopment Agency Closed Session Meeting Minutes; and

3. Approve the January 11, 2010 Special City Council Meeting Minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Proclamation Declaring January as National Blood Donor Month

Approve a proclamation proclaiming January 2010 as National Blood Donor Month in the City of El Cerrito and urging all residents to pay tribute to those who donate blood for others in need and urging residents in good health to donate regularly and urging all civic and service organizations and businesses, if they have not already done so, to form blood donor groups to provide blood for others.

Action: Approved proclamation.

C. Adopt an Ordinance Amending Financial Advisory Board Duties

First reading December 21, 2009. Vote – Unanimous

Approve by title, waive any further reading and adopt Ordinance No. 2010-01 amending El Cerrito Municipal Code Section 2.04.300 – Financial Advisory Board.

Action: Adopted Ordinance No. 2010-01.

D. Authorize Destruction of Police Department Records

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Chief of Police to destroy records listed in Exhibit “A” to the attached resolution in accordance with the police department records retention schedule established by Resolution 2005-23.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2010-01.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

Presenter: Michael Regan, Captain, El Cerrito Police Department.

Repeal and Re-Enactment of the Curfew Ordinance

Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion introduce by title, waive first reading and approve an ordinance repealing and reenacting Chapters 10.70 of the El Cerrito Municipal Code (Minors – Activities or Places Prohibited).

Action: Mayor Abelson opened the public hearing. No speakers.

Moved, seconded (Lyman/Potter) and carried unanimously to close the public hearing.

Moved, seconded (Lyman/Jones) and carried unanimously to approve first reading of Ordinance No. 2010–02 as amended on the floor to modify the text of the ordinance to change the curfew from 10:00 p.m. to between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. *Second reading scheduled February 1, 2010.*

7. POLICY MATTERS

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS

A. Support for a West Contra Costa Unified School District Middle School in El Cerrito

Adopt a resolution supporting the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education's decision to build a middle school in the City of El Cerrito serving the Portola Middle School/El Cerrito High School attendance area.

Action: Moved, seconded (Potter/Jones) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2010–02.

B. Council Subcommittee Appointment

At the request of Councilmember Potter, appoint two members of the City Council to form a subcommittee for the purpose of performing periodic reviews of commission appointments, terms and procedures.

Action: Moved, seconded (Potter/Jones) and carried unanimously to appoint Councilmembers Cheng and Lyman to a Council Subcommittee on Commission Rules and Procedures.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ITEM

C. Amendment to Cerrito Theater Lease

Adopt a Redevelopment Agency resolution amending the Lease Agreement with Pleasantown Motion Picture Company, LLC for the operation of the Cerrito Theater as a movie theater and restaurant.

Speakers: Al Miller, El Cerrito, stated his support for amending the lease with Pleasantown Motion Picture Company, LLC and encouraged the Redevelopment Agency Board to adopt the resolution.

Action: Moved, seconded (Cheng/Abelson) and carried unanimously to adopt Redevelopment Agency Resolution No. 594.

JOINT CITY COUNCIL / REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ITEM**D. Financial Reserve Policy**

Consider the Financial Advisory Board's recommendation to adopt City Council and Redevelopment Agency resolutions revising the City's Comprehensive Financial Policies regarding the General Fund Reserve requirement and rescind Resolutions Nos. 2009-19 and 585.

Presenter: Mary Dodge, Administrative Services Director.

Action: Moved, seconded (Lyman/Jones) and carried unanimously to refrain from adopting the policy as presented to the Council/Redevelopment Agency at this time and hold over any additional consideration of the reserve policy to mid-year budget discussions.

8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

- A. Mayor Abelson stated that she will be attending an Association of Bay Area Governments Forum on the state of the economy and encouraged all to attend. Additionally, Mayor Abelson will be attending upcoming League of California Cities Community Services and Administrative Services Policy Committees meetings in Sacramento January 21-22, 2010.
- B. Councilmember Cheng reported that the Design Review Board performed a conceptual review of the proposed Camp Herms Cell Tower at its last meeting. The Economic Development Board (EDB) brainstormed projects for the coming year. Ideas included exploring synergies with other commission events such as Stockton Stroll, promoting local businesses, as well as a new music focused event that would highlight the City's unique musical businesses. The EDB designated May 2 as the next Home Improvement Expo.
- C. Councilmember Jones reported that the Tom Bates Regional Sports Field Joint Powers Authority is providing temporary parking at the field. Permanent parking will be developed when construction starts on the softball field in Spring 2010. Councilmember Jones announced that the Planning Commission will review the proposed Camp Herms Cell Tower on January 20.
- D. Councilmember Lyman reported that the Financial Advisory Board (FAB) had met last week and reviewed and accepted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The FAB also reviewed the Godbe survey presentation, commented on the survey and concluded that it did not have confidence in the study results. The FAB encourages the City Council to continue to explore ways to replace the Public Safety Building through bonding. The FAB also discussed the employee compensation policy and developed a "problem statement" and provided recommendations.
- E. Councilmember Potter reported that the Human Relations Commission was unable to meet due to lack of quorum and that she will be attending the January 20 meeting of the Arts Commission.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS**Item No. 7(D) Financial Reserve Policy**

- 1. April 2009 Financial Reserve Policy – *Submitted by Mary Dodge, Administrative Services Director.*
 - 2. Sample "City of Somewhere" General Fund Ten-Year Plan – *Submitted by Mary Dodge, Administrative Services Director.*
- 9. ADJOURNED CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING at 10:00 p.m.**

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Concurrent City Council and Redevelopment Agency meeting of January 19, 2010 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Cheryl Morse, City Clerk and Secretary to the Redevelopment Agency



Janet Abelson, Mayor



Sandi Potter, Redevelopment Agency Chair