AGENDA

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 18, 2011 – 6:30 p.m.
Hillside Conference Room

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 18, 2011 – 7:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers

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

Ann Cheng – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Bill Jones
Councilmember Rebecca Benassini
Councilmember/Agency Chair Janet Abelson
Councilmember Greg Lyman

ROLL CALL

6:30 p.m. **CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Comments of three minutes per person are limited to items on this special meeting agenda only.

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 City Council may also discuss scheduling of future interviews.

ADJOURN SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

ROLL CALL

7:30 p.m. **CONVENE CONCURRENT CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG – led by Councilmember Abelson.

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS *(Reports of Closed Session, commission appointments and informational reports on matters of general interest which are announced by*

the City Council & City Staff.)

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

All persons wishing to speak should sign up with the City Clerk. Remarks are limited to 3 minutes per person. Please state your name and city of residence for the record. Comments regarding non-agenda, presentation and consent calendar items will be heard first. Comments related to items appearing on the Public Hearing or Policy Matter portions of the Agenda are taken up at the time the City Council deliberates each action item. Individuals wishing to comment on any closed session scheduled after the regular meeting may do so during this public comment period or after formal announcement of the closed session.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. American Red Cross Proclamation – *Proclamation received by Sarah Dahms, Donor Recruitment Account Manager.*

Approve and present a proclamation proclaiming January 2011 as National Blood Donor Month in the City of El Cerrito and urge all residents to pay tribute to those among us who donate for others in need. The City Council urges residents in good health to donate regularly, and urges all civic and service organizations and businesses, if they have not already done so, to form blood donor groups to provide blood for others.

B. Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury – *Presentation by Richard Olson, Grand Jury Member.*

Mr. Olson will provide a brief description of the mission and function of the Contra Costa Civil Grand Jury and extend an invitation to all residents to submit an application for membership.

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 5A through 5F

Consent Calendar items are considered to be routine by the City Council/Redevelopment Agency and will be enacted by one motion unless a request for removal for discussion or explanation is received prior to the time Council votes on the motion to adopt.

A. Minutes for Approval

Approve the December 20, 2010 Special City Council and December 20, 2010 Concurrent City Council/Redevelopment Agency meeting minutes.

B. Board of Equalization Contracts for City of El Cerrito Measure R

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a "Preparatory Agreement" and an "Administrative Agreement" with the California State Board of Equalization to administer and collect the seven-year 1/2 cent transactions and use tax approved by the voters in the November 2, 2010 General Election and to appropriate $175,000 for the preparatory costs incurred by the Board necessary to administer the City's transactions and use tax.

C. Job Classification Plan Amendments

Adopt a resolution amending the City's job classification plan to: 1) Establish the classification of Administrative Services Director and establish the salary range as recommended; 2) Establish the classification of Maintenance Services Superintendent and establish the salary range as recommended; and 3) Retitle and revise the class specification of Project and Senior Project Manager to Project/Program and Senior Project/Program Manager.

D. Support of the West Contra Costa Unified School District's General Waiver Request of the Statutory Bonding Capacity

At the request of Councilmember Abelson, adopt a resolution expressing the City Council's support for the West Contra Costa Unified School District's application to the State Board of Education for a waiver of the Statutory Bonding Capacity.

E. Support the Transportation for America Campaign

At the request of Mayor Cheng, adopt a resolution strongly supporting the Transportation for America Campaign's efforts to create a national transportation program that will take America into the 21st century by building modernized infrastructure and healthy communities where people can live, work and play.

F. Proclamation Commending Dennis Diemer, General Manager of the East Bay Municipal Utility District, on the Occasion of his Retirement

Approve a proclamation commending Dennis M. Diemer, General Manager of EBMUD for his exceptional leadership, which has built a world class water and wastewater utility that will continue to provide high quality, reliable water and wastewater service at reasonable rates to the people of the East Bay for future generations, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

Appeal of a Planning Commission Decision to Approve a Conditional Use Permit to allow an accessory living unit larger than 750 square feet and in front of a primary living unit at 812 Pomona Avenue. A new primary living unit would be built behind the existing single family home, and the existing home would be used as the accessory living unit. Construction of the new primary living unit does not require a conditional use permit.

Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion adopt a resolution denying an appeal to the Planning Commission's approval of a Conditional Use Permit to allow a second unit larger than 750 square feet and in front of a primary living unit.

A. Staff Report

1. Proposed Resolution
2. Appeal dated January 3, 2011
3. Planning Commission Resolution
4. Plans

B. Communications

1. Grace Bishop, Appellant
2. Ginny Blumberg
3. Bob Blumberg

7. POLICY MATTERS – None

8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

A. Mayor Cheng Assignments: Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) General Assembly Delegate, Arts and Culture Commission, League of California Cities East Bay Division Alternate, Contra Costa County Mayors' Conference, Disaster Preparedness Council Alternate, Human Relations Commission, Pension Board, Temporary Permits Committee, and West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee Alternate.

B. Councilmember Abelson Assignments: Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) General Assembly Alternate, League of California Cities East Bay Division Delegate (also attends Annual League Conference in September), Committee on Aging, Environmental Quality Committee, Temporary Permits Committee, West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee Delegate.

C. Councilmember Benassini Assignments: Economic Development Board, Financial Advisory Board, San Pablo Avenue Area Specific Plan Committee, Tom Bates Regional Sports Field JPA Alternate, West County Regional Library Board Alternate.

D. Councilmember Jones Assignments: Contra Costa County Mayors' Conference Alternate, Pension Board Alternate, Planning Commission, San Pablo Avenue Area Specific Plan Committee, Disaster Preparedness Council Delegate, Tom Bates Regional Sports Field JPA; Underground Utilities Committee, West County Mayors' & Supervisors' Association Alternate, West County Integrated Waste Management Authority Delegate, West County Library Board Delegate.

E. Councilmember Lyman Assignments: Crime Prevention Committee, Design Review Board, Park and Recreation Commission, and West County Integrated Waste Management Authority Alternate.

9. ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

- Council Meetings can be heard live on FM Radio, KECG – 88.1 and 97.7 FM and viewed live on Cable TV - KCRT- Channel 28. The meetings are rebroadcast on Channel 28 the following Thursday and Monday at 12 noon, except on holidays. Live and On-Demand Webcast of the Council Meetings can be accessed from the City's website http://www.el-cerrito.org/gov/. Copies of the agenda bills and other written documentation relating to items of business referred to on the agenda are on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the City Clerk, at the El Cerrito Library and posted on the City's website at www.el-cerrito.org prior to the meeting.

- In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk, (510) 215-4305. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).

- ***The Deadline for agenda items and communications*** is seven days prior to the next meeting by 12 noon, City Clerk's Office, 10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito, CA. Tel: 215–4305 Fax: 215–4379, email cmorse@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

- IF YOU CHALLENGE A DECISION OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN COURT, YOU MAY BE LIMITED TO RAISING ONLY THOSE ISSUES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE RAISED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING. ACTIONS CHALLENGING CITY COUNCIL DECISIONS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE TIME LIMITATIONS CONTAINED IN CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE SECTION 1094.6.

- The City Council believes that late night meetings deter public participation, can affect the Council's decision-making ability, and can be a burden to staff. City Council Meetings shall be adjourned by 10:30 p.m., unless extended to a specific time determined by a majority of the Council.