EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING – CLOSED SESSION
Tuesday, March 7, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.
Hillside Conference Room

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, March 7, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers for the Consent Calendar
Hillside Conference Room for Commission Interviews

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

Janet Abelson – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Gabriel Quinto
Councilmember Greg Lyman
Councilmember Paul Fadelli
Councilmember Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto

ROLL CALL
Councilmembers Fadelli, Lyman, Pardue-Okimoto, Quinto and Mayor Abelson

6:00 p.m.

CONVENE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING – CLOSED SESSION
Mayor Abelson convened the special City Council meeting – Closed Session at 6:00 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC – No comments.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION
Conference with Labor Negotiators (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representatives: Scott Hanin, City Manager, Glenn Berkheimer, Labor Negotiator, Sky Woodruff, City Attorney and Karen Pinkos, Assistant City Manager/Human Resources Manager

Employee Organizations: Service Employees International Union Local 1021
International Association of Fire Fighters Local 1230
El Cerrito Police Employees Association
El Cerrito Public Safety Management
Unrepresented Employees

ADJOURNED SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL SESSION – CLOSED SESSION at 7:03 p.m.
ROLL CALL
Councilmembers Fadelli, Lyman, Pardue-Okimoto, Quinto and Mayor Abelson

7:00 p.m.
CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Mayor Abelson convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:11 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE was led by Councilmember Greg Lyman.

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS
Mayor Abelson announced that the City Council had just met in closed session. No decisions were reached.

Councilmember Fadelli stated that the El Cerrito Poet Laureate, Maw Shein Win, had an event on March 4, 2017, at the El Cerrito Library as part of the Centennial project. It was a great success with over 100 people attending.

Mayor Pro Tem Quinto attended an event at Santa Clara University with other Bay Area elected officials regarding immigration, particularly how what goes on at the federal level affects us locally. The panel discussion was very informative.

Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto stated that she attended the March 4 Poet Laureate program as Council liaison to the Arts and Culture Commission. It was a terrific and at times, emotional event. There will be more readings throughout the year and Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto encouraged all to attend.

Mayor Abelson reported that she attended the March 2 Contra Costa Mayors Conference in Hercules. The mayors received a presentation from Leroy Morishita, President of Cal State University - East Bay. President Morishita spoke about how the college wants to represent not just the Hayward site but the larger East Bay. On Saturday March 4, Mayor Abelson attended the opening day parade of the El Cerrito Youth Baseball League prior to the City Council's special Commission interview meeting.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
Al Miller, El Cerrito, reported on his attendance at the annual Rotary Sip and Savor event; the primary fundraising event of the Rotary Club. The Rotary presented a $10,000 check to the El Cerrito Library Foundation and another $10,000 to the El Cerrito High School Activity Fund.

Tom Panas, El Cerrito, urged the City Council to not only revise the Strategic Plan to explicitly include an historical resources ordinance and survey to designate the most historic structures the next time the Plan comes before the City Council for review, but to also set a timeframe for accomplishing both of the tasks. Mr. Panas also announced that the San Pablo City Council passed a “Safe Haven” resolution on March 6, 2017.

4. PRESENTATIONS
   A. March is American Red Cross Month Proclamation
Approve a proclamation declaring March 2017 as American Red Cross Month in the City of El Cerrito and encouraging all residents to support this organization and its noble humanitarian mission.

   Action: Approved and presented proclamation to James Lyons, Red Cross Leadership Councilmember and Merle McQueen, External Affairs representative.
B. Environmental Quality Committee Workplan – Presentation by Howdy Goudey, Environmental Quality Committee Chair.

Receive a presentation on the Environmental Quality Committee’s accomplishments, goals and workplan.

Action: Received presentation.

C. Specific Plan Overview – Presentation by Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director.

Presenters: Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director; Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director; and Margaret Kavanaugh-Lynch, Development Services Director.

Speakers: Tom Panas, El Cerrito, stated that even though there is a developer fee for the School District that is paid in El Cerrito this doesn’t mean it is used in El Cerrito. The fee is tied to growth in the School District. Mr. Panas thanked staff for a tremendous presentation on the Specific Plan. So much of what staff was trying to enable in setting up the Plan has come to fruition. Mr. Panas queried how the recent West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee Plan will affect the City’s Complete Streets Plan.

Howdy Goudey, El Cerrito, stated that it is great that the City is looking at infrastructure impacts and significant investments in infrastructure and noted that there is an alternative path that could be considered which would go into reducing the capacity needs of a building by implementing efficiency measures such as water use and onsite recycling and treatment of water. Mr. Goudey said that he hopes there is a path for creating incentives that encourage more efficient, low impact technologies in buildings.

Action: Received presentation.

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item No. 5(A) through 5(C)

Moved, seconded (Pardue-Okimoto/Quinto) and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5(A) through 5(C) in one motion as indicated below.

A. Approval of Minutes

Approve the February 21, 2017 Special City Council and Regular City Council and the February 23, 2017 Special City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Women’s History Month and International Women’s Day Proclamation

Approve a proclamation declaring March 2017 as Women’s’ History Month and March 8, 2017 as International Women’s Day in the City of El Cerrito, and encouraging residents to reflect on, honor, and celebrate the history, courage, commitment, accomplishments and contributions of women, not only in El Cerrito but throughout America.

Action: Approved proclamation.

C. Support “Tibetan Action Year”

At the request of Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, adopt a resolution urging China to respect the Tibetan People’s right to self-determination, safeguard their human rights and their pristine environment, and to resume dialogue with His Holiness the Dalai Lama and other Tibetan leaders.


6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None
7. POLICY MATTERS

A. Support for Senate Bill 300, The Health Warning Label on Sugar Sweetened Beverages Act

At the request of Mayor Pro Tem Quinto, adopt a resolution endorsing California Senate Bill 300 (Monning), the Health Warning Label on Sugar Sweetened Beverages Act and encouraging other governmental bodies throughout the state to do the same.

Action: Moved, seconded (Quinto/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2017-11 as amended to insert the words "in concept" into the enacting clause as follows:

"NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of El Cerrito that it wholeheartedly endorses SB 300, in concept and encourages other governmental bodies throughout the state to do the same."

8. CITY COUNCIL LOCAL AND REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Mayor and City Council communications regarding local and regional liaison assignments and committee reports.

Councilmember Fadelli reported that he attended the Contra Costa Mayors Conference in Hercules and also attended the last Economic Development Committee meeting.

Councilmember Lyman reported that as the City’s representative on Marin Clean Energy (MCE), he participated in a rate review as part of MCE’s budget process. The budget is scheduled to be set next week. The proposed MCE rates are below Pacific Gas & Electric’s rates in all categories.

Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto reported that the Design Review Board (DRB) held a public hearing regarding the conversion of a medium residential development to a duplex at 802 Elm Street. The DRB did not come to a conclusion at the meeting and will continue its discussion at a future meeting.

9. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 9:28 p.m. in memory of Mark Guthrie, El Cerrito Committee on Aging member who passed away on February 21, 2017.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS

Item No. 4(C) Specific Plan Overview

1. Updated map (Attachment 1 to the staff report) – Submitted by Melanie Mintz, Community Development Director.

Item No. 7(A) Support for Senate Bill 300, The Health Warning Label on Sugar Sweetened Beverages Act

2. City of Albany letter in support of SB 300 – Submitted by Nick Pilch, Councilmember, City of Albany.

Other:

3. Comments urging revision of the Strategic Plan to include an Historic Resources Ordinance and preparation of a survey of the City to identify the most likely
historic resources and to also include a timeline for accomplishing both tasks – Submitted by Tom Panas, El Cerrito.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of March 7, 2017 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.

Cheryl Morse, City Clerk

Janet Abelson, Mayor