

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

February 2, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IN HONOR OF THE US MILITARY TROOPS

The City Council Meeting was held via Zoom videoconference and broadcast from the Pinole Council Chambers, 2131 Pear Street, Pinole, California. Mayor Martínez-Rubin called the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order at 6:03 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL, CITY CLERK'S REPORT & STATEMENT OF CONFLICT

A. COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT

Norma Martínez-Rubin, Mayor
Vincent Salimi, Mayor Pro Tem
Devin Murphy, Council Member
Anthony Tave, Council Member
Maureen Toms, Council Member

B. STAFF PRESENT

Andrew Murray, City Manager
Hector De La Rosa, Assistant City Manager
Heather Iopu, City Clerk
Eric Casher, City Attorney
Tamara Miller, Development Services Director/City Engineer
David Hanham, Planning Manager

Assistant City Manager De La Rosa announced that the agenda was posted on January 28, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. All legally required notice was provided.

Following an inquiry to the Council, the Council reported there were no conflicts with any items on the agenda.

3. CONVENE TO A CLOSED SESSION

Citizens may address the Council regarding a Closed Session item prior to the Council adjourning into the Closed Session, by first providing a speaker card to the City Clerk.

NO CLOSED SESSION SCHEDULED

4. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION TO ANNOUNCE RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION

5. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (Public Comments)

Citizens may speak under any item not listed on the Agenda. The time limit is 3 minutes, and is subject to modification by the Mayor. Individuals may not share or offer time to another speaker. Pursuant to

provisions of the Brown Act, no action may be taken on a matter unless it is listed on the agenda, or unless certain emergency or special circumstances exist. The City Council may direct staff to investigate and/or schedule certain matters for consideration at a future Council meeting.

The following speakers submitted written comments that were read aloud and will be filed with the agenda packet for this meeting: **Bill and Lisa Ancira, Cordell Hindler, David Ruport, David Long, Irma Ruport, Rafael Menis, Roy Swearingen**

6. RECOGNITIONS / PRESENTATIONS / COMMUNITY EVENTS

A. Proclamations

1. In Honor of the City of Pinole Police Officer of the Year Kyle Breckenridge
Mayor Martinez-Rubin read the proclamation and presented it to the Officer of The Year. Officer Breckenridge thanked the City Council for the honor. Council members made comments in recognition of his hard work and dedication to Pinole.

2. In Honor of the City of Pinole Firefighter of the Year Cory Higgins

Mayor Martinez-Rubin read the proclamation and presented it to the Firefighter of the year, Cory Higgins. Fire Chief Wynkoop accepted the proclamation on his behalf and thanked Council for their recognition. Council members made comments in recognition of Mr. Higgins.

3. Recognizing February as Black History Month

Together, the City Council read the proclamation into the record. Council members made comments, recognized staff, and highlighted the importance of the proclamation.

B. Presentations / Recognitions

1. Certificate of Recognition for Emmanuel Soto, Pinole Valley High School Student, for Being Named to the California All State Honor Band

Mayor Martinez-Rubin read the Certificate and presented it to Emmanuel Soto. Emmanuel Soto thanked the Council for the recognition. Council members made comments honoring Emmanuel Soto.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and noncontroversial. These items will be enacted by one motion and without discussion. If, however, any interested party or Council member(s) wishes to comment on an item, they may do so before action is taken on the Consent Calendar. Following comments, if a Council member wishes to discuss an item, it will be removed from the Consent Calendar and taken up in order after adoption of the Consent Calendar.

A. Approve the Minutes of the Meeting of October 20, 2020

B. Receive the January 9, 2021 – January 29, 2021 List of Warrants in the Amount of \$706,272.56 and the January 22, 2021 Payroll in the Amount of \$490,950.75

- C. Resolution Confirming Continued Existence of Local Emergency **[Action: Adopt Resolution per Staff Recommendation (Casher)]**
- D. Adopt a Resolution Initiating Proceedings for the Annual Levy of Assessments and Ordering the Preparation of the Annual Engineer's Report for the Pinole Valley Road Landscape and Lighting Assessment District for Fiscal Year 2021/22 **[Action: Adopt Resolution per Staff Recommendation (Miller)]**

ACTION: Motion by Councilmembers Tave/Murphy to Approve Consent Calendar Items A, B, C, D,

Vote: Passed 5-0
Ayes: Martinez-Rubin, Salimi, Tave, Murphy, Toms
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

The following item was pulled by Council member Salimi for further discussion.

- E. Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with CSW/Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group, Inc. for Preliminary Engineering and Design Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$450,458 **[Action: Award Contract and Adopt Resolution per Staff Recommendation (Miller)]**

Council member Salimi asked staff for clarification of details in the staff report. Director Miller responded to the questions.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmembers Salimi/Toms to Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with CSW/Stuber-Stroeh Engineering Group, Inc. for Preliminary Engineering and Design Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$450,458

Vote: Passed 5-0
Ayes: Martinez-Rubin, Salimi, Tave, Murphy, Toms
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Citizens wishing to speak regarding a Public Hearing item should fill out a speaker card prior to the completion of the presentation, by first providing a speaker card to the City Clerk. An official who engaged in an ex parte communication that is the subject of a Public Hearing must disclose the communication on the record prior to the start of the Public Hearing.

NONE

9. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Receive a Presentation of the Findings and Recommendations of the Citywide Organizational Assessment [**Action: Receive Report (Murray)**]

City Manager Murray introduced Dan Keen of Management Partners. Mr. Keen presented the findings of the Organizational Assessment in a report to the Council.

Council members asked questions of the consultant and staff. Mr. Keen and City Manager Murray and department heads responded to the questions.

The City Council held discussion regarding the report.

The following speakers submitted written comments that were read aloud and will be filed with the agenda packet for this meeting: **Cordell Hindler, Rafael Menis**

The City Council gave its consensus to receive the report.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Consider a Resolution Appropriating Funding for City Membership in the Local Chamber of Commerce and Sponsorship of a Local Visitor's Guide [**Action: Consider Approval of Resolution per Staff Recommendation (Murray)**]

City Manager Murray presented a report with an overview of the staff report. Executive Director Sylvia Villa-Serrano of the Bay Front Chamber of Commerce along with staff answered questions of the City Council.

The following speaker submitted written comments that were read aloud and will be filed with the agenda packet for this meeting: **Ivette Ricco**

ACTION: Motion by Councilmembers Toms/ to Adopt a Resolution Appropriating Funding for City Membership at the \$1000 level in the Local Chamber of Commerce and Sponsorship of a Local Visitor's Guide

Vote:	Passed	5-0
	Ayes:	Martinez-Rubin, Salimi, Tave, Murphy, Toms
	Noes:	None
	Abstain:	None
	Absent:	None

11. REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Mayor Report
1. Announcements

Mayor Martinez-Rubin reported attendance at League of Cities Legislative Committee meeting and reported that District Director Dean Wallace reported on behalf of Assemblymember Wicks regarding pressing issues including housing and vaccinations. Attended project team leader meeting of the Friends of Pinole Creek Watershed and provided and announced an expansion of the community engagement efforts. Encouraged the public to look up more information and

get involved. Announced attendance at the West County Mayor's meeting; asked that vaccination distribution remain an agenda item to continue to share information and support the local effort to immunize the public.

The Mayor made a comment correcting a past announcement that she made regarding the origins of the AMBER alert.

B. Mayoral & Council Appointments

C. City Council Committee Reports & Communications

Mayor Pro Tem Salimi announced attendance at a recent WCCTAC meeting and the CA League of Cities East Bay Division meeting. Provided statistics regarding the status of COVID-19 immunizations of Pinole Residents.

Council member Tave reported attendance at the CA League of Cities Committee for Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations; labor protections, CALPERS impacts due to pandemic effect on revenue, Brown Act modernization. Announced attendance of other meetings; local legislative bodies to discuss broadband service, and topics regarding environmental concerns and related initiatives.

Reached out to BART to arrange a meeting to discuss regional transportation issues.

Council member asked City Attorney Casher to advise on how to report from a committee closed session back to the City Council. City Attorney Casher provided procedural advice on how to approach making that type of report.

Council member Murphy thanked the Council and the staff for their support and collaboration. Announced CCHearth.org as a resource for pandemic safety information.

Announced upcoming meeting of CA League of Cities Environmental Quality Legislative Policy Committee. Announced being sworn in as Board Director for MCE and upcoming technical committee to discuss green hydrogen.

Discussed creation of community environmental task force; PEST and announced topics of interest; green school yards, outdoor recreation and education opportunities, reduction of plastic waste, indigenous land acknowledgement practices, increased public signage, more clean up, and community gardening.

Announced upcoming County food bank event, East Bay Regional Parks updates, hosting listening sessions on small business support and economic growth in Pinole, and Rotarian clean-up day.

Council member Toms attended a WestCat Board meeting where organization of transportation agencies throughout the Bay Area was discussed; attended League of CA Cities New Mayor and Councilor Training; attended East Bay Division of League of CA Cities, Housing Community and Economic Development Policy Committee and highlighted housing legislation being reviewed. Announced CCHearth.org website as a great resource for pandemic related health information.

D. Council Requests for Future Agenda Items

Council member Tave requested a future agenda item to discuss the format of the Council Committee Reports section of the meeting agenda. Mayor Martinez-Rubin and City Manager Murray stated that this issue will be addressed with a staff proposal to amend Council procedures at an upcoming meeting.

Council member Toms requested a future agenda item to appoint a City Council liaison to the Chamber of Commerce. Consensus given.

Council member Murphy requested a future agenda item for a presentation from Marin Clean Energy regarding current projects related to Pinole. Consensus given.

Mayor Pro Tem Salimi requested a future agenda item to receive a report back from the Code Enforcement program since being placed in the Community Development Department. Consensus given.

Mayor Martinez-Rubin requested a future agenda item to discuss how to follow up with the recommendations of the Beautification Ad Hoc Committee. City Manager Murray stated that the work recommended by the Committee will be addressed through the upcoming budget process.

Council member Tave requested an item to discuss the potential to conduct a community poll to assess satisfaction levels with regard to City services. Council members stated that the work plan of the City has just been approved and it may not be the best timing.

E. City Manager Report / Department Staff

City Manager Murray reported that the Small Business Assistance Grant applications had opened. Announced Black History month and encouraged the public to look at City communications for more information on related activities.

F. City Attorney Report

City Attorney Casher announced the extension of the County-wide eviction moratorium through June 30, 2021 for residential tenants and March 31, 2021 for commercial tenants. Directed residents to the City's website with links to more information.

12. ADJOURNMENT to the Special City Council Meeting of February 9, 2021 in Remembrance of Amber Swartz.

At 10:21 p.m. Mayor Martinez-Rubin adjourned to the Special City Council Meeting of February 9, 2021 in Remembrance of Amber Swartz.

Submitted by:



Heather Lopez, CMC
City Clerk

Approved by City Council: April 20, 2021

