

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, January 20, 2009

A Regular Session of the Piedmont City Council was held January 20, 2009, in the City Hall Council Chambers at 120 Vista Avenue. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a) the agenda for this meeting was posted for public inspection on January 15, 2009.

- CALL TO ORDER** Councilmember Chiang called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ROLL CALL**
- Present: Councilmembers John Chiang, Margaret Fujioka and Garrett Keating
- Absent: Mayor Abe Friedman and Vice Mayor Dean Barbieri
- Staff: City Administrator Geoff Grote, City Attorney George Peyton, Acting Police Chief John Hunt, Fire Chief John Speakman, Public Works Director Larry Rosenberg, City Clerk Ann Swift and Recording Secretary Chris Harbert
- CONSENT CALENDAR** The following items were considered under one vote by the Council:
- Minutes** Approves as submitted Council meeting minutes of January 5, 2009
- Agreement** Accepts as complete the Fire Department Kitchen Remodeling Project; authorizes the filing of a Notice of Completion with the Alameda County Recorders Office; authorizes final payment to Blue Water Builders; and approves an additional appropriation in the amount of \$10,977 from the General Fund Reserve to cover unexpected change orders for this project
- Resolution 8-09**
RESOLVED, that the City Council adopts the consent calendar as noted.
Moved by Keating, Seconded by Fujioka
Ayes: Chiang, Fujioka, Keating
Noes: None
Absent: Friedman, Barbieri
(0045)
- PUBLIC FORUM** George Kersh reiterated previous suggestions that the position of Police Chief be filled by an in-house appointment, that the Police Department be directed to issue a daily police log for public inspection and that department heads be requested to report on activities at each Council meeting. In particular, he stated that debris piles have remained uncollected in front of his house for weeks and he requested that the Public Works Department remove this debris.
- REGULAR CALENDAR** The Council considered the following items of regular business:
- Crime Report** The Acting Police Chief submitted Piedmont crime statistics for 2008, noting that overall the crime rate is relatively low but that "crimes of opportunity" have increased over last year's level. At the request of the

Council, the Acting Chief provided suggestions for how residents can reduce the likelihood that they will become victims of “crimes of opportunity,” noting that these tips as well as other crime prevention suggestions can be found on the City’s website. The Council discussed the report, requesting that future reports be submitted to the Council on a quarterly basis and if possible, statistics related to burglaries indicate whether the burglaries were committed while residents were “at home” or “away.” Councilmember Keating voiced his preference that the police log be updated weekly on the City’s website.

Ordinance

The Fire Chief submitted for Council first reading approval proposed Ordinance 684 N.S. mandating service levels for non-emergency private ambulance providers in accordance with regulations established by Alameda County. The Chief stated that these regulations are mandated by Alameda County and are being adopted countywide. The City Administrator noted a few minor revisions to the submitted ordinance and concurred with the Chief’s recommendation.

Resolution 9-09

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the first reading of Ordinance 684 N.S., as revised, mandating service levels established by Alameda County for any private ambulance provider located or providing service within the City of Piedmont.

Moved by Fujioka, Seconded by Keating

Ayes: Chiang, Fujioka, Keating

Noes: None

Absent: Friedman, Barbieri
(0705)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration – On behalf of the Council, Councilmember Chiang thanked and congratulated Lois Corrin and her volunteers for sponsoring yesterday’s community celebration of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Lunar New Year Celebration – Councilmember Chiang announced that the Piedmont Asian-American Club is sponsoring a “Lunar New Year” celebration on Saturday, February 7 at Beach School. The public is invited to attend this family event. He reiterated his suggestion made during the Council’s discussion of crime statistics, that residents take caution not to display the “lucky red envelopes” containing cash collected during the New Year celebration so as to reduce the likelihood of burglaries.

Special Meetings – Councilmember Chiang announced that the issue of student interim housing options will be discussed by the Piedmont Board of Education on January 22 and 27. A joint meeting with the City Council on this issue has also been scheduled for January 26. All meetings will be held in the Council Chambers and the public is invited to attend.

Beach School Dad’s Club – Councilmember Keating announced that the Beach School Dad’s Club is sponsoring its annual *Jazz Night* fundraiser on February 7th at the Community Hall. The public is invited to attend.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Chiang adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.