

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, February 16, 2010

A Regular Session of the Piedmont City Council was held February 16, 2010, in the Community Hall at 711 Highland Avenue. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a) the agenda for this meeting was posted for public inspection on February 11, 2010.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Friedman called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL Present: Mayor Abe Friedman, Vice Mayor Dean Barbieri and Councilmembers John Chiang, Margaret Fujioka and Garrett Keating

Staff: City Administrator Geoff Grote, City Attorney George Peyton, Acting Police Chief John Hunt, Fire Chief John Speakman, Finance Director Mark Bichsel, Recreation Director Mark Delventhal, City Clerk Ann Swift acting as Recording Secretary

CONSENT CALENDAR The following item was considered as one vote by the Council:

Election Result Certification

Accepts the official certificate of election results prepared by the Alameda County Registrar of Voters and adopts the following Resolution declaring the results of the regular municipal election of February 2, 2010:

Resolution 13-10

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Registrar of Voters has provided the official canvass of the regular municipal election held February 2, 2010, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council now finds and declares that the whole number of ballots cast and numbers of votes received are as set forth in the attached canvass, that John Chiang, Jeff Wieler, and Garrett Keating have been elected to the Piedmont City Council.

RESOLVED, that the City Council adopts the consent calendar as noted.

Moved by Fujioka, Seconded by Chiang

Ayes: Friedman, Barbieri, Chiang, Fujioka, Keating

Noes: None

Absent: None

PUBLIC FORUM There were no speakers for the public forum.

REGULAR CALENDAR The Council considered the following items of regular business:

Mayor's Comments Mayor Friedman outlined the major priorities of his tenure, in particular the formation of the Environmental Task Force and efforts to create additional field space for children in the community. He urged the council and the community to continue the process of creating a new civic center. Mayor Friedman ended by thanking his fellow councilmembers and his family for their support.

Swearing-In In accordance with the results of the February 2, 2010, municipal election, the City Clerk administered the oath of office to newly elected City Council members John Chiang, Garrett Keating and Jeff Wieler.

Election of Mayor As his last official act, Mayor Friedman asked for nominations for Mayor.

Resolution 14-10

RESOLVED, that the City Council selects Dean Barbieri to serve as Mayor of the City of Piedmont.

Moved by Chiang, Seconded by Fujioka

Ayes: Barbieri, Chiang, Fujioka, Keating, Wieler

Noes: None

Absent: None

As his first official act, Mayor Barbieri asked for nominations for Vice Mayor of the City of Piedmont.

Resolution 15-10

RESOLVED, that the City Council selects John Chiang to serve as Vice Mayor of the City of Piedmont.

Moved by Keating, Seconded by Fujioka

Ayes: Barbieri, Chiang, Fujioka, Keating, Wieler

Noes: None

Absent: None

Comments of Appreciation Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson presented Mayor Friedman with a resolution from the Board of Supervisors noting the Mayor's long service not only to Piedmont but to the regional needs of the East Bay. Speaking on behalf of Congresswoman Barbara Lee, her Regional Director, Ann Taylor, also lauded the Mayor's efforts and wished him well as he left office. Letters of commendation from Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Senator Diane Feinstein were also presented to Mayor Friedman.

Comments by New Council Each of the new councilmembers made a brief statement thanking their supporters and family. In addition, Vice Mayor Chiang noted that the community had been stress tested in recent weeks and welcomed community input as the council faces the financial challenges ahead. Councilmember Keating noted his belief that a contested election is a good means of focusing candidates and providing a forum for discussing community needs. He also expressed his desire to work on a city council focused on consensus building and congeniality over the next two years. Councilmember Wieler also appreciated the council race both as an opportunity to discuss ideas and because it helped candidates understand the trust placed in them by the electorate.

**Comments by
New Mayor**

Mayor Barbieri noted the challenges facing the city in the next year, including replacing City Attorney George Peyton who has served for 44 years and Fire Chief John Speakman who has served for 13 years. He announced that retired Judge Ken Kawaichi would be joining him and Vice Mayor Chiang on the council's Audit Committee investigating the Piedmont Hills Undergrounding District and promised transparency in the deliberations of that committee. The Mayor noted his regret that recent public dialogue has been divisive rather than constructive and promised that he and the city council planned to take the lead in fostering civility and respect in community discourse.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further regular business, Mayor Barbieri adjourned the Council at 7:45 p.m. inviting the public to a celebration for Former-Mayor Friedman and the newly elected councilmembers at his home.