

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Special Meeting Minutes for Monday, May 23, 2016

A Special Meeting of the Piedmont City Council was held May 23, 2016, in the City Hall Conference Room 120 Vista Avenue. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a) the agenda for this special meeting was posted for public inspection on May 18, 2016.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Mayor Wieler called the session to order at 6:37 p.m..

ROLL CALL

Present: Vice Mayor Jeff Wieler and Councilmembers Teddy Gray King , Robert McBain, and Tim Rood

Absent: Mayor Margaret Fujioka

Staff: City Administrator Paul Benoit, Interim Planning Director Kevin Jackson, Assistant Planner Jennifer Gavin

Others: Garth Schultz, R3 Consulting Group, Inc

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for public forum.

SPECIAL WORK SESSION

Collection Services Franchise & Agreement

Interim Planning Director Kevin Jackson introduced Garth Schultz of R3 Consulting Group, Inc. (R3), the consultant assisting the City with negotiations with Republic Services for a possible extension to the company's waste hauling franchise agreement. Mr. Schultz provided background on Republic's performance as documented in a 2015 audit, which found that the company's overall performance was good, with high service levels but also a few areas needing improvement, particularly public outreach and education.

The Council discussed a timeframe for negotiations directing staff to place a limit of approximately three months on negotiations with Republic Services with the understanding that should negotiations start in early June as scheduled, a September due date allowed enough time for the City to develop and release a request for proposals to other haulers should negotiations prove to be unsuccessful at that time. Mr. Schultz indicated that, during the discussions, he would provide the results of a survey of waste hauling services in cities comparable to Piedmont in size, demographics and terrain, and then introduce several possible deal points in order to get the City Council's direction on what to pursue in the negotiations.

Mr. Schultz explained that customer rates in Piedmont were based on the size of the garbage container and includes the costs of unlimited collection of organics and recyclables. He noted that the survey of comparable cities found that Piedmont rates were relatively flat with no great difference between the monthly cost to residents of the four different sizes of garbage cart, and that this was not the case in most other cities. Mr. Schultz indicated that there are several other factors affecting Piedmont rates, including approximately 50% of customers opting for backyard collection service, service provided to the Piedmont Unified School District at no cost to the district, a small number of commercial service customers, and fees specific to Alameda County. When asked to elaborate upon the no-cost service to the schools, Mr. Schultz estimated that this accounted for about 3.5% of the rates charged to Piedmont customers.

During the discussion, Council provided staff with direction as to negotiating points to be pursued with Republic Services.

Mr. Schultz then outlined the next steps in the negotiation process: Negotiations with Republic to occur in June and July with the resulting deal points from those negotiations presented to Council in July or August.

The Council thanked Mr. Schultz and his team for the informative discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice Mayor Wieler adjourned the special work session at 8:02 p.m.