

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, January 7, 2019

A Regular Session of the Piedmont City Council was held January 7, 2019, in the City Hall Council Chambers at 120 Vista Avenue. In accordance with Government Code Section 54957(b), the agenda for this meeting was posted for public inspection on January 3, 2019.

CALL TO ORDER Vice Mayor Teddy Gray King called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL Present: Vice Mayor Teddy Gray King, and Councilmembers Jennifer Cavanaugh, Tim Rood and Betsy Smegal Andersen

Absent: Mayor Bob McBain (excused)

Staff: City Administrator Paul Benoit, City Attorney Michelle Marchetta Kenyon, Police Chief Jeremy Bowers, Public Works Director Chester Nakahara, Recreation Director Sara Lillevand, and Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk John Tulloch

CONSENT CALENDAR The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

Council Meeting Minutes Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for 11/19/18 & 12/11/18 (Special)

There was no **Public Testimony** on the matter.

Resolution No. 01-19

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the 11/19/18 and 12/11/18 (Special) Council meeting minutes.

Moved by Rood, Seconded by Andersen

Ayes: Andersen, Cavanaugh, King, Rood

Noes: None

Absent: McBain

Phase V Sewer Rehabilitation Project Vice Mayor Teddy Gray King indicated that she pulled this item from the Consent Calendar to allow discussion of this significant item. Public Works Director Chester Nakahara reported that the City had successfully completed the Phase V Sewer Rehabilitation Project. He indicated that the project was completed successfully and under budget. He indicated that the completion of this project has put the City well ahead of compliance requirements of the federal consent decree regarding sewer rehabilitation.

There was no **Public Testimony** on the matter.

The Council discussed the work of the Budget Advisory Financial Planning Committee, which developed a detailed model of costs on sewer rehabilitation, determining that emergency repairs were much more costly than a phased, systematic repair plan. Councilmembers also discussed the importance of stewardship of the bay.

Resolution No. 02-19

WHEREAS, at the May 15, 2017 City Council meeting, the City Council approved the award of the construction project to D'Arcy & Harty Construction, Inc., and an overall budget for the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 5 Project (Project); and

WHEREAS, the Project has been inspected and determined to have been completed in accordance with the contract requirements; and

WHEREAS, based upon the foregoing, staff recommends acceptance of the Project on behalf of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PIEDMONT AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City hereby accepts the improvements associated with the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 5 Project.
2. Authorizes the Public Works Director to release the Performance and Labor & Material surety posted with this project; and to hold the Maintenance Bond for a period of one year from the date of this resolution, at which time the Public Works Director is authorized to release said bond if the improvements remain in good condition and there is no issues to be resolved.
3. Authorizes and directs the Public Works Director to file a Notice of Completion concerning the Project with the Alameda County Clerk's Office within ten (10) days of the date of this Resolution

Moved by Rood, Seconded by Andersen
Ayes: Andersen, Cavenaugh, King, Rood
Noes: None
Absent: McBain
(0045, 0935)

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no speakers for **Public Forum**.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Introduction and Badge Pinning

Police Chief Jeremy Bowers announced that Police Officer Nicole Bolden has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Her badge was pinned by BART Police Deputy Chief Jeffrey Jennings.

Chief Bowers introduced newly hired Police Officer Robin Swanson. Her badge was pinned by her grandfather Doug Hargrove.

Police Chief Bowers introduced Parking Enforcement Officer Haley Shedd. Her badge was pinned by her husband Brad Shedd.

REGULAR AGENDA

The Council considered the following items of regular business:

Police School Resource Position

City Administrator Paul Benoit indicated that the Police Department had applied for and received a grant from the State of California to possibly fund a School Resource Officer (SRO) position. He indicated that the application timeline for the grant did not allow for City Council or the Board of Education to discuss the possibility of a SRO prior to the application.

Mr. Benoit recognized that the application for and receipt of the grant was ahead of preferred sequence of events. Mr. Benoit stated Chief Bowers and Piedmont Unified School District Superintendent Booker would conduct public outreach and return to the City Council and Board of Education for determination of

whether or not to accept the grant and establish the SRO position. Mr. Benoit indicated that the grant offered a grant opportunity and, should the Board of Education and City Council choose to move forward, a discussion would need to take place before the grant funding expired as to whether the program would continue and how it would be funded.

Chief Bowers summarized his and Superintendent Booker's discussions for a SRO and discussed existing programs offered to students by the Police Department. He indicated that a reliable and consistent presence in the schools is necessary to foster true and trusting relationships between students and the Police Department. He informed the Council of the duties and effectiveness of an SRO.

PUSD Superintendent Randall Booker stressed the importance of assigning appropriate tasks to the SRO, and the dangers of involving a SRO with school discipline. He discussed the importance of hiring the correct person for the position, ensuring that they have core values of service and education. He provided statistics on the need for caring adults on campus and a stronger, positive connection between students and officers.

Chief Bowers explained the grant funds, which would cover the first three years, and discussed the proposed community engagement.

Chief Bowers indicated that he and Superintendent Booker would visit schools as well as parent and community groups to discuss and hear feedback on the proposed program. They would then return to the Board of Education and City Council, which will decide whether to establish the program and accept the grant.

Public Testimony was received from:

Sunny Bostrom-Fleming indicated support for an SRO and commended Chief Bowers for applying for the grant.

Tonda Case, Co-President of Piedmont Appreciating Diversity Committee, questioned whether a SRO was an appropriate solution for Piedmont. She suggested increased public engagement and outreach to determine if a SRO is necessary.

The Council acknowledged the work of the Police Department in applying for the grant. They commended the relationship between the City and the PUSD. The Council agreed with the proposed outreach program, making suggestions as to how outreach could be most effectively undertaken. The Council requested the Board of Education make a decision on whether it wanted to pursue the program before the matter is brought back to the Council for consideration. (0785, 0765)

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Cavanaugh announced several Recreation Department programs, including the Active Senior Group, Preschool Open House, and start of winter programming. She also announced that the Recreation Commission would hear the report of the Subcommittee on Tennis Court Use and Pickleball at its regular meeting on January 16, 2019, at 7:30 p.m.

Councilmember Andersen commended the Recreation and Public Works Departments for the successful event dedicating the Hampton Field Backstop to Oakland Police Officer John Raymond Hege, who was killed in the line of duty.

Councilmember Rood noted the successful transition to East Bay Community Energy from PG&E for electrical generation.

The Council announced the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day commemoration event, jointly sponsored with the Piedmont Appreciating Diversity Committee, on Monday, January 21st at 12:00 Noon.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice Mayor King adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.