

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, September 3, 2019

A Regular Session of the Piedmont City Council was held September 3, 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 August 29, 2019.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Bob McBain called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL Present: Mayor Bob McBain, Vice Mayor Teddy Gray King, and Councilmembers Jennifer Cavanaugh and Tim Rood

Absent: Councilmember Betsy Smegal Andersen

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

PUBLIC FORUM Dimitri Magganas suggested Piedmont residents may want to review the two ballot measures proposed by Piedmont Unified School District.

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

Council Meeting Minutes

Approval of Council Meeting Minutes for 08/05/19

Resolution No. 55-19

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the minutes of the 08/05/19 City Council meeting.

Moved by King, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: Cavanaugh, King, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

Absent: Andersen

Police Department Report

Police Chief Jeremy Bowers presented the Police Department quarterly report for the second quarter of 2019. He summarized crime statistics, ALPR incidents, arrests, and traffic. He discussed the location and causes of traffic collisions.

Chief Bowers discussed the Police Department's community outreach efforts, including participation in community activities, use of social media platforms, partnership with the Public Safety Committee, and distribution of crime prevention pamphlets. He announced that the tobacco grant funded Juvenile Officer has been hired and that the department is working in concert with the Piedmont Unified School District to develop a diversion program for students.

He also announced an upcoming community survey regarding public safety cameras. He also announced that the City is working to procure and deploy additional Automated License Plate Readers.

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

The Council remarked regarding the impact of ALPRs on crime and the Department's participation in PUSD's parent education series.
(0785)

**Traffic Calming
Measures**

City Administrator Sara Lillevand recalled the Council's direction to staff to proceed with design and cost estimates for traffic calming measures at the intersection of Grand and Fairview Avenues as well as the intersection of Oakland and Greenbank Avenues. She indicated that traffic calming measures using paint and bollards are viewed as a cost-effective method to make an immediate impact while allowing flexibility for future improvements.

Public Works Director Chester Nakahara reported that safety and cost effectiveness are primary goals of the project. He discussed the need to retain parking while considering residential intersections. He also indicated that the engineer's estimate for both intersections totals approximately \$37,000. Mr. Nakahara indicated staff could study and engage the public regarding restricting turns from Greenbank onto Oakland and making Greenbank one way. The striping and bollards at the Greenbank and Oakland intersection could be replaced with a bulb-out or a landscaped island in the future.

City Engineer John Wanger acknowledged resident correspondence regarding the Greenbank and Oakland Avenues intersection and advised that staff is considering measures to resolve concerns regarding access. He indicated that the proposed improvements would reduce pedestrian exposure to vehicular traffic and preserve sightlines for both vehicles and pedestrians.

Public Testimony was received from:

Kathy Moody, Debra Constantine, and John Constantine opposed the proposed traffic calming measures at the intersection of Oakland and Greenbank Avenues for aesthetic reasons and asked the Council to consider other methods of calming traffic at that location.

Casey Bivens supported the proposed improvements as a means to increase public safety.

Bob Medhekar suggested a trial of speed humps or one-way traffic or signage prohibiting thru traffic on Greenbank Avenue.

The Council expressed appreciation for the concerns regarding aesthetics but stressed the need to address the safety issues. It acknowledged this as a temporary solution and welcomed community input for a permanent solution.

City Administrator Lillevand indicated that, should these improvement be installed, staff would obtain neighbors' feedback after the improvements are implemented.

Resolution No. 56-19

RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes staff to release the traffic calming measures at the intersections of Grand and Fairview Avenues and Greenbank and Oakland Avenues for public bidding.

Moved by Rood, Seconded by King

Ayes: Cavanaugh, King, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

Absent: Andersen

(1060)

Introduction of New

Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk John Tulloch demonstrated the City's

Web Site

newly redesigned web site, thanking all who participated in its development and implementation. He reported that it is mobile device friendly, can be easily updated by each department, and, in future could be integrated with new software. He announced that the new web site would go live On Wednesday, September 4th and encouraged all residents to visit it at piedmont.ca.gov. He also encouraged resident comments and suggestions on the new site.

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

The Council thanked staff and consultants for their work on the new site.
(0820-0118)

**REPORTS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor McBain commented that the opening of the Corey Reich Tennis Center was well attended and that work on the traffic calming measures at the intersection of Magnolia Ave. and Nova Drive is almost complete.

Vice Mayor King announced that the Recreation Department's Movie in the Park on Friday, September 6th will be "The Princess and the Frog". She also announced that discussions regarding conversion of the now unused Glenn Dwyer jail facility in Oakland to transitional housing for the homeless are underway.

Councilmember Cavanaugh announced that Recreation Department fall programming has begun. She announced the grand opening of the renovated Piedmont Middle School sport courts will be held on September 7th. She also announced that the League of Women Voters' will hold a Census 2020 event on September 18. She made other announcements regarding School District activities and the Appreciating Diversity Film Series.

Councilmember Rood announced that the Stonewall Democrats' breakfast and Oakland's Pride Parade and Festival will be held September 8.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor McBain adjourned the meeting at 9:31 p.m.