

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, November 4, 2019

A Regular Session of the Piedmont City Council was held November 4, 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 October 31, 2019.

CALL TO ORDER

The Council met in Closed Session for a conference with legal counsel (Govt. Code 54956.9) – existing litigation. Following the 6:30 p.m. Closed Session, Mayor Bob McBain called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Bob McBain, Vice Mayor Teddy Gray King and Councilmembers Jennifer Cavenaugh, Tim Rood, and Betsy Smegal Andersen

Staff: City Administrator Sara Lillevand, City Attorney Michelle Marchetta Kenyon, Fire Chief Bret Black, Police Chief Jeremy Bowers, Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson, Public Works Director Chester Nakahara, City Engineer John Wanger, Civic Spark Fellow Justin Szasz, 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 10/07/19

Street Tree Pruning Contract

Approval of the Award of the 2019-2020 Street Tree Pruning Project Contract to the Professional Tree Care Company in the Amount of \$189,360 (0045, 1070)

Pavement Rehabilitation Project Agreement

Approval of a Project Specific Supplemental Agreement with Coastland Civil Engineers for the Oakland Avenue Pavement Rehabilitation Project (0045, 1000)

Resolution No. 69-19

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves consent calendar items 1, 2 and 3.

Moved by Andersen, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: Andersen, Cavenaugh, King, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

Absent: None

Vice Mayor King abstained from the vote on the October 7, 2019 minutes.

Retaining Wall Design Services Agreement

Public Works Director Chester Nakahara reported Coastland Civil Engineers will develop a design for replacement of sections of retaining walls located in the right of way on Oakland and San Carlos Avenues. He indicated that staff will utilize the design to obtain an engineer's estimate of the cost and present the information to the Council for discussion. He stated that this project was the result of increased attention being paid to City infrastructure.

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

Councilmembers expressed appreciation for staff working to replace the City's aging infrastructure.

Resolution No. 70-19

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the Supplemental Agreement with Coastland Civil Engineers for design services for the replacement of sections of retaining walls on Oakland Avenue and San Carlos Avenue.

Moved by Cavanaugh, Seconded by King

Ayes: Andersen, Cavanaugh, King, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0045, 1000)

PUBLIC FORUM

Dimitri Magganas encouraged residents to vote in the November 5 special election.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson introduced Civic Spark Fellow Justin Szasz, who indicated that he looks forward to working with the City on resiliency and reducing carbon emissions.

REGULAR AGENDA

The Council considered the following items of regular business:

Recreation Director Appointment

City Administrator Sara Lillevand recommended that the Council appoint Chelle Putzer as Recreation Director. She detailed the recruitment process for the position, which culminated in the City Council selecting Ms. Putzer to be Piedmont's next Recreation Director. Ms. Lillevand detailed Ms. Putzer's professional experience at the City of Albany and leadership abilities. In accordance with Government Code section 94953 (c)(3), Ms. Lillevand gave an oral presentation of summarized the compensation and benefits for Ms. Putzer.

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

Councilmembers commended City Administrator Lillevand for recruiting qualified candidates and Interim Recreation Director Erin Rivera for leading the Recreation Department.

Resolution No. 71-19

RESOLVED, that the City Council appoints Chelle Putzer as Director of Recreation effective December 2, 2019 and approves the employment resolution for Ms. Putzer.

Moved by Cavanaugh, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: Andersen, Cavanaugh, King, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0045, 0750)

3rd Quarter Police Department Report

Police Chief Jeremy Bowers reported data through the third quarter of 2019 for reportable offenses, automated license plate reader (ALPR) incidents, arrests, and collisions. He noted the region is experiencing an increase in automobile burglaries. He indicated that the Public Works and Police Departments are working collaboratively to deal with traffic issues that may be causing vehicle accidents. He announced Juvenile Officer Nicole Casalnuovo has obtained certification as a School Resource Officer (SRO). He reported that the Police Department is working with the Piedmont Unified School District on a diversion program for youth who are caught vaping in Piedmont. He also reported that twelve vaping sensors had been purchased with grant funding.

Chief Bowers reported that the Public Safety Camera community feedback survey had received approximately 400 responses, which are being used to help

determine whether the City should move forward with additional camera installations

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

The Council discussed the report, Police Department staffing, and other public safety issues. The Council also requested additional data relating to vehicle collisions be included in future reports.

(0785)

**Aquatics Sub-
Committee Report**

Councilmember Andersen gave the final report of the Aquatics Subcommittee. She indicated that, after analysis, the subcommittee is recommending that the Budget Advisory and Financial Planning Committee work with staff to analyze the City's capital needs, including recreational facilities, and potential funding methods to address the needs. Mayor McBain suggested that staff could continue its work on this issue and make a presentation to the Budget Advisory and Financial Planning Committee in December so that the analysis can begin in January 2020.

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

Councilmembers discussed the need to estimate the funding required to replace aging infrastructure, to determine potential sources of funding, and to discern the community's support for possible tax measures.

The Council directed staff to implement the recommendations made by the Aquatics Subcommittee.

(0270-1022, 0320)

**REPORTS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Andersen announced the launch of the Climate Action Challenge is scheduled for November 7th at 6:00 p.m. at the Piedmont Community Hall.

Councilmember Cavanaugh announced that the Recreation Department is conducting a preschool survey and encouraged residents to participate. She also announced that United Against Hate Week begins on November 17th, a PUSD parental education event, and that the Turkey Trot will be held on Thanksgiving.

Fire Chief Bret Black shared details of the City's preparation and response to PG&E's recent Public Safety Power Shutoffs. He announced that the cities of Piedmont and Albany joined together for an emergency operations training last week and that Piedmont staff assisted in Albany's wildfire evacuation exercise this past weekend. Chief Black also described Piedmont's mutual aid response to the Kincade Fire in Sonoma County.

The Council reminded Piedmonters to vote in tomorrow's special election.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor McBain adjourned the meeting at 9:29 p.m.