

## PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, February 3, 2020

A Regular Session of the Piedmont City Council was held February 3, 2020, 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 30, 2020.

**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, Tim Rood, and Betsy Smegal Andersen

Staff: City Administrator Sara Lillevand, City Attorney Michelle Marchetta Kenyon, Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson, Finance Director Michael Szczech, Police Chief Jeremy Bowers, 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 01/06/2020

**Resolution No. 07-20**

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the Meeting Minutes for 01/06/2020.

Moved by King, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: Cavanaugh, King, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: Andersen

**2nd Reading of Ord. 747 N.S – Modifying** Councilmember Andersen requested removal of the item from the Consent Calendar to obtain clarification of notice provisions in the new state law.

**Accessory Dwelling Unit Regulations**

Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson reported under state law the review of permits for accessory dwelling units (ADU) will be ministerial, which means no public review or public hearing is allowed. He indicated staff has modified a condition of approval for accessory dwelling units to require the applicant to provide written notice of construction to property owners and residents of all adjacent properties two weeks prior to the start of construction. He added that staff will propose additional modifications to Chapter 17 once the Department of Housing and Community Development issues guidelines regarding the implementation of the new state ADU laws.

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

The Council thanked staff for its work on this matter, given the fluid nature of the laws and regulations on this topic.

**Resolution No. 08-20**

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the 2nd reading of Ordinance 747 N.S., amending City Code Chapter 17 to regulate Accessory Dwelling Units in accordance with recent state legislation.

Moved by Rood, Seconded by Andersen

Ayes: Cavanaugh, King, Andersen, McBain, Rood

Noes: None  
Absent: None  
(0705)

**PUBLIC FORUM**

David Rodriguez and Mike Hughes of Teamsters Union Local 315 advised that the City's waste contractor has removed two trucks and four positions from service, which may be contrary to the labor agreement and which may adversely affect service, traffic, and employees' working conditions.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

The Council considered the following items of regular business:

**Public Safety  
Camera Program**

City Administrator Sara Lillevand reported the Police Department has been examining the potential benefits of public safety cameras as an investigation tool.

Chief Jeremy Bowers indicated the Council approved the Public Safety Camera Program and policy in May 2017, and the pilot program began in September 2017. He discussed the reasons for adopting a permanent program, safeguards for the privacy of community members and civil rights, proposed locations, and estimated costs. Chief Bowers utilized a recent incident to demonstrate the Police Department's integrated use of home surveillance systems, automated license plate readers (ALPR), and video from public safety cameras in an investigation.

Public Safety Committee Member Chris Houlder reported that a subcommittee researched the proposal, visited the San Pablo Police Department to discuss its public safety camera program, facilitated one community meeting and four neighborhood meetings, and collaborated on the development of the survey. He indicated public comments during outreach meetings were positive and supported implementation of the program.

David Metz, FM3 Research, explained the survey methodology and responses. He indicated 59 percent of respondents strongly supported the program and fourteen percent opposed the program at some point in the survey. Mr. Metz added that respondents expressed concerns regarding privacy and cost. He advised that, in his experience, a public policy program rarely receives support at the level of consistency and intensity demonstrated in the survey.

**Public Testimony** was received from:

Robert Berger indicated he has been favorably impressed with public engagement and the survey. He added that he and his neighbors, based on their comments, support the program and its rapid implementation.

Councilmembers discussed utilizing Citizens' Option for Public Safety (COPS) funding for the program and receiving quarterly reports similar to the ALPR reports. The Council thanked Chief Bowers and the Public Safety Committee for preparing thorough reports and conducting extensive outreach.

**Resolution No. 09-20**

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the adoption of a Public Safety Camera Program and directs staff to initiate a request for proposal process.

Moved by Cavanaugh, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: Andersen, Cavanaugh, King, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

Absent: None  
(0785-0370)

**FY 19-20 Mid-Year  
Financial Report**

City Administrator Lillevand indicated City finances are on target to meet or favorably exceed budget expectations for the fiscal year. She advised that a long-term plan has been implemented to address pension liabilities but not basic maintenance needs for aging facilities.

Finance Director Michael Szczech reported General Fund revenues are projected to exceed the budget by approximately \$576,000 due to increases in transfer tax revenues, building permits and planning-related fees, and property tax revenues. He added that recreation revenue is projected to decline. Mr. Szczech advised that General Fund expenses are projected to be lower than budget by approximately \$334,000 because of decreases in personnel-related costs, retiree medical costs, and costs related to recreation contract programs. He explained that the City's fiscal year 19-20 annual pension contribution increased \$322,000 over fiscal year 18-19 and would increase by \$550,000 in fiscal year 20-21 because California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) lowered its discount rate assumption in 2016. Mr. Szczech noted approximately \$2 million remains in the fund for street and sidewalk projects for the fiscal year. He indicated the Facilities Maintenance Fund will deplete in approximately five years.

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

Councilmembers expressed their appreciation for Mr. Szczech's understanding and monitoring of City finances and for the accuracy of information presented to the Council.  
(0165)

**REPORTS AND  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Andersen announced residents can receive emergency, traffic, and community updates by registering for AC Alert on the City's website. She announced that registration for the Recreation Department's summer programs will open March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and registration for fall preschool programs is open through February 11<sup>th</sup> and that the Recreation Department is hiring staff for morning hours at the pool.

Councilmember Rood announced on January 22 the Alameda County Waste Management Authority Board decided to pursue a pilot program regarding disposable food ware, rather than pursuing countywide or model ordinances.

Councilmember Cavenaugh announced the Sustainable Landscape Practices event on February 27<sup>th</sup> at the Community Hall. She announced that the City will hold four workshops in February to discuss Reach Codes. She further announced Fund Education Now week, the Piedmont Asian-American Club's Lunar New Year celebration, and the April 28<sup>th</sup> deadline to apply for the School District's Arthur Hecht Volunteer of the Year award.

Vice Mayor King requested an agenda item regarding homelessness from the perspectives of public health, public safety, and humanitarianism.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor McBain adjourned the meeting at 10:03 p.m.