

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 2, 2020

A Regular Session of the Piedmont City Council was held March 2, 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 February 27, 2020.

CALL TO ORDER 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, Assistant City Attorney Sergio Rudin, Fire Chief Bret Black, Police Chief Jeremy Bowers, Public Works Director Chester Nakahara, Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson, Building Official Craig Griffin, 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 02/03/2020

Replacement Street Sweeper Purchase Approval of the purchase of a replacement street sweeper from National Auto Fleet Group in the amount of \$224,191.88 (0045,0825)

Resolution No. 13-2020

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the consent calendar.

Moved by Andersen, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: Andersen, Cavenaugh, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

Abstain: King

PUBLIC FORUM Jesse Nelson, on behalf of 23 residents of Nace Avenue, offered to work with the Council and City to mitigate the increased parking congestion on Nace Avenue caused by the Linda Kingston Parking District.

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

Red Cross Month Mayor McBain presented a proclamation declaring March 2020 American Red Cross Month to Mr. Wong, who thanked the Council for the proclamation and outlined the services offered by the Red Cross.

March for Meals Month Mayor McBain presented a proclamation declaring March 2020 March for Meals Month to Reza Hamid, who thanked the Council.

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

2019 Year-End Police Department Report Police Chief Jeremy Bowers gave the Police Department report for 2019, providing information on calls for service, reportable offenses and automated license plate reader (ALPR) incidents in 2019. He reported that robberies and collisions decreased from previous years and arrests were steady. He indicated the main cause for the increase in reportable offenses in 2019 was a larger

number of larceny thefts, particularly the theft of catalytic converters and construction equipment. Chief Bowers added that law enforcement agencies in northern Alameda County are working collaboratively to reduce robberies and thefts.

He indicated the Police Department has continued its work, in cooperation with the Piedmont Unified School District (PUSD), in support of the Department of Justice tobacco grant award, including providing programming and training about tobacco and vape products as well as the delivery of vape sensors to PUSD.

Chief Bowers reported that work towards placement of additional ALPR locations has begun and that staff is awaiting information from PG&E for some locations. He added that personnel are assessing sites and establishing an engineering plan for additional public safety cameras.

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

The Council thanked Chief Bowers for his report. They discussed auto break-ins, community reporting of traffic concerns, as well as under-reporting of sexual assaults and rapes.

(0785)

**1st Reading of
Ordinance 748 N.S. –
Adoption of 2019 Fire,
Building & Other Codes**

City Administrator Sara Lillevand reported the requirements for local jurisdictions to update Building Codes and their ability to adopt more restrictive amendments. She indicated staff's proposed substantive amendments affect electric infrastructure and home hardening for fire prevention.

Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson advised that staff recommends updating and combining Chapters 5 and 8 into a new Chapter 8 and re-codifying Chapter 5A without substantive modification as Chapter 5. Mr. Jackson highlighted substantive changes to the City Code, including electric vehicle charger infrastructure, the threshold for reconstruction of homes, vegetation management compliance, the Wildland-Urban Interface Fire area, an appeals procedure, and roofing materials.

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

Councilmembers discussed the proposed ordinance at length. Their discussion focused upon the required addition of electric vehicle charger infrastructure as well as the advantages and disadvantages of the Wildland-Urban Interface designation. The Council encouraged staff to conduct extensive community education regarding the Wildland-Urban Interface designation.

Resolution No. 14-2020

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves a first reading of Ordinance 748 N.S., amending Chapters 5, 5A, and 8 of the Piedmont City Code to adopt the 2019 California Code of Regulations, Title 24, including the California Administrative, Building, Residential, Mechanical, Plumbing, Electrical, Energy, Fire, Green Building Standards, Reference Standards, Historical Building and Existing Building Codes.

Moved by Cavanaugh, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: Andersen, Cavanaugh, King, McBain, Rood

Noes: None

(0705)

**Renewable Diesel Use
for City Vehicles**

City Administrator Lillevand reported staff began exploring the feasibility of using renewable diesel in the fall of 2019 and found potential for implementation for use in City vehicles as a way to further the City's climate action goals.

Public Works Director Chester Nakahara advised that staff's research indicated that there would be no ill effects of using renewable diesel in City vehicles. He noted that the City of Oakland has used renewable diesel since 2015 with no residual effects to equipment and with no modification of equipment or maintenance schedules. He noted that the Fire Department is the City's largest consumer of diesel fuel and that the vendor who services fire apparatus is comfortable with the use of renewable diesel. He discussed the procurement, cost, and availability of renewable diesel.

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

The Council appreciated staff following up on the suggestion to explore renewable diesel and the ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the use of renewable diesel.

(0480-0370, 0825)

**REPORTS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Andersen announced registration for the Recreation Department's summer programs begins March 3rd for residents and March 17th for nonresidents. She announced upcoming showings of the Appreciating Diversity film series, the Piedmont Community Church's upcoming treasures sale, and the League of Women Voters upcoming fundraiser.

Vice Mayor King announced the City-School Liaison Committee will meet on March 4th. She announced the annual Piedmont Scout open houses during March. She indicated that she, the Mayor, and staff met with the Alameda County Department of Public Health on February 28 regarding potential 2020 ballot measures to address homelessness.

Councilmember Cavanaugh announced the due dates for Heritage Tree nominations and applications for City commissions and committees. She encouraged residents to participate in the Piedmont Climate Challenge. She reported that the construction of the STEAM building at Piedmont High School is on schedule. She encouraged residents to vote March 3rd and to complete and return Census forms.

Mayor MacBain congratulated the Piedmont High School men's basketball team on its first ever North Coast Section championship.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor McBain adjourned the meeting at 9:53 p.m.