

PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Special and Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, July 19, 2021

Special and Regular Sessions of the Piedmont City Council were held July 19, 2021, via teleconference, consistent with Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20. In accordance with Government Code Section 54957(b), the agenda for this meeting was posted for public inspection on July 15, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER

The Council met in Closed Session for (a) Conference with Labor Negotiators (Govt. Code § 54957.6), Agency Designated Representative(s): Michael Szczech, Monica McQueen, and Gena Burns; Represented Labor Groups: Piedmont Firefighters Assn.; Piedmont Firefighters Assn., Fire Captains Unit; Piedmont Police Officers Assn; SEIU Local 1021 (General and Public Works Units); Unrepresented Employees: City Administrator; Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk; Finance Director; Confidential Employees; Public Works Director; Professional, Technical & Supervisory Employees; Planning Director, Parks & Project Manager, Building Official; Police Chief; Police Captain; Police Support Services Commander; Fire Chief; Recreation Director; Recreation/Childcare Employees. Following the 6:00 p.m. Closed Session, Mayor Teddy Gray King called the meeting to order at 6:49 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff: Special Assistant Paul Benoit, City Attorney Michelle Marchetta Kenyon, Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales, Police Chief Jeremy Bowers, Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson, Recreation Director Chelle Putzer, Fire Chief David Brannigan, Finance Director Michael Szczech, Human Resources Administrator Stacy Jennings, Sustainability Program Manager Alyssa Dykman, Recreation Supervisor Katrina Morris, Recreation Supervisor Eva Phalen, Plans Examiner Eun Koo Chong, Planning Technician Suzanne Hartman, CivicSpark Fellow Nate Redinbo, and Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk John Tulloch

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

Minutes

Approval of Meeting Minutes for 05/22/2021, 06/07/2021, and 06/21/2021

2nd Reading of Ord. 761 N.S. – Lease of 401 Highland Avenue

2nd Reading of Ord. 761 N.S. Renewed and Amended Lease for the Piedmont Educational Foundation at 401 Highland Avenue (0705, 0045)

Agreement for FY 2021-2022 CivicSpark Fellow

Approval of an Agreement with the Local Government Commission for the Placement of a CivicSpark Fellow for FY 2021-2022 (0045)

Investment Portfolio Report

Receipt of a Report on the City's Investment Portfolio (0475-3070)

Tax Collection Agreement with Alameda County

Approval of a Renewed Agreement with Alameda County Regarding the Collection of Taxes (0045)

Resolution No. 47-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves Consent Calendar items as noted.

Moved by Cavanaugh, Seconded by McCarthy
Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King
Noes: None
Absent: None

**Replacement of Two
Unmarked Police
Vehicles**

Police Chief Jeremy Bowers reported that currently, there is no electric vehicle (EV) designed specifically with a police/first responder package, and the two vehicles need to be equipped with the package. He noted that the City does not have infrastructure to support EVs. He indicated that staff did not consider leasing a vehicle, hybrid police vehicles have substantial mechanical issues, and police EVs will probably not be available for several years.

Resolution No. 48-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the purchase of two replacement unmarked police vehicles.

Moved by Andersen, Seconded by McCarthy
Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King
Noes: None
Absent: None
(0045)

PUBLIC FORUM

There was no **Public Testimony**.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

Planning & Building Director Kevin Jackson introduced Plans Examiner Eun Koo Chong and Planning Technician Suzanne Hartman and recognized CivicSpark Fellow Nate Redinbo, whose internship is ending.

Sustainability Program Manager Alyssa Dykman summarized Mr. Redinbo's accomplishments.

Recreation Director Chelle Putzer introduced Recreation Supervisors Eva Phalen and Katrina Morris.

Mr. Chong, Ms. Hartman, and Ms. Phalen shared their experience and looked forward to working with the community.

Mr. Redinbo appreciated the opportunity to work with the City and the Piedmont community.

Public Testimony was received from:

Hope Salzer, Indira Balkissoon, and Margaret Ovenden thanked Mr. Redinbo for his service to the community.

Councilmembers welcomed new employees to the City, noted Ms. Morris' work in the Recreation Department, and appreciated Mr. Redinbo's engagement with the community.

REGULAR AGENDA

The Council considered the following items of regular business:

**Electric Vehicle
Charger Parking
Spaces on Bonita
Avenue**

With the consent of the Council, Special Assistant Paul Benoit announced that this item would be considered at a later meeting.
(0045, 0735)

**RFQ/P for
Community Pool
Architectural Services**

Mr. Benoit briefly recounted the process thus far regarding the Piedmont Community Pool Project. He indicated that the next step was to hire an architect/engineer to create the drawings for the project that will be used for construction. He presented the Request for Qualifications/Proposals and discussed its preparation and review and delivering a facility on time and budget.

George Sanen, Community Pool Project Manager, noted the community's concerns about environmental goals, the difficulties of conserving energy and water in an aquatic facility, and strategies and design features to help achieve net zero energy and LEED standards.

Public Testimony was received from:

Alice Sung, Tom Webster, Margaret Ovenden, Indira Balkissoon, and Moira Chapman suggested revising the RFQ/P to prohibit the use of fossil fuels.

Councilmembers appreciated the expeditious schedule and the focus on environmental goals and construction and operation costs; suggested obtaining information from similar municipal projects currently under construction; and expressed concern about balancing climate goals with costs.

Resolution No. 49-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the issuance of a Request for Qualifications/Proposals for Architectural/Engineering/Planning and Design Services for the Piedmont Community Pool.

Moved by Andersen, Seconded by Cavanaugh

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0270-1022)

**Agreement for Police
Call Data Analysis**

Mr. Benoit reported that the Council passed a resolution committing the City to examining its policies, practices, and procedures through an equity lens. He indicated that the proposed analysis of call data will help the Police Department understand the frequency of bias-based calls for service and the extent to which someone other than a police officer can respond to calls.

Chief Bowers summarized qualifications of the University of Texas, San Antonio researchers, data subject to analysis, methodology, scope of work, report contents, and timeline.

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

Councilmembers appreciated the report and Chief Bowers' continued evaluation of the Police Department.

Resolution No. 50-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the proposed agreement with the University of Texas, San Antonio to conduct data analysis on calls for service at an amount not to exceed \$49,940.

Moved by McCarthy, Seconded by Andersen

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0045)

MOU with Police and Firefighters

Mr. Benoit announced the negotiation team completed contract negotiations with the Piedmont Firefighters Association and the Piedmont Police Officers Association. He highlighted details of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with each organization.

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

Councilmembers thanked the City's police officers and firefighters for their service to the Piedmont community.

Resolution No. 51-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves a Memorandum of Understanding with the Piedmont Firefighters Association (IAFF) for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025.

Moved by McCarthy, Seconded by Andersen

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

Resolution No. 52-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves a Memorandum of Understanding with the Piedmont Police Officers Association for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025.

Moved by McCarthy, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0045)

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Cavanaugh announced enrollment for Recreation Department activities begins July 28th, an upcoming pickleball tournament, and a League of Women Voters book club meeting on July 20th.

Councilmember Andersen announced National Night Out is August 3rd, and the Park Commission will discuss the drought at its August 4th meeting.

Councilmember McCarthy announced a memorial bench dedication on July 22nd at Dracena Park; encouraged residents to learn about the Housing Element at PiedmontisHome.org; and thanked the community for attending the July 4th parade and Gail Lombardi of the Piedmont Historical Society for including the Sidney Dearing story in Piedmont's history.

Mayor King announced United Against Hate Week will be the second week in November.

ADJOURNMENT

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