

## PIEDMONT CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, September 7, 2021

A Regular Session of the Piedmont City Council was held September 7, 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 September 2, 2021.

### CALL TO ORDER

The Council met in Special Closed Session for a conference with real property negotiators (Govt. Code §54956.8); 120 Vista Avenue; Negotiating Parties: City and Gulf South Towers Capital Partners LLC, Negotiators: City Admin. & Atty; Under Negotiation: Price & Terms of Payment. Following the 6:00 p.m. Special Closed Session, Mayor Teddy Gray King called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and announced no reportable action from the Closed Session. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

### ROLL CALL

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

Staff: City Administrator Sara Lillevand, Assistant City Attorney Deepa Sharma, Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales, Finance Director Michael Szczech, Parks and Project Manager Nancy Kent, and Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk John Tulloch

### CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

#### Minutes

Approval of Meeting Minutes for 08/16/2021

#### Voting Delegates & Alternates for League of California Cities Conference

Appointment of Voting Delegate and Alternates for the 2021 League of California Cities Conference (0085)

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ord. 762 N.S.—Community Pool Bond Issuance

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinance 762 N.S.—Authorizing the Borrowing of Money Via Issuance, in One or More Series, of General Obligation Bonds Approved at the General Election Held on November 3, 2020 (Measure UU), and Levying an Ad Valorem Property Tax Sufficient to Pay Such Bonds (0705, 0155, 0270-1022)

#### Purchase of Police Radio Encryption Software

Approval of Purchase of Police Radio Encryption Software as Required by the State of California (0045)

#### Resolution No. 65-2021

RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the Consent Calendar.

Moved by Andersen, Seconded by Cavanaugh

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

### PUBLIC FORUM

There was no **Public Testimony**.

### REGULAR AGENDA

The Council considered the following items of regular business:

#### Selection of Underwriter,

City Administrator Sara Lillevand reported that following the Council's August 16th authorization, staff sent a Request for Proposals (RFP) for

**Registrar & Paying  
Agent for Community  
Pool Project**

underwriting services to investment banking firms as well as an RFP for registrar and paying agent services to commercial banks and trust companies on August 17<sup>th</sup> related to the sale of bonds to fund the reconstruction of the Piedmont Community Pool.

Finance Director Michael Szczech advised that staff received three proposals for underwriting services and two proposals for registrar and paying agent services. He noted that all of the firms are fully qualified and have the necessary experience, and staff recommends Bank of America Securities for underwriting services and the Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company N.A. for registrar and paying agent services.

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

Councilmembers encouraged staff to ensure the bond issuance receives the attention necessary to receive favorable terms and to raise the required amount of funding.

**Resolution No. 66-2021**

RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes staff to engage the services of The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. to serve as Registrar and Paying Agent as well as Bank of America Securities to serve as Underwriter for the issuance of general obligation bonds for the Piedmont Community Pool approved at the general election of November 3, 2020 (Measure UU).

Moved by Cavenaugh, Seconded by Andersen

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavenaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0155, 0270-1022)

**Highland/Guilford  
Steps Project Bid  
Solicitation**

Ms. Lillevand indicated that staff designated the Highland / Guilford Steps in Piedmont Park as a high priority project more than a year ago and included \$100,000 in the fiscal year (FY) 2021-22 budget, which was considered and approved by the City Council to address safety concerns. She thanked the Piedmont Beautification Foundation and the Piedmont Garden Club for contributing to the project such that staff does not anticipate the cost will exceed budgeted funding. She acknowledged that the Highland/Guilford Steps are one of many deteriorating park facilities.

Public Works Director Daniel Gonzales reported that a resident's complaint of an accident in this location brought the deteriorating condition to staff's attention. He related that Public Works staff inspected the steps, found numerous deficiencies, and began planning improvements. He noted that the Park Commission reviewed plans on several occasions, improvements address safety issues, and modifications comply with the Municipal Regional Permit (MRP) for storm water discharge.

Councilmember McCarthy disclosed that she is a member of the Piedmont Garden Club, but did not take part in the club's decision to donate these funds to the City and that her membership is not a conflict of interest for this project.

**Public Testimony** was received from:

Gayle Lambert, Piedmont Beautification Foundation, indicated she, as president, supports small City projects that improve safety and serve the community.

Councilmembers appreciated the generosity of the Piedmont Beautification Foundation and the Piedmont Garden Club, the project design, and the safety improvements.

**Resolution No. 67-2021**

RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes staff to solicit bids for the proposed improvements for the Highland/Guilford Steps and Handrail Project.

Moved by Andersen, Seconded by Cavanaugh

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0045, 0745-0757)

**Authorization for  
Mandatory COVID-  
19 Vaccination Policy  
for Employees**

Ms. Lillevand reported that staff, at the request of Mayor King, began researching and developing a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy for City employees. She noted that many neighboring cities have a requirement for or will require vaccination of employees. She emphasized that this item is not adoption of a final policy but presents key provisions of a mandatory vaccination policy to be implemented after completion of any required bargaining obligations with labor groups.

Ms. Lillevand reviewed key provisions regarding employee types, condition of employment, minimum qualification for new hires, exemptions, and disciplinary action. She added that staff intends to negotiate amended agreements with independent contractors to require vaccination.

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

Councilmembers noted the controversial nature of a mandatory vaccination policy and wished to make employees' access to vaccines as easy as possible.

**Resolution No. 68-2021**

RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes the City Administrator to implement a mandatory vaccination policy, subject to completion of any bargaining obligations with the affected unions as to the impacts of the mandate.

Moved by McCarthy, Seconded by Rood

Ayes: McCarthy, Andersen, Cavanaugh, Rood, King

Noes: None

Absent: None

(0750-0370)

**REPORTS AND  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Lillevand announced the retirement of Fire Captain Scott Barringer after 32 years of service to the City of Piedmont.

Vice Mayor Rood announced the Fire Department's 9/11 commemoration on Saturday morning and the Beach Dads Club pancake breakfast on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember Cavanaugh announced Movie Night in the Park on September 17<sup>th</sup>, the Harvest Festival and art show on September 19<sup>th</sup>, and the beginning of Piedmont Adult School classes on September 13<sup>th</sup>. She reminded the public that the Recreation Department is hiring for Schoolmates and accepting ideas for senior activities.

Councilmember Andersen announced the compost giveaway on September 18<sup>th</sup>, "Living with Drought" workshop on September 30<sup>th</sup>, garden tour September 25<sup>th</sup>-October 3<sup>rd</sup>, and League of Women Voters activities on September 15<sup>th</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup>. She also announced that a Heritage Tree Map is available on the City website, the Piedmont Fire Department has deployed a crew to the Dixie Fire, and more than 800 people attended the recent Coffee, Cars, and Cops event. She reminded the public to vote in the special election on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Councilmember McCarthy encouraged the public to visit <https://piedmontishome.org> to learn about housing and the update of the Housing Element.

Mayor King announced that she addressed Boy Scouts Troop 15 prior to this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor King adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.