

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, November 1, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Meeting Location

El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Greg Lyman – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Janet Abelson
Councilmember Jan Bridges

Councilmember Mark Friedman
Councilmember Gabriel Quinto

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Abelson, Bridges, Friedman, Quinto and Mayor Lyman all present.

7:00 p.m.

CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Lyman convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:02 p.m. and began the meeting with a moment of silence in memory of James Gilliland, Jr. who died on October 27, 2016 after being shot in front of his home. Mayor Lyman expressed communitywide heartache, anger and sorrow resulting from the tragic loss of Mr. Gilliland and offered the City Council's sympathy and prayers for Mr. Gilliland's wife Vicky, his family and friends. Mayor Lyman thanked the Police Department for their hard work. The Police Department is working with their partner agencies to develop leads in this case and is working closely with the Contra Costa Crime Lab to find those who are responsible for the shooting. Mayor Lyman urged anyone with information about the case to contact the Police Department and said the Department is doing the work needed to ensure that justice is served.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OR OBSERVATION OF MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Paul Keith, Police Chief, advised community members, as they enter into the holiday season, to be vigilant as they leave shopping areas and pay attention to whether they are being followed. In the last week there were two instances in which residents were followed home from shopping districts and then robbed at or near their vehicles. Chief Keith advised calling 911 if anyone thinks they are being followed and to keep driving to the Police Station or another place that is filled with people. Chief Keith also reported that on October 27, he attended the Annual Chief Special Agents' Association Law Enforcement Awards ceremony in which El Cerrito Detective Bailey Thepkaysone was recognized for his investigative excellence and contributions to the residents of El Cerrito and the El Cerrito Police Department.

Chief Keith also noted that Mr. Gilliland was a fine member of the community and an outstanding citizen. It is a great loss to no longer have him as a member of the El Cerrito community.

Cheryl Morse, City Clerk, informed the El Cerrito Community and the City Council about the hours of operation for the Regional Early Voting Center and the official, secure Ballot Drop Off Box located at City Hall. Ms. Morse also invited voters to contact her regarding polling place locations on Election Day.

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson stated that she attended a display of new BART cars at the Del Norte Station and learned that the display had the largest viewing audience of any of the displays that took place at other stations despite the fact that it was stormy outside. The new cars have three sets of doors instead of two and also have bike racks and wheelchair seating in the middle of the car. Senior and disabled seating is marked with a different color from the other seats. The seats are vinyl rather than cloth and the floor is not carpeted. The number of cars received may depend on whether BART Measure RR passes.

Mayor Lyman highlighted the measures that the Council has supported in the November 8, 2016 election including Measure X/Contra Costa Transportation Authority Tax, Measure T/West Contra Costa Unified School District, Proposition 55 for Education, Proposition 67 in support of the single use plastic bag ban, Proposition 63 for Gun law reform, BART Measure RR and Measure B for a modern library.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Michael Coan, El Cerrito, stated that he voted No on El Cerrito Measure B/New Library.

Norman La Force, Former El Cerrito Mayor, urged everyone to vote yes on El Cerrito Measure B/New Library. Mr. La Force said the City has demonstrated its ability to do things right and use money wisely and within budget.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, urged all to vote yes on El Cerrito Measure B/New Library and noted that many measures on the ballot in Berkeley do not have design plans.

Marlene Keller, El Cerrito, spoke in support of El Cerrito Measure B/New Library and described the benefits of building a new community library.

Brenda Belden, El Cerrito, stated that she opposes the placement of a speed feedback sign in front of her house on Arlington Boulevard.

Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto, El Cerrito, stated that she is voting yes on El Cerrito Measure B/New Library and urged others to do so as well, primarily as a social justice issue.

Paul Fadelli, El Cerrito, quoted Issac Azimov, Sydney Sheldon, Ray Bradbury, and Andrew Carnegie in urging the community to vote yes on El Cerrito Measure B/New Library.

Howdy Goudey, El Cerrito, stated that he supports Measure B and reiterated his concerns regarding the impacts on residents displaced by the El Dorado Condo development.

Melanie Proctor, El Cerrito, expressed her deep condolences for the family of James Gilliland and noted that it has shaken the community, including the legal community

to its core. Ms. Proctor also questioned the use of redevelopment funds and stated that she opposes El Cerrito Measure B/New Library and also opposes construction of a library on school district land.

Jan Woo, El Cerrito, asked how the City will fund over 35 hours per week of library services once the new library is built and also questioned the use of redevelopment funds that were once allocated for the library.

Denise Sangster, El Cerrito, followed up on an item regarding the Arlington/Brewster safety project contract that was approved by the City Council on October 18, 2016, spoke against the placement of a speed feedback sign on Arlington and summarized resident discussions with Ms. Ortiz, Public Works Director.

Patricia Durham, El Cerrito, stated that a new library will be a positive statement in the community and that she is voting yes on a new library for El Cerrito.

David Green, El Cerrito, stated that his experience with the Building Department and the Police Department has been positive and that he is listened to by the City when he has a question. Mr. Green said both sides of the Measure B debate have presented their views and feelings and that this is healthy however he perceives people being talked down to regarding Measure B.

4. PRESENTATION – None

5. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item No. 5(A) and 5(B)

Moved, seconded (Friedman/Bridges) and carried unanimously to adopt Consent Calendar Item Nos. 5(A) and 5(B) in one motion as indicated below.

A. Approval of Minutes

Approve the October 18, 2016 Regular City Council meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Environmental Quality Committee Appointment

Approve an Environmental Quality Committee recommendation to appoint Sean O'Conner to the Environmental Quality Committee, effective November 9, 2016.

Action: Approved recommendation and appointed Sean O'Conner to the Environmental Quality Committee effective November 9, 2016.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Local Modification of the 2016 California Building Standards Code, Including Green Building Code, Building Code, Fire Code and related Construction Codes

First reading of the ordinance occurred on October 18, 2016 and approved by unanimous vote.

Conduct a public hearing and upon conclusion approve by title, waive any further reading and adopt an ordinance which adopts the 2016 California Green Code, Administrative, Building, Fire, Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical, Energy, Residential, Existing Building Code and related Construction Codes as applicable to all construction within the City of El Cerrito, with local modifications as outlined in the ordinance. *Exempt from CEQA.*

Mayor Lyman opened the public hearing. No speakers

Actions: Moved, seconded (Friedman/Bridges) and carried unanimously to

close the public hearing.

Moved, seconded (Abelson/Quinto) and carried unanimously to adopt Ordinance 2016-04.

7. POLICY MATTERS – None

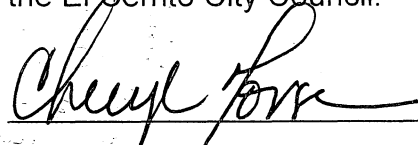
8. COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS

Mayor and City Council communications regarding local and regional liaison assignments and committee reports.

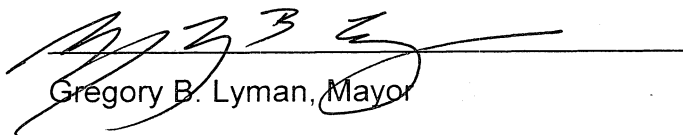
Councilmember Quinto reported that he attended a League of California Cities Asian Pacific Islander Caucus (API) function on October 29 in Fremont with Mayor Pro Tem Abelson. They met with other API leaders as well as Silicon Valley and San Francisco business leaders.

9. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 7:55 p.m. in memory of James Gilliland. Mayor Lyman, on behalf of the El Cerrito Community, offered deepest sympathy and condolences to Mr. Gilliland's family and friends knowing that words do not fully console those who are grieving at this most trying time and expressed hope for the El Cerrito community as it heals.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of November 1, 2016 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Cheryl Morse, City Clerk



Gregory B. Lyman, Mayor