

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, December 20, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Meeting Location
El Cerrito City Hall – City Council Chambers
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Greg Lyman – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Janet Abelson
Councilmember Mark Friedman
Councilmember-Elect Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto

Councilmember Jan Bridges
Councilmember Gabriel Quinto
Councilmember-Elect Paul Fadelli

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Abelson, Bridges, Friedman, Quinto and Mayor Lyman all present. Councilmembers-Elect Fadelli and Pardue-Okimoto also present.

7:00 p.m.

CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Lyman convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG** was led by Councilmember Jan Bridges.
2. **COUNCIL / STAFF COMMUNICATIONS/COUNCIL ASSIGNMENT AND LIAISON REPORTS**

Metropolitan Transportation Commission StreetSaver Award for Best All-Around Pavement Management Program 2015 – Announcement by Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director.

Yvetteh Ortiz, Public Works Director, announced the City's receipt of the prestigious "Best All-Around Pavement Management Program 2015 Award" and said the City has the most improved roads over any other city in the Bay Area and is close to paving 90% of its streets. Ms. Ortiz also thanked all of the voters.

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson said that the award means that El Cerrito has the best roads in the Bay Area. She recognized and thanked the voters who passed the El Cerrito Streets Measure and city staff who implemented the vision and program that the voters supported.

Mayor Lyman encouraged everyone to participate in the January 16, 2017 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day parade and celebration and the January 21, 2017 Crab Feed fund raiser.

3. **PRESENTATIONS – None**
4. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, stated that the Police Department is wonderful and that he loves attending El Cerrito committee meetings.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, thanked the Boy Scouts, Firefighters and other volunteers for setting up the Sundar Shadi holiday display on Moeser Lane and announced that the display is open each night through December 26, 2016. Mr. Miller also congratulated the UC Berkeley women's basketball team on their wins and also recognized University of Tennessee basketball coach, Pat Summitt, who passed away in June. Mr. Miller, paraphrasing a quotation displayed at a basketball game, said, with three newly elected Councilmembers, "El Cerrito is what it is and what you will make it to be." Mr. Miller also noted that 63 percent of El Cerrito voters showed that they want a new, modern library and that they are depending on the Council to make it happen.

Karl Mulligan, El Cerrito, expressed concerns about the City's contract with the County Department of Animal Services, animal seizure and quarantine orders, compliance with legal requirements and the lack of follow through associated with his requests for information, a community meeting and a valid, signed contract.

5. **ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR – Item Nos. 5A through 5E**

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

A. Minutes for Approval

Approve the December 6, 2016 Concurrent City Council/Public Financing Authority meeting minutes.

Action: Approved minutes.

B. Declaring and Confirming the Results of the November 8, 2016 General Election

Adopt a resolution declaring and confirming the results of the November 8, 2016 General-election including the re-election of Greg Lyman and election of Paul Fadelli and Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto to the City Council for terms ending 2020 and the defeat of Measure B – El Cerrito \$30,000,000 Bond Measure for a Safe, Modern Library.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016–100. The total number of votes cast in the City of El Cerrito at the November 8, 2016 election was 13,624 votes.

The election results for City Council are as follows:

CITY COUNCIL (Top Three Elected)	
Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto	6,919
Gregory Lyman	6,903
Paul Fadelli	5,921
Nicholas Arzio	3,971
Parker Shirazi	2,153

The total number of votes, including vote by mail votes, cast on Ballot Measure B is as follows:

**MEASURE B – El Cerrito \$30,000,000 Bond Measure for a Safe, Modern, Library
(Two-Thirds Vote Required to Pass – The Measure was Defeated)**

YES	7,910
NO	4,653

C. Agreements with Plaza Auto Service, Inc. and Mobile Fleetcare, Inc. for Fleet Maintenance and Repair Services

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the following agreements to provide fleet maintenance and repair services for all City vehicles (excluding Fire and Police vehicles) for a period of two years, with the option to annually extend the contract for three years thereafter: 1) Plaza Auto Service, Incorporated, in an amount not to exceed \$16,000 and \$32,000 for Fiscal Years 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively, and thereafter contingent funding being appropriated by the City Council in future City budgets; and 2) Mobile Fleetcare, Incorporated, in an amount not to exceed \$71,500 and \$143,000 for Fiscal Years 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively, and thereafter contingent upon funding being appropriated by the City Council in future City budgets.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016–101.

D. Authorization to Enter Negotiations for the Provision of Public Safety Dispatch Services Agreement

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager or his designee to enter into negotiations with the Office of the Sheriff of Contra Costa County, Contra Costa County Fire Protection District and the County of Contra Costa for the provision of public safety dispatch services.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016–102.

E. Extension of Current Terms of Members of the Members of the Arts and Culture Commission, Design Review Board, Financial Advisory Board, Human Relations Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission

Adopt a resolution interpreting El Cerrito Municipal Code Section 2.04.220 to permit the extension of the terms of members of the Arts and Culture Commission, Design Review Board, Financial Advisory Board, Human Relations Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission to maintain a working membership of those bodies during a transitional gap period that has occurred as a result of amendments to the Municipal Code in 2013. The resolution would also extend the terms of specific members of these advisory bodies.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2016–103.

6. RECOGNITION OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS LEAVING OFFICE

Special recognition of Councilmembers Mark Friedman and Jan Bridges.

Mayor Lyman provided his comments and reflected on his term as Mayor over the past year including the projects that had been accomplished, the plans that had been approved, the commencement of planning for the City's Centennial Celebrations and the many ceremonial and celebratory events he attended. He thanked the City Councilmembers for their support, thanked the City Manager and all of the city staff for doing an outstanding job and also thanked the residents and friends for re-electing him. Mayor Lyman said the residents have given him their trust and he will listen to the community with an open mind and try to achieve good policy.

Mayor Lyman presented Mayoral Certificates of Recognition to Theresa Parella and Frank Storno on the occasion of their 100th birthdays and noted that the City will also be celebrating its centennial birthday soon.

Councilmember Quinto, stated that as a graduate of Fairmont Elementary School, he is happy to see Ms. Parella. Ms. Parella was his sister's fourth grade teacher and affected many generations of students in a positive way.

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson expressed her appreciation for Councilmember Bridges, particularly her careful consideration of agenda items and the business of the city, including when Councilmember Bridges served on the Parks and Recreation Commission several years ago. Councilmember Bridges has done a great job and always does what is best for the City. Mayor Pro Tem Abelson also reflected on her long service with Councilmember Friedman and expressed appreciation for his thoughtful ideas and his persistence. Councilmember Friedman has been a joy to work with and has worked well with the Council in getting things done.

Councilmember Quinto thanked Councilmembers Bridges and Friedman for their mentoring the past two years and expressed his appreciation for their service to the City.

Mayor Lyman thanked Councilmember Friedman for pushing the Council on having an option to observe a moment of silence at the beginning of the meeting, the minimum wage, discussion on marijuana dispensaries and said he also appreciated Councilmember Friedman's position regarding the Audiss Trailer Park and constant effort toward reducing the time spent on the dais. Mayor Lyman also thanked Councilmember Bridges for her empathy toward speakers and her careful consideration of agenda items.

Councilmember Friedman said it has been a joy to serve on the City Council because the Council is harmonious, treats everyone with respect and works well together. Mayor Friedman thanked the City Council, including past members he has served with, city staff, the residents for allowing him the honor and privilege to serve the community and his wife Carolyn Said. Councilmember Friedman said he wants to stay involved with the City and get a new library, move forward with renter protections, and seeing the City's response to the legalization of marijuana and the opportunities it presents for the City and its residents. Councilmember Friedman also thanked Councilmember Bridges and stated that it was a pleasure to serve with her.

Councilmember Bridges, thanked the residents for supporting her for two terms and the City Council and staff for their service to the City. She thanked all the Commissioners and Committee members for their advice and input. While she was serving on the Council the City renovated the Cerrito Theater and built City Hall. It also developed great policy including the plastic bag ban, minimum wage, form based code, urban greening, a smoking ordinance, climate action plan, and established Madera Open Space which is everlasting for all citizens. Councilmember Bridges also thanked her husband Peter for his support.

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, congratulated the new Councilmembers and noted 2017 will be a good year.

Al Miller, El Cerrito, expressed his appreciation for Councilmembers Bridges and Friedman and stated that they each brought focus to the City Council's discussions and deliberations. El Cerrito is the little city that that can and will (*get things done*).

7. **BRIEF RECESS** *The Council recessed from approximately 7:45 to 7:54 p.m.*
8. **SWEARING IN AND SEATING OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Administration of the Oath of Office and Presentation of Certificates of Election:

Greg Lyman, re-elected to a City Council term ending December 2020.
 Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto, elected to City Council term ending December 2020.
 Paul Fadelli, elected to a City Council term ending December 2020.

John Gioia, Contra Costa County Supervisor, acknowledged the service of Councilmembers Bridges and Friedman and welcomed new Councilmembers Fadelli and Pardue-Okimoto. El Cerrito has a culture of good leadership and all of the councilmembers are thoughtful and work well together. Supervisor Gioia said he appreciates the relationship he has with El Cerrito and that the County has with El Cerrito and that he continues to look forward to working with everyone.

Cordell Hindler, Richmond, said it is wonderful to have the change in leadership and he wants to help have more people come to City Council meetings.

Sandi Potter, Former El Cerrito Mayor, said it is reassuring to see stability and good governance and thanked everyone for their public service, particularly the service of Mayor Lyman and Councilmembers Friedman and Bridges. Former Mayor Potter said she is proud of the community and City Hall and that she greatly admires and acknowledges the work of the City Council. Former Mayor Potter also congratulated the newly elected councilmembers.

Molly Hazen, El Cerrito, congratulated the new City Councilmembers on their election and thanked the departing Councilmembers for their service.

Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto thanked those who voted for her and said she is honored to serve the community and hopes to earn the respect of those who did not vote for her. She thanked her husband and children, her family and extended family, mother, grandmother and mother in-law, the Emerge Program and all of the friends and volunteers who supported her campaign. Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto said she is looking forward to the next four years and feels optimistic about the future of the city and state and will build a strong community. Together we can make El Cerrito the best place to live, learn and grow. Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve. Today is the first day of a new challenge and she is ready for it.

Councilmember Fadelli thanked his wife Michelle and his children Katie and Christina, friends far and near, neighbors, Mayor Lyman and Councilmember Pardue-Okimoto who ran for office with him in this election, his endorsers, elected officials, responsive staff and the voters of El Cerrito. Walking the neighborhoods of El Cerrito over the past year reminded Councilmember Fadelli how lucky residents are to live here. Residents are happy to be here and are ready for positive change. Positive changes have resulted in gateways with creeks, the City's name over the Theater, two great transit hubs and even a poet laureate. Changes ahead can be positive. The City will need to remain frugal with its budget and resources. Growth will need to be focused around BART stations to allow people to walk, BART and bike to their destinations. El Cerrito is ideally situated to do this and can also achieve its environmental and housing goals. The community and city must also continue its pursuit of a new library so El Cerrito can be the City that the community envisions it to be. A new library is an investment that Councilmember Fadelli will be proud to work for. Councilmember Fadelli said he and others are deeply concerned about the result of the national election, particularly threats to the environment and civil rights and stated that we must speak out at the local level and do what is best. It is important to listen to each other and be courteous, help others around town and recognize that we are all part of this mid-century, modern community that will turn 100 next year. Councilmember Fadelli said he promises to be the best he can be as a City Councilmember and is very honored to serve the residents of El Cerrito.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

10. POLICY MATTERS**City Council Reorganization**

Election of City Council Officers – Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore.

Mayor Pro Tem Abelson expressed her appreciation for Mayor Lyman, particularly his attention to detail and thanked him for his service to the City. Mayor Lyman did an excellent job of being mayor over the past year and addressed many difficult and sensitive issues.

Mayor Lyman thanked everyone for re-electing him and said he will continue to commit himself to environmental quality and public safety through police, fire, public works and code enforcement. He will continue to work on improvements in permitting and code enforcement as well as better transit oriented development, better transit solutions and more housing.

SELECTION OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Lyman called for reorganization of the City Council.

Cheryl Morse, City Clerk, declared the offices of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore vacant and called for nominations for the Office of Mayor.

Mayor Lyman nominated Mayor Pro Tem Abelson for Mayor.

Cheryl Morse, City Clerk, called for further nominations for which there were none.

Actions: Moved, seconded (Lyman/Quinto) and carried unanimously to close nominations for Mayor. The City Council, by unanimous vote, elected Mayor Pro Tem Abelson to the Office of Mayor.

SELECTION OF THE MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Mayor Abelson called for nominations for the Office of Mayor Pro Tem.

Councilmember Lyman nominated Councilmember Quinto for Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Abelson called for further nominations for which there were none.

Actions: Moved, seconded (Lyman/Quinto) and carried unanimously to close nominations. The City Council, by unanimous vote, elected Councilmember Quinto as Mayor Pro Tem.

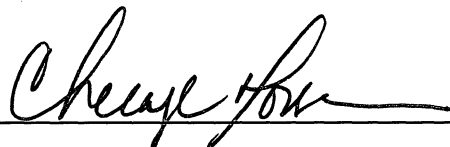
Mayor Abelson said in the past few years the City has done a lot of work and thanked City Manager Hanin for his hard work and for supporting the City Council in policy development. The new City Council needs to establish a common vision and work together as a team. Mayor Abelson said she is a strong supporter of transparency in government and freedom of speech and will make sure that everyone has an opportunity to speak.

Mayor Pro Tem Quinto said he is excited to be on the City Council and is looking forward to working with Councilmembers Fadelli and Pardue-Okimoto and the entire Council. There is a lot to work to do in the coming year. Work related to transit oriented development and housing will get done next year.

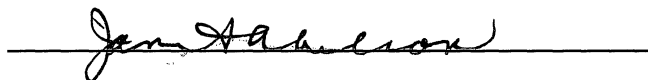
11. ADJOURNED REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING at 8:30 p.m.**SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Reflections on El Cerrito, Coach Patt Summitt and the November 8, 2016 election – *Submitted by Al Miller, El Cerrito.*
2. Comments on Contra Costa County Animal Services – *Submitted by Karl Mulligan, El Cerrito.*

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of December 20, 2016 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Cheryl Morse, City Clerk



Janet Abelson, Mayor