

EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, December 4, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

Meeting Location
El Cerrito City Hall
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

Gabriel Quinto – Mayor

Mayor Pro Tem Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto
Councilmember Paul Fadelli

Councilmember Janet Abelson
Councilmember Greg Lyman

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Abelson, Fadelli, Lyman, Pardue-Okimoto, and Mayor Quinto

CONVENE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Quinto convened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

2. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Quinto announced that the Council appointed Erin Gillette to the Planning Commission for a term expiring in March 2019 and Wenlin Li for a term expiring in March 2019.

Mayor Quinto reported that starting in January the West Contra Costa Mayors' Conference meetings will be held in El Cerrito on the fourth Thursday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto announced an upcoming rally in Berkeley coordinated by local mayors and the California Nurses Association for the purpose of keeping Alta Bates open.

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Michael Fischer, Library Commissioner, distributed and quoted from the article, "*To Restore Civil Society, Start with the Library*".

Charles Smith recommended that the City use some of the revenues from the passage of Measure V to provide for fire mitigation measures in the Hillside Natural Area.

Christian Teale asked that the Council recognize Lannie Johnson, former El Cerrito High School teacher and librarian, who recently passed away, for her many years of service and the contributions she made to education and to children.

Marta Dragos recommended that the City form a task force including representatives from the City, PG&E and neighbors to look at the issues of fire safety and that all matters be open for discussion, including the undergrounding of power lines, fire mitigation measures, evacuation routes, etc.

Kay Starkweather reported that she lives on Rifle Range Road and worries that there is only one narrow road for all of the residents to use as an evacuation route in case of a fire. She asked that there be a meeting of the residents with Fire Department staff to discuss evacuation plans, hazards of power lines, and mitigation measures as well as how to get other property owners to remove vegetation on their property.

Diane Straus also expressed concern about the fire hazards associated with power lines, eucalyptus trees, and limited and narrow roads for evacuation. She said that they need to have an escape route and that one suggestion that has been made is that when there is a red alert, parking be limited to only one side of a street.

4. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Action: Moved, seconded (Lyman/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Items A, B, E and F) as indicated below.

A. Results of the November 6, 2018 General Municipal Election

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2018-63 declaring and confirming the results of the November 6, 2018 General Municipal Election and declaring the election of Gabriel Quinto and Janet Abelson to the office of City Council and the passage of Measure V – Charter City and Real Property Transfer Tax.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2018-63.

2. Adopt Ordinance No. 2018-03, authorizing a Tax on the Transfer of Real Property, and adding Chapter 4.64 – Real Property Transfer Tax to the Municipal Code as approved by the voters at the November 6, 2018 General Municipal Election.

Action: Adopted Ordinance No. 2018-03 as approved by the voters.

B. Proclamation Honoring Tom Torlakson

Approve a Proclamation honoring Tom Torlakson for his many years of public service.

Action: Approved proclamation.

C. Proclamation Honoring City Manager Scott Hanin

Approve a Proclamation honoring City Manager Scott Hanin for his many years of public service.

Action: Removed from the Consent Calendar by Councilmember Lyman for

purposes of reading the proclamation and providing an opportunity for members of the Council to comment on the City Manager's years of service. Moved, seconded (Lyman/Abelson) and carried unanimously to approve the proclamation.

D. Proclamation Honoring Fire Chief Lance Maples

Approve a Proclamation honoring Fire Chief Lance Maples for his many years of public service.

Action: Removed from the Consent Calendar by Councilmember Lyman for purposes of reading the proclamation and providing an opportunity for members of the Council to comment on the Fire Chief's years of service. Moved, seconded (Lyman/Pardue-Okimoto) and carried unanimously to approve the proclamation.

E. Minutes

Approve the Minutes for the meetings of November 14, 2018.

Action: Approved minutes.

F. Landscape Maintenance Service Agreements

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the following Agreements to provide Landscape Maintenance Services for the City's building grounds, street medians, streetscapes, Ohlone Greenway and Cerrito Creek Pathway for a period of three years, with an option to annually extend for two years.

1. Coast Landscape Management LLC in an amount not to exceed \$65,000 and \$130,000 in Fiscal Years 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 respectively, and thereafter contingent upon funding being appropriated in future City budgets.

2. New Image Landscape Company in an amount not to exceed \$27,500 and \$55,000 in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 respectively, and thereafter contingent upon funding being appropriated in future City budgets.

Action: Adopted Resolution No. 2018-64.

5. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

A. Oath of Office and Presentation of Certificates of Election

The Oaths of Office will be administered to incumbents Gabriel Quinto and Janet Abelson re-elected to the City Council for terms ending December 2022.

Action: The City Clerk administered the oaths of office and presented the certificates of election.

B. Comments from Re-Elected Members of the Council

Councilmember Abelson acknowledged family and friends and spoke about her plans for her new term in office.

Mayor Quinto acknowledged family and friends and reviewed the City's accomplishments over the past year and his plans for his new term in office.

Other members of the Council congratulated the re-elected councilmembers and expressed their appreciation for their service.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

7. POLICY MATTERS

A. City Council Reorganization

The City Council will elect a Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore to serve a term of one year.

SELECTION OF THE MAYOR

Sherry Kelly, Acting City Clerk, declared the offices of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore vacant and called for nominations for the Office of Mayor.

Actions: Councilmember Fadelli nominated Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto to the office of Mayor. There were no other nominations. Moved, seconded (Fadelli/Abelson) and carried unanimously to close nominations for Mayor. By unanimous vote, the City Council selected Mayor Pro Tem Pardue-Okimoto to serve as Mayor for a term of one year.

The City Clerk administered the oath of office to Mayor Pardue-Okimoto.

Mayor Pardue-Okimoto introduced family and friends and spoke about her plans for the City for the upcoming year.

SELECTION OF THE MAYOR PRO TEMPORE

Mayor Pardue-Okimoto called for nominations for the Office of Mayor Pro Tem.

Actions: Councilmember Fadelli nominated Councilmember Lyman to serve as Mayor Pro Tem. There were no other nominations. Moved, seconded (Fadelli/Quinto) and carried unanimously to close nominations. The City Council, by unanimous vote, selected Councilmember Lyman to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Pro Tem Lyman spoke about goals for the upcoming year.

B. Memorandum of Understanding with Public Safety Management Group – Fire Chief

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the Public Safety Management Group – Fire Chief

Presentation: Assistant City Manager Karen Pinkos presented the staff report. She reported that upon the retirement of Fire Chief Maples, the City Manager has appointed Battalion Chief Pighoni as the new Fire Chief.

Action: Moved, seconded (Quinto/Abelson) and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2018-65.

8. CITY COUNCIL LOCAL & REGIONAL LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

There were no reports.

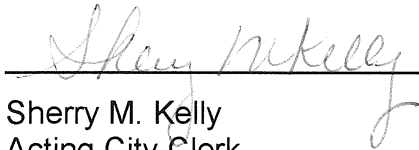
9. ADJOURN REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. in memory of Lannie Johnson.



Rochelle Pardue-Okimoto, Mayor

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular City Council meetings of December 4, 2018 as approved by the El Cerrito City Council.



Sherry M. Kelly
Acting City Clerk