

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with all members present except Councilmember Avila Farias, who arrived shortly after roll call.

PUBLIC COMMENT (comments are limited only to items listed on the agenda)

There being no public comments, the Council adjourned to the City Manager's Office.

CLOSED SESSION (Adjourn to City Manager's Office)

- A. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957:
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT—Title: Chief of Police
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT—Title: Chief of Police

CALL TO ORDER - BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Schroder called the Workshop to order at 6:25 p.m. with all members present. He indicated the Budget Workshop was delayed by the prior Closed Session regarding Government Code Section 54957 Public Employment--Chief of Police.

- A. Presentation of Budget for fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

City Manager Rob Braulik presented the 2015-17 Budget and acknowledged staff's hard work, especially Alan Shear, Assistant City Manager; Cathy Spinella, Finance Manager; and Michael Chandler, Senior Management Analyst.

Mr. Braulik spoke on positive trends (recovering economy, increasing property tax revenue, and decreasing unemployment), as well as negative trends (increasing CalPers pension rates, decreasing sales tax, due to loss of major business, and the major fiscal impact on services and service delivery). He reviewed fiscal policies and key funded items, e.g., Amtrak Station improvements, capital improvement including Measure H projects, Code Enforcement position expansion, electronic downtown parking meter installation, expansion of IT mobile applications, online recreation facility rentals, scientific community-wide survey, and Water Treatment Plant upgrades. Mr. Braulik outlined Council goals and key objectives, noting the goals are a work in progress.

Assistant City Manager Alan Shear provided an overview of the the 2015-16 and 2016-17 budget. He stated the revenues for the 2015-16 proposed budget are \$45,899,165 and the expenditures are \$48,283,413; for the 2016-17 proposed budget the revenues are \$39,109,715 and the expenditures are \$39,952,249. He reviewed the key factors influencing these projections. Mr. Shear reviewed the 5-year history of the Unassigned General Fund balance; projected 2015-16 General Fund revenue totals \$20,534,171 and the projection for 2016-17 is \$21,020,609.

Assistant City Manager Shear reviewed some of the budget highlights, including sales tax and property tax actuals, major General Fund revenues, and expenditure projections for fiscal year 2015-17. Mr. Shear reviewed Revenue Sales Tax, Property Tax actuals, major General Fund revenues, 2015 General Fund Expenditure Projections, Enterprise Fund Summary, Internal Service Fund Summary and Community Groups Funding.

Mayor Schroder noted Alhambra High School's Grad Night was not included under community groups funding because the school did not request it this year.

B. Council/Staff Discussion.

Councilmember DeLaney asked why the General Fund expenditure total on page 11 did not match the summary on page 18. Ms. Spinella stated the total on page 11 includes transfers to other funds for capital projects. Councilmember DeLaney asked if staff had incorporated rate changes for CalPers. Ms. Spinella stated the 2015-16 rates are correct, and the 2016-17 rates are based on estimates from CalPers. Councilmember DeLaney asked about the capital equipment expense, and Ms. Spinella stated it is for vehicle and equipment replacement.

Vice Mayor Ross asked for more information on the CalPers estimates, which Ms. Spinella provided. Vice Mayor Ross asked for a breakdown of the property tax revenue; Ms. Spinella provided the information and discussed future property tax trends.

Councilmember Avila Farias asked if staff had developed tactics on the economic side to help increase revenue if property tax revenue did not recover. Mr. Shear stated staff would continue to work on it and would come back in the fall with the strategic plan and a proposed Economic Development Manager position. Councilmember Avila Farias asked if the budget would be adjusted after labor negotiations were completed, and Mr. Shear stated adjustments would be part of an ongoing discussion and the outcome of the negotiations would be included in the fall budget update.

Councilmember M^cKillop asked for more details on the CalPers rate increases and what factors were included, which Ms. Spinella provided.

Mayor Schroder thanked staff for their work and for the clear and helpful presentation. He agreed on the importance of finding ways to increase revenues in the future.

C. Public Comments/Other Comments.

Mayor Schroder opened and closed the Item with no one coming forward.

D. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

RECONVENE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL - COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Rob Schroder reconvened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers. He reported closed session

PRESENT: Rob Schroder, Mayor, Mark Ross, Vice Mayor, AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, and Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember.

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: None.

PRESENTATION(S)

- A. Victim's Rights Award presentation by the Office of the District Attorney Contra Costa County to Sergeant Dave Mathers.

District Attorney Mark Peterson stated every year the State recognizes Victims' Rights Week and honors our partners in law enforcement.

Allison Chandler, District Attorney's Office, thanked Darrell Holcomb for assisting in Sergeant Dave Mathers' nomination for the Victims' Right Award and explained the many reasons Sergeant Mathers is receiving this award, including his leadership, dedication to his mission, assistance in other cities and jurisdictions, and effective use of resources. District Attorney Peterson presented the Victims' Rights Award recognizing Sergeant Mathers for his exemplary service to victims of crime, especially his work on internet crimes against children.

Sergeant Mathers expressed his appreciation to his family for their support and to Chief Ghisletta, the Martinez Police Department, the DA's office, and all the other agencies for providing him the opportunity to do this work.

- B. Proclamation Promoting May as "CalFresh Awareness Month."

Marianna Moore, Director of Insuring Opportunity Campaign to Cut Poverty in Contra Costa, thanked the Council for the opportunity to present the campaign. She provided details on the CalFresh program and its goals. Larry Sly, Executive Director of the Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano Counties, described the Food Bank's work and the results of its efforts. He asked the Council and local organizations to promote the program's benefits to help encourage participation in the City. Rebecca Callahan Kline, Multi-Faith Action Coalition, provided details on participation in Martinez and noted the economic stimulus could be created by full participation by the City's residents. She thanked the Council for its support.

Mayor Schroder, on behalf of the City Council, read and presented the proclamation to Ms. Moore, Mr. Sly, and Ms. Callahan Kline.

**Vice Mayor Ross left the dais.*

- C. PG&E Presentation-Pipeline Pathway Project.

Tom Guarino, representative of Pacific Gas & Electric, reviewed the background of the Community Pipeline Safety Program and indicated the program has been restructured since its first conception. Mr. Guarino thanked Assistant City Manager Alan Shear and staff for their assistance with the project. He reviewed safety considerations, pipe zones, tree replacement/restoration with the City and private property owners, and tree-by-tree review and criteria.

Mayor Schroder thanked Mr. Guarino for his work on this project and expressed the City's commitment to pipeline safety. He commended the collaborative and systematic approach to the project. He asked Mr. Guarino if there were any substantial street trees in the City which would need to be removed. City Engineer Tim Tucker provided some details on the location and number of trees potentially needing removal.

Councilmember Lara DeLaney asked if there were any trees on private property, and Mr. Tucker stated they are all on public property. Mr. Guarino stated PG&E would conduct a second review following the same process for private property. He noted when possible trees will be relocated and all trees will be replaced. He reviewed the timeline and process for working with the community on the tree management.

Councilmember AnaMarie Avila Farias thanked Mr. Guarino for the presentation. She asked when the City would be notified of the list of the trees' exact locations. Assistant City Manager Alan Shear stated the Council and public would be provided the list once it is finalized. She asked about community notification and input methods, and Mr. Guarino explained some of the tactics and how the City could help. He also explained how PG&E would work with property owners not wanting trees removed. Councilmember Avila Farias expressed how important it is the community has a voice in the process.

Councilmember Debbie M^cKillop asked if there would be an expedited process for trees representing a serious and immediate threat. Mr. Guarino described PG&E's monitoring program and stated action would be taken the moment imminent danger was noted. Councilmember M^cKillop asked about trees not identified as dangers, and Mr. Guarino stated they will be monitored but PG&E does not anticipate needing to relocate or remove them.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)
Reserved only for those requesting to speak on items not listed on the Agenda.**

Mayor Schroder reminded the public to maintain decorum during public comment.

Tom Griffith, Martinez Environment Group and the Bay Area Refinery Corridor Coalition, stated tree removal is not the answer to pipeline safety. He stated the San Bruno leak was caused by human error and lack of inspection. He discussed the role trees play in the ecosystem and expressed his opinion stating PG&E should go around the trees and not cut them down.

Aimee Durfee questioned what legal authority PG&E has for the tree removal and what the public's recourse will be if residents do not want a tree removed. She provided an update on crude by rail, noting the Martinez Unified School District passed a resolution opposing crude by rail through Martinez.

Bill Nichols, Martinez Environmental Group, thanked the Mayor for taking a stand last year with PG&E. He reminded the Alhambra Hills Plan allows the removal of 300 to 400 mature trees and commented on the effects of the drought on the City's existing trees.

Jim Neu, Martinez Environmental Group, stated there has not been a proactive process by PG&E to alert residents of the locations of pipelines.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Motion waiving reading of text of all Resolutions and Ordinances.
- 1. Motion approving City Council Minutes for April 1, 2015. [M.Cabral]
- 2. Motion rejecting Claim against the City by David Schmidt, #15-08. [M.Cabral]
- 3. Motion approving Check Reconciliation Register dated 5/14/15.[C.Spinella/2.1.1]
- 4. Motion to approve the City of Martinez Investment Policy. [C.Robinson/2.1.0]
- 5. Motion authorizing the City Manager to execute a First Amendment to Agreement with T-Mobile West, LLC ("T-Mobile") for Vacation of Reservoir Property During Construction.[M.Chandler/19.03.21]
- 6. Resolution No. 063-15 establishing the City's Proposition 4 Appropriations Limit for 2015-16 Fiscal Year (Gann Initiative). [C.Spinella/2.1.0]

Mayor Schroder requested Item #7 be removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, seconded by Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember, to approve Item #A and Items #1 through #6 of the consent calendar. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember. Absent: Vice Mayor Mark Ross.

- 7. Resolution No. 064-15 approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the East Bay Regional Park District; and authorizing the City Manager to execute same as well as Deed Restrictions and Declaration of Covenants; Lease Agreement-Alhambra Creek and; Lease Agreement-Ferry Street Extension Realignment, all as described in the Memorandum of Understanding. [T.Tucker/3.4.1]

Mayor Schroder explained the Memorandum of Understanding in Item #7 and thanked the City's staff and attorneys for their work on this process.

Mayor Schroder opened Item #7 for public comment.

Bill Nichols noted both crossings of Alhambra Creek are frequently blocked at the same time and suggested an overpass is necessary for emergency situations.

Seeing no further speakers, Mayor Schroder closed public comment on Item #7.

Councilmember DeLaney stated a pedestrian bridge crossing is planned for 2017.

On motion by Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, seconded by Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember, to approve Resolution No. 064-15 approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the East Bay Regional Park District; and authorizing the City Manager to execute same as well as Deed

Restrictions and Declaration of Covenants; Lease Agreement-Alhambra Creek and; Lease Agreement-Ferry Street Extension Realignment, all as described in the Memorandum of Understanding. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember. Absent: Vice Mayor Mark Ross.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

CONVENE AS BOARD OF THE CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 6

8. Introduce Ordinances Designating the Clerk and Engineer of the District and Setting Procedural Rules for SD-6 Board Meetings: [T.Tucker/30.05.02]
- A. Introduce and later adopt an Ordinance defining the Board of Contra Costa County Sanitation District No. 6 and Meeting Proceedings; and
- B. Introduce and later adopt an Ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 3 and amending Ordinance No. 1 to designate the Martinez City Manager as the Clerk of the Board of Directors and the Martinez City Engineer as the Engineer of Contra Costa County Sanitation District No. 6.

City Engineer Tim Tucker presented the staff report and explained the processes instituted by each ordinance.

Councilmember DeLaney asked why the County was still in the official name of the District. Mr. Tucker stated staff wanted to avoid confusion and would be implementing a name change over the next year.

On motion by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, seconded by Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, introduce and later adopt an Ordinance defining the Board of Contra Costa County Sanitation District No. 6 and Meeting Proceedings. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember. Absent: Vice Mayor Mark Ross.

On motion by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, seconded by Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember, introduce and later adopt an Ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 3 and amending Ordinance No. 1 to designate the Martinez City Manager as the Clerk of the Board of Directors and the Martinez City Engineer as the Engineer of Contra Costa County Sanitation District No. 6. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember.

RECONVENE AS CITY COUNCIL

9. Public hearing to adopt a Resolution finding the 2015-2023 Housing Element is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(3)) and approving a General Plan Amendment to adopt the 2015-2023 Housing Element of the City's General Plan. [D.Tasini/9.02.05]

Planning Manager Dina Tasini presented the staff report. She reviewed Council's and the Planning Commission's previous comments on the document and noted the State has also reviewed the plan.

Mayor Schroder opened and closed public comment on the Item with no speakers coming forward.

Councilmember Avila Farias thanked Ms. Tasini for her work on the document and expressed hope the City will work to achieve the affordable housing goals.

Councilmember DeLaney asked why the inclusionary housing ordinance was listed as a change when it was present in previous versions of the Housing Element. Councilmember Avila Farias provided additional context from Council discussions, noting it had been left off from previous versions of the 2015-2023 Housing Element but the Council wanted to ensure the goal was included, although the terminology may be changed in the future.

On motion by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, seconded by Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember, to approve Resolution No. 065-15 finding the 2015-2023 Housing Element is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(3)) and approving a General Plan Amendment to adopt the 2015-2023 Housing Element of the City's General Plan. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember. Absent: Vice Mayor Mark Ross.

10. Public hearing to adopt a resolution amending the City's Schedule of Fees for services provided by the City and making findings the project is statutorily exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15273(a) since the fees being established are for the purposes of meeting operating expenses. [M.Chandler/2.2.1]

Senior Management Analyst Michael Chandler presented the staff report. He provided information on the last comprehensive User Fee Study and the resulting increases. He noted many fees had been frozen or reduced during the recession and explained the need for fee updates and the recommended increases.

Mayor Schroder asked about the call-out rates associated with the film permit application process, and Mr. Chandler stated staff had not finished researching those fees but they would be included.

Councilmember Avila Farias asked if the subsidy program for pool fees for low-income families would continue and how it would be funded. Mr. Chandler stated the pool fee schedule would not change so the program would still exist. He noted the pool and park facility fees have been consistently updated.

Councilmember DeLaney suggested the fee for staff inspections for unlisted permitted projects seems high, especially since the minimum charge is for two hours. Public Works Director Dave Scola stated \$140/hour is the cost to conduct the inspection, particularly for code compliance.

Mayor Schroder suggested it be changed to a one-hour minimum. City Manager Rob Braulik stated this fee minimum is very common, particularly because after the inspection, staff time is spent on reports and follow-up. He stated it could be adjusted if it seems most projects are not taking as long.

Mayor Schroder opened and closed public comment on the Item with no speakers coming forward.

On motion by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, seconded by Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember, to approve Resolution No. 066-15 amending the City's Schedule of Fees for services provided by the City and making findings the project is statutorily exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15273(a) since the fees being established are for the purposes of meeting operating expenses. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember. Absent: Vice Mayor Mark Ross.

11. Public hearing to introduce an ordinance amending Title 2 of the City's Municipal Code, Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.04, City Manager, Section 2.04.050 - Powers and Duties. [A.Shear/04.01.00/32.02.00]

Assistant City Manager Alan Shear presented the staff report. He noted another ordinance had been introduced earlier this year providing for the Chief of Police to report to the City Manager. The ordinance under consideration today would grant the City Manager the responsibility to employ, discipline and remove employees of the City.

**Vice Mayor Ross joined the Council at the dais.*

Councilmember DeLaney asked if this change would affect the current hiring process for the Chief of Police. Mr. Shear stated the ordinance was not brought forward today with the intention of interfering with the current process.

Vice Mayor Ross stated he is not opposed to the change, but he felt it is not the right time as it is changing the rules in the middle of the process.

Mayor Schroder opened and closed public comment on the Item with no speakers coming forward.

Councilmember DeLaney agreed the intent of the policy is worthy of consideration but she felt it is premature and interjects unnecessary uncertainty into the current process.

City Manager Rob Braulik stated the City Manager is accountable for the performance of the City staff and cannot be held accountable if he is not able to handle employment and dismissal. He stated if the City Manager is not in charge of employment and dismissal of the Chief of Police, then the Chief of Police should report to the City Council alone.

Councilmember Avila Farias stated this is an important change to empower the new City Manager and allow him to be successful while following industry best practices. Councilmembers have full-time jobs and are not able to effectively supervise the Chief of Police.

Councilmember M^cKillop concurred with Councilmember Avila Farias and noted the Council would retain final approval over employment and dismissal.

Vice Mayor Ross agreed the Chief of Police should report to only the City Council or the City Manager, but he did not feel the change is appropriate at this stage of the hiring process. If the City Manager is to be in charge of hiring the new Chief of Police, he felt the process should start over entirely. Councilmember DeLaney stated she would be in support of the change if it took effect after the new hire is complete.

Mayor Schroder stated he had supported these change for a year and felt it should have been done a long time ago, since selection by the City Council interjects politics into the process. He stated he understood the timing issue.

Vice Mayor Ross asked when the ordinance would take effect and if it could be referended. City Attorney Jeff Walter stated it would depend on whether it was considered legislative or administrative. He stated the ordinance would take effect in thirty days.

On motion by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, seconded by Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember, introduce an Ordinance amending Title 2 of the City's Municipal Code, Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.04, City Manager, Section 2.04.050 - Powers and Duties. Motion passed 3 - 2. Yes: AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember; Rob Schroder, Mayor. No: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Vice Mayor. Absent: Vice Mayor Mark Ross.

**Vice Mayor Ross left the dais at 8:57 p.m.*

CITY MANAGER

12. Motion to direct staff to send letter of support for SB 533 (Pan) Cities and Counties, sales and use tax agreements. [R.Braulik/41.01.01]

City Manager Rob Braulik presented the staff report. He stated the bill is supported by the League of California Cities.

Mayor Schroder opened and closed public comment on the Item with no speakers coming forward.

Councilmember DeLaney commented on cities and jurisdictions undercutting others to recruit businesses away. She stated this bill is long overdue and she appreciated the City taking action to support it.

On motion by Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, seconded by Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember, direct staff to send a letter of support for SB 533 (Pan) Cities and Counties, sales and use tax agreements. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember; Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember.

13. City Manager Comment(s)/Update(s).

City Manager Rob Braulik announced National Public Works Week is May 17-23. He also reminded the Council the regular start time for the next Council meeting is 6:00 p.m.

CHIEF OF POLICE

14. Chief of Police Comment(s)/Update(s).

Interim Chief of Police Eric Ghisletta announced on May 8, Corporal Mike Estanol and Officer Kevin Basillio attended the funeral of Brian Moore, fallen police officer in New York. He noted they attended the services on their own time, and the Association covered their meals and lodging while they were there.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES

CITY COUNCIL

15. Council Subcommittee Reports.

Councilmember Avila Farias attended the Affordable Housing Authority kick off in Oakland, which was a great event. This organization helps cities to build affordable housing in their communities. She brought back an "Affordable Housing Guide" with useful information to share and hoped next year staff and the entire Council could attend.

16. City Council Comments.

**Vice Mayor Ross joined the Council at the dais.*

Councilmember Lara DeLaney announced a forum on pipeline safety Saturday, June 6, at 10:00 a.m., in the County Board of Supervisors Chambers at 651 Pine Street, Martinez. The forum is being sponsored by Alamo Municipal Advisory Council.

Councilmember AnaMarie Avila Farias announced John Swett's recent science fair and expressed regret she was not able to attend due to the Council meeting.

Mayor Rob Schroder congratulated Sgt. Dave Mathers for receiving the Victims' Rights Award. He announced on Monday, Memorial Day, the "Laying of the Wreath" will be at 9:00 a.m. at the Alhambra Cemetery and at 10:00 a.m. at the All Veterans Monument at the corner of Alhambra and Berrellesa.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 9:10 p.m. to a Regular City Council Meeting June 3, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California.

Approved by the City Council,

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Rob Schroder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with all members present except Vice Mayor Ross, who arrived shortly after roll call.

PRESENT: Rob Schroder, Mayor, Mark Ross, Vice Mayor, AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, and Debbie McKillop, Councilmember.

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Comments are limited only to items listed on the Agenda)

Mayor Schroder stated the Council would be adjourning to Closed Session regarding Public Employment - Title: Chief of Police. He indicated there would be no appointment made tonight, and he reviewed the recruitment process so far. He stated seven candidates were being considered, including Interim Chief Eric Ghisletta. He explained in order to allow enough time for the Council to deliberate, public comment would be limited to 15 minutes, and then the Council will adjourn to Closed Session. He indicated when the Council reconvenes, he will re-open public comment. He requested the public to limit their comments to one minute.

Mayor Schroder opened public comment.

Mike Benson stated Eric Ghisletta is the best candidate for the job, and the only one the Council should consider because he was born and educated in Martinez. He could not understand why the Council needed to spend so much on a recruitment firm when Mr. Ghisletta was already here, willing and able to do the job.

Nina Breinig expressed support for Mr. Ghisletta as well, reviewing his history and experience qualifies him for the position of Police Chief.

Phyllis Loya indicated she was dissatisfied with how the City is being managed. She was concerned about the City's decline and the poor handling of public safety issues, resulting in Mr. Ghisletta's resignation and a blow to the morale of the Police force. She noted the bond among current police officers, including Mr. Ghisletta, following the deaths of two officers in the line of duty.

Carol Youngman commented on Mr. Ghisletta's courage, integrity and stellar performance, as well as his pride in Martinez. She expressed he should be rewarded for his hard work with the position of Police Chief.

Gay Gerlack said she was very disappointed with the Council's actions, and she asked the community to express themselves in the next election. She thanked Mr. Ghisletta for his 25 years of service to the City.

John Stretch noted he was hired by the City in 1987 and has worked with Mr. Ghisletta. He stated Mr. Ghisletta was the best candidate for the job. He questioned the validity of the process since Richmond's Chief of Police was on the review board and a Captain from Richmond is the recommended candidate. He cautioned the Council they may have just committed political suicide.

Mike Smith said he has worked for the City for 31 years and he agreed Mr. Ghisletta was the best man for the job. He added Martinez used to be like a family, but not so much anymore.

Bill Nichols was also supportive of Mr. Ghisletta, and he commented on his many community involvements. He expressed disappointment in three specific members of the Council. Mr. Nichols commented if Mr. Ghisletta has resigned, the City should add the title of Police Chief to his record, not just Interim Chief.

Felix Sanchez indicated his support for Mr. Ghisletta as the best qualified candidate for the job. He reminded the Council they could be subject to a recall from the voters, and he urged them to do the right thing and offer Mr. Ghisletta the job.

Mayor Schroder closed public comment until after the Closed Session.

The Council adjourned to the City Manager's Office.

CLOSED SESSION (Adjourn to City Manager's Office)

- A. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957: PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT - Title: Chief of Police PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT - Title: Chief of Police

RECONVENE

Mayor Schroder reconvened the meeting at 8:40 p.m. with all the Councilmembers present. He stated they met in Closed Session and reported there will be another meeting continuing the same discussion on Friday, May 29th at 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Schroder reopened public comment.

Cookie Telles spoke about Interim Chief Ghisletta and his strong community bonds, based on his family connections and personal history in Martinez. She also asked whether there are six candidates being considered or only two.

Mayor Schroder confirmed the City Manager received a letter of resignation from Eric Ghisletta effective June 25th.

Diane Boyle said she thought the Council has done a grave injustice to the Police Department, given their support and respect for Mr. Ghisletta. She questioned whether the Police Department was asked about their recommendation for the job, and whether the community was consulted. She expressed it is a sad day for Martinez, and a recall for three Councilmembers will be started as a result.

Cheryl Grover noted Ms. Boyle has been the leading force in raising money for a police dog, and she thanked Ms. Boyle for her efforts.

Julian Frazer stated when he was on the Council, they had hired two Police Chiefs through the ranks of the Department, which is how it is generally done. He was displeased with the fact not all public comment was heard before the Closed Session. He also expressed all City meetings should be recorded with video and audio, especially Special meetings. He was concerned about the summarizing of the minutes and how difficult it is to tell at times what was actually said. Mr. Frazer requested these minutes be verbatim. He was concerned the process followed resulted from political conflicts among the Councilmembers.

Elizabeth Alvarado, a lifelong resident of the City and a public servant in the court system, stated the role as public servant is to work on behalf of the community, and the Council has failed. She asked whether any of the Council had taken the time to get to know members of the Police Department and their families. She also asked if the Council had stood by a Police Officer's side when delivering news of the death of a family member to a loved one, or especially, the death of a Police Officer to his family. She urged the Council to listen to the public and ask Mr. Ghisletta to reconsider his resignation.

Marshall Cochrane commented on the role of the new City Manager, which should primarily focus on economic revitalization. He noted, in every measurable way, Mr. Ghisletta has performed his job more than satisfactorily with crime statistics, etc., down, as a result of his efforts. He stated the City Manager could trust Mr. Ghisletta to do his job well and would not take time away from the City Manager's other duties.

Robert Patrick commented on the minimum qualifications other cities in Contra Costa County require of Police Chiefs, including a Bachelor's Degree. He noted the emotions tied to Mr. Ghisletta's connection with the community need to be set aside, and the Council should logically consider who is the best man for the job.

In response to Mr. Patrick, John Stevens said he has a Master's Degree, but he is not qualified to be Chief of Police. He was confident Mr. Ghisletta's PhD in life makes him more than qualified.

Robert Perry asked whether the next meeting, on May 29th would be a regular meeting or a Special meeting. Mayor Schroder confirmed it would be a Special meeting and will include time for public comment.

Councilmember Avila-Farias indicated the recruitment process resulted in thirty applicants, with seven considered qualified and interviewed by the recruitment board. She further indicated the Council was reviewing notes for the seven, but since Mr. Ghisletta submitted his resignation, the Council will continue its decision-making with the remaining six.

CITY COUNCIL

1. City Manager and/or Council Comments.

Councilmember Avila Farias indicated this evening was the first time Council has reviewed and discussed the outcome of the independent panel and Friday is a continuation of the same. As reported in the paper, there were seven applicants from the 30 who applied. Unfortunately, and to Council's surprise, Mr. Ghisletta resigned, and the Council will contend with 6 applicants in Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 9:00 p.m. to a Special City Council meeting on May 29, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California.

Approved by the City Council,

Rob Schroder, Mayor

Mercy G. Cabral, Deputy City Clerk – 7/1/15