

I. CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL

Mayor Rob Schroder called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez CA 94553.

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

EXCUSED: Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember.

ABSENT: None.

PRESENTATION(S)

A. Proclaiming "Falls Prevention Awareness Week" September 19-25, 2016.

After a reading by Councilmember Ross, Mayor Schroder, on behalf of the City Council, presented the proclamation to Bob Timbers of the Fall Prevention Coalition.

Mr. Timbers commented on the importance of public awareness, especially for older adults, and the need to take preventive steps to reduce the number of falls overall.

B. Proclaiming October 1, 2016 and every First Saturday in October as "Bay Day."

After a reading by Councilmember DeLaney, Mayor Schroder, on behalf of the City Council, presented the proclamation to Paul Kumar of Save the Bay. Mr. Kumar expressed his appreciation to the Council, noting they are joining many other cities in making the Bay Day Proclamation. He also discussed the goals of his organization to the ecology and environment, as well as the Bay's importance to the residents of the region. He invited everyone to participate in the many special activities planned for the day.

**Vice Mayor AnaMarie Avila Farias arrived and was seated at the dais.*

C. Contra Costa Animal Services.

Contra Costa Animal Services Director Beth Ward provided a presentation describing the Department and its many services, 2015 progress and accomplishments, live release rates from 2011 to 2015, compared with the 2016 rate increase and specifics for the Martinez Shelter including adoptions, operations, field services, and medical services. She pointed out that Martinez is one of the few municipalities that treat canine parvovirus. She also spoke about the wonderful volunteers and programs offered via new projects, opportunities and challenges, and ways for the public to support their local shelter.

Mayor Schroder asked what other animals the shelter cares for than just dogs and cats. Ms. Ward said they assist all animals that are in the county, i.e., horses, chickens, rabbits. She specifically commented on the barn that they work with.

Mayor Schroder also asked why the night deposit boxes were closed to the public. Ms. Ward discussed the types of boxes that were used previously, which were not comfortable and healthy for the animals. She indicated, however, that the shelter is continuing to take animals, just not through the night deposit box.

Councilmember DeLaney thanked Ms. Ward for her presentation. She asked for more information on the new adoption policies, which Ms. Ward discussed.

Councilmember Ross commended Ms. Ward for the services CCAS provides. He suggested that a doggie diner be added to match the existing cat café.

Vice Mayor Avila Farias asked about any work with the 4-H program. Ms. Ward said they have worked with them, but not as much as she would like.

CCAS, Community & Media Relations Coordinator Steve Burdo discussed active partnerships with Girl Scouts and the LGBT Youth Center, noting they are always looking for ways to expand.

Mayor Schroder thanked Ms. Ward for her presentation. She welcomed the Council to tour the facility.

D. Presentation by Worth a Dam.

Heidi Perryman of Worth a Dam spoke on the completion of the mural project on Marina Vista Bridge. She explained that last year the kits and a yearling died, and studies were made, but no cause was found. The other beavers left and the City was without beavers for a long time, which prompted the mural. She noted Worth a Dam engaged Mario Alfaro, who did the Main Street murals, and used pictures from the wildlife found in the Alhambra Creek. She also reported that in April, a small dam was found by the Corp Yard and two beavers were seen and taped; now those beavers are living on Ward Street. She noted this was an ongoing story and hoped the mural will be a part of that story.

Ms. Perryman expressed appreciation to the Council for their grant to support the beavers.

Councilmember Ross said it is good to know that the next generation of beavers is here and will continue. He thanked Ms. Perryman for her many years of work on behalf of the beavers.

Councilmember DeLaney thanked Ms. Perryman and expressed appreciation for the beautiful mural, which will remind the public that the beavers are there.

PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)

Reserved only for those requesting to speak on items not listed on the Agenda.

Norman McDonald expressed concerns with parking on Shell Avenue. He noted there is currently a “no parking” sign posted; however, people do not see it and park on Shell anyway. Mr. McDonald requested that the curb be painted red extending up the hill from La Salle Manor. He was concerned it is a very dangerous situation which should be looked into.

Mayor Schroder questioned how much enforcement there is in the area. City Manager Brad Kilger said he would look into it and report back to Council. The Council directed staff to review the area and provide parking enforcement in the meantime.

Gwen De La Rosa Winters, Marketing Director for Legacy Nursing and Rehabilitation Center at 1790 Muir Road in Martinez. She asked for Council's support to bring awareness of their services, because many Martinez residents are not aware of the facility and are going elsewhere when they need help. She encouraged the Council and the public to drop by. Vice Mayor Avila Farias noted her grandmother stayed there for a brief time and commended the Center for the care they provided, enabling her grandmother to return home. She thanked them for their services.

Eli Dominguez urged the Council and County to adopt an ordinance to stop the spraying of chemicals, geoen지니어ing, and the posting of signs which are bad for people and the environment.

Gary Frietas commented on past comments from speakers which have been very negative towards elected officials. He noted that the Friends of Pine Meadow may have won in court, but the battle is not over.

Felix Sanchez stated there seems to be an issue with the City's website. He cannot get a live feed of the Council meeting and the only place he can view the Council meeting online is through Internet Explorer. He cannot view the meetings through Firefox or through Google Chrome. That is why he does a live feed, because not everyone has access to view the meeting. Councilmember DeLaney thanked Mr. Sanchez for providing the live feed.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Motion waiving reading of text of all Resolutions and Ordinances.
 - 1. Motion approving Council Minutes of July 6, and July 20, 2016. [M.Cabral]
 - 2. Motion rejecting City Claim against the City by Elijah Dominguez, #16-18. [M.Cabral]
 - 3. Motion approving Check Reconciliation Register(s) dated 07/28/16, and 08/12/16. [C.Mosser/2.1.1]
 - 4. Resolution No. 082-16 authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Main Street Martinez. [M.Chandler/9.12.04]
 - 5. Resolution No. 083-16 authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with Martinez Area Chamber of Commerce. [M.Chandler/7.02.01]
 - 6. Motion accepting "Worth a Dam's" completed Mural design on the Marina Vista Bridge. [M.Chandler/6.10.00]

Mayor Schroder opened public comment on the Consent Calendar.

Eli Dominguez spoke in support of Item 6, the Worth a Dam mural, and the lift he gets every time he sees it.

Seeing no further speakers, Mayor Schroder closed public comment on the Consent Calendar.

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

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

CHIEF OF POLICE

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

Chief of Police Manjit Sappal reported that as of last week, the department initiated a contract for homeless outreach services. He indicated that Mike Callahan, who works for the County and worked with Doug Stewart, is out and about for 15 hours a week just in Martinez providing outreach services.

Mayor Schroder expressed appreciation for the shift reports and information provided to the Council.

CITY MANAGER

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

City Manager Brad Kilger spoke on the Marina and related projects. He noted that the dredging will be done next fall due to the permitting requirements and the item will be coming back to the Council with regards to funding. He reported that a project team has been created with staff including the potential dredger, and staff has been speaking with Shell concerning potential dredging needs they may have.

City Manager Kilger also announced the hiring of new Assistant City Manager, Anne Cardwell, who the interview panel found to be one of the top candidates. He noted she comes to Martinez with over 22 years of experience and will be a good asset, beginning on Monday, September 26th.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES

9. A. Appointment of Jerry Johnson to the Design Review Committee for a two-year term. [16.11.01]

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required to approve appoint Jerry Johnson to the Design Review Committee for a two-year term. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Councilmember; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Vice Mayor; Rob Schroder, Mayor.

- B. Reappointments of Maureen Behrendt, Susan Gustofson, Timon Phillips, and Rebecca Vanni to the Design Review Committee for a two-year term. [16.11.01]

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required to approve reappointments of Maureen Behrendt, Susan Gustofson, Timon Phillips, and Rebecca Vanni to the Design Review Committee for a two-year term. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Councilmember; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Vice Mayor; Rob Schroder, Mayor.

- C. Reappointment of Brian Eychner to the Parks, Recreation, Marina & Cultural Commission for a four-year term. [16.10.11]

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required to approve reappointment of Brian Eychner to the Parks, Recreation, Marina & Cultural Commission for a four-year term. Motion unanimously passed 4 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Councilmember; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Vice Mayor; Rob Schroder, Mayor.

CITY COUNCIL

10. Council Subcommittee Reports.

Mayor Schroder reported out on his and Councilmember DeLaney's attendance at the Measure D Ad Hoc Committee meeting held on September 7, 2016, and the draft materials that will be reviewed by the Ad hoc Committee and sent to the Council. Mr. Kilger added that staff is also putting together a "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet for the public.

Vice Mayor Avila Farias announced a Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

11. City Council Comments.

Councilmember DeLaney expressed her appreciation to staff for their help in putting together the "First Responders Appreciation" event - especially Chief Sappal, Rica Guidry, and Renee Jacobs. She also gave special recognition to the ladies who initiated the project: Stacy Thompson, Marianne Forina, Elizabeth Alvarado, Nina Brenning, and Pete Sabeau, who helped with marketing, Gina Zagotta, and the community for attending and showing support for all the services provided by the City's first responders. She also requested the City to take a proactive approach with the County now that they are master planning for the downtown. She suggested not only that staff be appointed to engage in those conversations, but also the need for architectural or planning resources to provide the City's vision for the reuse of some of the properties. Mr. Kilger said he was aware of the need to assign staff liaisons for working with the County; he indicated it will be easier once more Planning staff is added.

In response to a comment from Councilmember Ross, Mr. Kilger discussed job duties and responsibilities for the incoming Assistant City Manager, as well as existing staff.

Vice Mayor Avila Farias commented that her concern for the City is not only to be at the table with the County in their planning process, but that the City takes lead rather than allowing the County dictate its preferences. Mr. Kilger said the County does seem to be willing to work with the City.

Councilmember Ross agreed it is better for the City to be advising in the process rather than being the advised. He expressed congratulations for the "First Responders" event and thanked Councilmember DeLaney for her efforts, the community for coming out and those who assisted. He also thanked Chief Sappal for honoring Sgt. Starzyk yesterday morning and for the continued remembrance. To continue, he also asked about the 9/11 ceremony. Chief Sappal said it would be held on September 11th at 10:00 a.m.

Councilmember Ross asked about the progress on the update of the View Ordinance. City Manager Kilger stated he has spoken to the City Attorney and she has stated it was something she could do fairly quickly. By Council consensus, it was agreed to bring the ordinance to a future meeting for consideration. Councilmember Ross also requested that staff track the County's dog barking ordinance.

Vice Mayor Avila Farias requested a timeline or summary on entitled developments. Mr. Tucker provided a brief update and indicated that a report would be forthcoming. Councilmember Avila Farias acknowledged the need for sidewalks in rural residential areas that are no longer rural; in particular, the Nancy Boyd Park area. City Manager Kilger stated staff can include this in the capital improvement program.

Vice Mayor Avila Farias also requested an update on the dog park and Mr. Tucker indicated that staff is working with the consultant on a comprehensive report to include the layout of each site identified and associated costs over the next couple of months. Vice Mayor Avila Farias commented on the need for the City Manager to be more proactive on the jail in his discussions with the County and stressed the need for Council to take a position in keeping the jail. Mayor Schroder noted that Council has not taken an official position, but all indicated that the preference is the building not to be torn down. City Manager Kilger stated as part of the process, staff is looking at all the City and County properties within the downtown area.

Councilmember DeLaney also expressed appreciation to Felix Sanchez in his help in the "First Responders Appreciation" event in the live casting of the program, and for getting the word out to the media.

Mayor Schroder requested that the meeting adjourn in memory of Ted Radke, a member of this Council during the 70s, the longest serving member of the East Bay Regional Park District Board, and a neighbor of his. He expressed his condolences to the family.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:30 p.m., *in memory of Ted Radke*, then to a Regular City Council Meeting on September 21, 2016 at 7:00 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 – 10/19/16