

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers with all members present.

CLOSED SESSION

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (pursuant to Cal. Gov't Code section 54956.9(a))

Name of case: In re Petition in Bankruptcy filed by The Benefactors dba the Willows Theatre Company, N. District Cal. Case No. 12-48964.

- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Initiation of litigation pursuant to Cal. Gov't Code section 54956.9(c) One potential case.

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

RECONVENE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL

Mayor Schroder reconvened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers. He reported out on the closed session, stating that direction was given to legal counsel and there was nothing else to report.

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

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: None.

PRESENTATION(S)

Mayor Schroder announced that he is adding a Special Recognition honoring the 100th Birthday of Martinez resident Josephine Heruth-Nation and declaring January 10, 2013 "Josephine Heruth-Nation Day." Ms. Heruth-Nation served as City Treasurer for about 40 years.

Ms. Heruth-Nation accepted the certificate and expressed her appreciation to the Mayor and Council.

- A. County Librarian presentation on Strategic Plan, 100th birthday, and Year of the Library.

County Librarian Barbara Flynn announced that Contra Costa County Library was a recipient of the 2012 Institute of Museum and Library Services Medal for meeting the needs of the community, particularly through the use of QR codes and the Discover and Go Program. She also announced the library's 100th birthday celebration on July 21, 2013, at the Pleasant Hill Park and Teen Center from 12:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be a series of kickoff events beginning with the Martinez Library on Saturday, February 9 at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Flynn reported that this year they will be embarking on updating the library's strategic plan and will be going to every community to gather input from the citizens about what they need and want from the library. The library is also working on an e-book platform. Ms. Flynn urged everyone to visit the library's website for more information about these announcements.

Ms. Flynn expressed appreciation on behalf of Martinez Librarian Karen Hansen Smith for the City's funding of the purchase of a projector and screen for the downstairs room. Ms. Smith also wished to invite residents to the White Crane Lion Dancers' performance in honor of Chinese New Year on Tuesday, February 12, made possible by the support of the Friends of the Library. Ms. Flynn added that on Wednesday, January 23, at 2:00 p.m. a film screening and discussion series on film noir called "Embrace Your Dark Side" will begin at Moraga Library.

B. Certificate of Recognition to Bob Kelly.

Mayor Schroder and the Council presented a Certificate of Recognition to Martinez resident Bob Kelly "Home Town Hero" for his long history of volunteer work including at his children's schools, Meals on Wheels and the American Diabetes Association. Mr. Kelly expressed his appreciation to the Council.

C. Caltrans Presentation of the Mococo OH Project to Martinez City Council. *Moved to the March 6th Council meeting.*

PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)

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

Marie Knutson, Chairperson of the Martinez Chamber of Commerce, and incoming 2013 Chairperson Dwain Glemser of Les Schwab introduced John Stevens, the new CEO for the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Stevens provided a brief summary on his background. Mr. Glemser announced the Chambers' first event, the State of the City Breakfast on February 12, 2013.

Anthony Jetland spoke on the costs associated with the City's business license policy and high fees for renewal and back-charges. He noted that many other cities have sliding scales of fees for business licenses. Mayor Schroder requested that he meet with the City Manager.

Tom Lewis spoke on the poor conditions and the lack of benches at bus stops in the City, and encouraged the City to review.

Mike Alford spoke on the closures of fire stations in Martinez and the staffing conditions of the County Hospital.

Kristin Henderson thanked staff for their assistance on the Olive Grove. She indicated that she has received many letters of support. She also commented on the General Plan Update and the Historic Resources Element.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION WAIVING READING OF TEXT OF ALL RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES.

1. Motion approving City Council Minutes December 5, 2012. [M.Cabral]
2. Motion approving Check Reconciliation Registers dated 12/20/12, 1/10/13. [C.Spinella/2.1.0]
3. Motion approving the Cash and Investment Report dated 12/31/12. [C.Spinella/2.1.0]
4. Motion Rejecting Claims against the City for Roberto Roman/Contra Costa County, (12-29); Michele Skinner, (12-21). [M.Cabral]
5. Resolution No. 001-13 authorizing City Manager to execute a license agreement with Rooster Productions, LLC, for use of a portion of the Kenney Building, located at 115 Tarantino Drive. [M.Chandler]

On motion by Lara DeLaney, Vice Mayor, seconded by Michael Menesini, Councilmember, to Approve Items #1-#5 of the Consent Calendar. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

CITY MANAGER

6. Resolution allocating \$46,000 from the undesignated Parking District Reserve Fund for the purchase of up to 69 credit card enabled electronic meter mechanisms located on Main Street between Alhambra Avenue and Court Street.

City Manager Philip Vince presented the staff report. He commented on the process of trying to bring clarity to the issue. He suggested that instead of purchasing the meters, the trial period for the credit card parking meters be extended 6 more months, and in the interim discuss and review solutions on the long-term and day parking, which seemed to be the major problem the City had been trying to address and the purpose of the funds that had been accumulated over the past several years. Moving to credit card enabled technology will use up a lot of that money without solving the long-term parking problem. He stated the City might have to look into contracting out parking.

Mayor Schroder commented on the different factors involved with the problem, including traffic circulation, cost and revenues, and day parking. He stated that the long-term goal should be a parking garage or something of that nature. He noted that if free parking for jurors would no longer be allowed, they might appreciate the credit card meters more. He thought it might be helpful during the exploratory phase to determine on which streets the credit card meters produced the most revenue. He commented that the City should discuss this more with the County.

Vice Mayor DeLaney agreed that the electronic meters should go to the longer-term spaces. She expressed confusion because most of the meters are already for 4-10 hour parking. She stated she would like to look closer at the parking budget, expenditures, and where the different revenue accrues to. She commented on the need for better management of lot inventories. Mr. Vince stated that every downtown business owner he had talked to stated strongly that a long-term parking garage close to the neighborhood was needed, particularly for generating increased night traffic. The current long-term parking is too far away from the shops to be convenient or safe.

Councilmember Menesini agreed that a long-term parking structure was needed in downtown at some point in the future. Mayor Schroder stated that options for contracting out the parking could be investigated, but that limits probably could not be enforced on public property. Councilmember Menesini stated there is a difference between street parking and parking lots. Chief Peterson corrected the information given at the last meeting about the percentage the City receives from parking tickets.

Councilmember Ross suggested a hybrid solution, pooling the resources of the County and City, using the ancillary lots around downtown, working with merchants to find a solution for employee parking, and implementing the modern meters. He stated the parking district would never accumulate enough funding to build a parking structure using only the revenue from the older parking meters. He also commented on the difficulty of telling how much time was left on the older meters in the dark or when they are foggy, and on the assurance that the modern meters would be accurate. Mayor Schroder noted that during the enforcement holiday, employees had been parking right in front of the storefronts all day.

Councilmember Avila Farias thanked staff for both reports and their work in bringing clarity to the issue. She agreed on the importance of a long-term sustainable parking solution and asked for more detail and clarification on the parking district's budget and cost centers.

Vice Mayor DeLaney also asked for clarification on how many electronic meters the City was considering purchasing. Mr. Vince asked whether the goal was to modernize the parking system to provide value and convenience to the residents, or to seek a long-term parking solution. If the Council commits to the purchase of modern parking meters, there will not be enough funds to pursue other solutions, particularly if the meters are not making money. He suggested a further six-month trial to make a more informed decision. Vice Mayor DeLaney stated that if the free parking for jurors was eliminated, the modern meters would be necessary. Councilmember Menesini stated that the current meters could be moved to the juror parking area. He added that he would not support purchasing more at this time because of the question of cost-effectiveness. Mr. Vince agreed and stated that the City could increase costs or simply monitor activity in that case. Mayor Schroder asked how many meters would be involved. City Engineer Tim Tucker stated the courts would provide a map to jurors and the electronic meters could be marked. Right now there are 277 spaces available for juror parking, and the City has 61 electronic meters available.

Mayor Schroder stated it did not seem the Council was ready to make a decision yet on either item. More study would be necessary.

Mayor Schroder opened the Item for public comment.

Mike Alford commented on the purchase of the Zocchi property and suggested it should be bringing revenue to the City. He commented on other potential parking areas and the possibility of revenue from the County.

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

Councilmember Ross noted that it is important to consider the purpose of the parking district, whether it is to be a revenue source for the City or to provide a service to merchants and residents. He asked that the fogged-up meters be corrected in the short term.

It was agreed by consensus to reconstruct and define the parking budget, extend the credit card parking meter program for 6 months for evaluating price effectiveness, review parking (short- and long-term) and building of a future parking garage.

7. Resolution terminating the practice of allowing free juror parking in metered parking spaces effective no later than May 1, 2013.

On motion by Michael Menesini, Councilmember, seconded by Lara DeLaney, Vice Mayor, to approve Resolution No. 003-13 terminating the practice of allowing free juror parking in metered parking spaces effective no later than May 1, 2013. [T.Tucker]

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

City Manager Philip Vince stated that the dispute with the County over the administration of Triple Flip had been resolved, leading to revenue of \$215,000 for the City. He appreciated that the County had worked collaboratively with the City to resolve the dispute.

CHIEF OF POLICE

9. Chief of Police Comment(s)/Update(s)/Report(s).

Chief Peterson announced that a DUI checkpoint would be in place on January 18th at an undisclosed location. Corporal Fred Ferrer held a neighborhood meeting last Wednesday night which was quite successful, with 40 residents participating. Chief Peterson thanked Vice Mayor DeLaney for her feedback on the department's first newsletter. Vice Mayor DeLaney stated the newsletter was beneficial for City staff and residents.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES

CITY COUNCIL

10. Consider revisions and appointments to Standing Subcommittees, Ad Hoc Committees and Outside Advisory Committees.

Mayor Schroder commented that he had polled other cities to find out how their standing subcommittees and ad hoc committees were structured. He noted that Martinez had a large number compared to other cities, and that he had revised the list by combining several subcommittees. Mayor Schroder reviewed the new list of subcommittees and appointments.

Vice Mayor DeLaney thanked Mayor Schroder for his work on the reorganization. She suggested a subcommittee specifically dedicated to County Courts.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required to approve the Budget and Finance Standing Subcommittee and appoint Vice Mayor DeLaney and Councilmember Avila Farias. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required approve the Marina and Waterfront Standing Subcommittee and appoint Councilmember Menesini and Mayor Schroder. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required approve the Housing and Economic Development Standing Subcommittee and appoint Councilmember Avila Farias and Mayor Schroder. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required approve the Franchise and Public Infrastructure Standing Subcommittee and appoint Councilmember Ross and Vice Mayor DeLaney. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required appoint Vice Mayor DeLaney and Mayor Schroder to the School Liaison Standing Subcommittee. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required approve the Council/County/Courts Standing Subcommittee and appoint Councilmember Menesini and Mayor Schroder. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required approve the Annexations Ad Hoc Committee and appoint Councilmembers Avila Farias and Ross. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required approve the Economic Development Corporation Ad Hoc Committee and appoint Councilmember Menesini and Vice Mayor DeLaney. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required approve the General Plan Update Ad Hoc Committee and appoint Councilmember Menesini and Mayor Schroder. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required appoint Vice Mayor DeLaney to the East Bay Division of League of California Cities Outside Advisory Committee. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required appoint Councilmember Menesini and Mayor Schroder to the Martinez Shoreline Joint Planning Agency Outside Advisory Committee. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required appoint Councilmember Avila Farias to the Martinez Chamber of Commerce Liaison Outside Advisory Committee. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

11. Council Subcommittee Reports.

12. City Council Comments.

Vice Mayor Lara DeLaney will be representing the City at League of California Cities on Employee Relations Committee and requested that the Alhambra Highlands Ad Hoc Committee meet.

Councilmember Mark Ross requested an update on the Center Avenue Overcross and Paving.

Councilmember AnaMarie Avila Farias suggested that the City explore energy efficiencies. Senior Management Analyst Michael Chandler provided a brief update on the relationship with Chevron Solutions and energy efficient projects. Councilmember Avila Farias requested that the City establish a strategic plan. Mr. Chandler agreed and said it would be developed some time in the future.

Councilmember Michael Menesini requested an update on graffiti eradication efforts and cameras. Chief Peterson reported that cameras have already been placed downtown and at Safeway, and they are currently working on installation at Rankin Park.

Mayor Schroder reported on his attendance at the Water Emergency Transit Authority meeting. He thanked the Board for all their hard work and putting Martinez back into the short range plan. Mayor Schroder requested the Council weigh in on their preference on a goal setting session or a retreat. It was agreed to an informal retreat as long as the costs are within reason. Mayor Schroder presented Councilmember Avila-Farias with her City Council name badge.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at p.m. to a Regular City Council Meeting February 6, 2013 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 - 2/20/12