

**CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL**

Mayor Rob Schroder called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

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

**EXCUSED:** None.

**ABSENT:** None.

**PRESENTATION(S)**

- A. New Leaf Collaborative presents their Environmental Media Summer Workshop in partnership with Lunchbox International.

Lorena Castillo, Internship Coordinator with New Leaf Collaborative, and Professor Steven Cleveland with Cal State East Bay, provided a PowerPoint sharing the importance of water conservation and building pathways to jobs, education and transforming communities. Professor Cleveland reviewed the phases of the current project and potential upcoming projects and thanked the Council, City staff, Friends of Alhambra Creek, and Mitch Avalon and others for their support and assistance. He looked forward to updating the Council again when the current project was finished.

The Council thanked them for the presentation and commented on the importance of rainwater collecting to the City.

- B. Martinez Chamber of Commerce Semi-Annual Report.

Dwayne Glemser, Chairperson, Chamber of Commerce, introduced boardmembers present and John Stevens, CEO. Mr. Glemser provided an update on Chamber activities and programs, including mixers, ribbon cuttings, educational series, and recent events, such as the State of the City Breakfast, four day carnival, Citizens of the Year Awards and King of the County Barbecue. He provided a list of future events, including the Martini Fest and 28th Annual Mayor's Cup. He announced the National Night Out event to be held at Les Schwab. The Chamber has been working with the City on signage for parking and preparing a video about Martinez using footage from the King of the County Barbecue, which will be televised on the local channel.

Vice Mayor DeLaney asked if the King of the County Barbecue had been successful at revenue generation. Mr. Glemser stated it was successful and commented that the Chamber was continuing to explore other revenue-generating opportunities. Vice Mayor DeLaney congratulated the Chamber's staff at surviving the difficult economy.

### C. Main Street Martinez Semi-Annual Report.

John Curtis, President of Main Street Martinez, introduced boardmembers and Director Leanne Peterson. He thanked the City Council and staff, Shell Refinery and all the wonderful volunteers. Mr. Curtis mentioned that they have hired a half-time employee, and reviewed past projects, events, ongoing activities and initiatives, including cooperative advertising, video advertisements, a brochure on curb appeal for downtown businesses, a brochure encouraging long-term parking, and a panhandling reduction program. He indicated that Martinez was one of the winners of the Benjamin Moore Paint What Matters Contest, which includes three blocks of Main Street painted for free with the assistance of local paint consultants, distributors, and contractors, and expressed appreciation for the work put into entering the contest, especially by Public Works Director Dave Scola and Director Peterson. He presented a two-minute video which was created for the contest.

Leanne Peterson spoke on the Benjamin Moore Contest and stated that a committee will be established to work with Benjamin Moore on which buildings will be painted and what colors. She thanked Public Works Director Dave Scola for forwarding the information to them.

Mayor Schroder thanked the Chamber and Main Street Martinez for their hard work and cooperation, and commented on the successful events. He reiterated the City's support for both organizations. Vice Mayor DeLaney thanked Director Peterson for her work on the video. She suggested the City consider matching Benjamin Moore's donation, and commented on possible new events and on the opening of two new restaurants. Councilmember Ross thanked all those who volunteer their time to support the community. Councilmember Avila Farias thanked Director Peterson for her leadership. Councilmember Menesini encouraged both organizations to expand their operations and find new ways of promoting the community.

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

Sham Shivaie and Javid Ebrahimi spoke on their interest in bringing truck food dining called "Taste of the World Market" and locating it at the Martinez Marina. The Council expressed enthusiasm for the idea and thanked them for their interest.

Jay Bedecarré of Bay Area Festivals announced the first "Kids Fest" in Martinez on Labor Day Weekend at Waterfront Park. He thanked staff for all their assistance. He also stated that Bay Area Festivals works with and collects food for the Food Bank, and uses local groups for volunteers at events and provides funds to local non-profits. Councilmember Avila Farias thanked Mr. Bedecarre and expressed support for more family events in the City.

Kristin Henderson stated that she was denied records from her request under the Public Records Act; she indicated that the Mayor's comments in the letter sent to the State's Office of Historic Preservation were inaccurate.

Igor Skardoff reported that the John Muir Historic site was damaged by individuals who made a BMX course on the parkland. He requested that Council revisit the creation of a BMX Park so they have a place to ride.

Mike Alford stated that the food truck proposal was a great idea and should come to fruition. He also urged the Council not to go forward with Laurel Knolls and instead build a senior living community.

Gary Freitas spoke for an elderly friend of the family, who watches meetings on TV and wants to propose that everyone be required to complete a speaker card and they be shuffled so everyone gets a fair shot at when they speak. He also indicated that the Contra Costa Times reported the wrong date and times for the airing of the meetings. Further, he noted that his project has not been stopped, as reported, but it was pulled to be improved. Regarding the gun buyback program, he suggested that gas cards could be given out in exchange for guns, possibly sponsored by Shell.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Motion waiving reading of text of all Resolutions and Ordinances.
2. Motion approving the City Council Minutes of June 5, 2013. [M.Cabral]
3. Motion accepting Check Reconciliation Registers dated 06/17/13, 06/27/13 and 07/03/13. [C.Spinella/2.1.0]
4. Resolution No. 065-13 authorizing destruction of Workers Compensation files specifically pertaining to the Personnel Division. [M.Cabral/40.10.01]
6. Resolution No. 067-13 allocating \$10,000 of Water Fund reserves to fund an Environmental Media Workshop for Martinez High School students relating to water conservation. [T.Tucker/15.02.01]
7. Resolution No. 068-13 accepting the Holiday Highland Park Project per contract documents and instruct the City Clerk to file a Notice of Completion. [D.Salts/10.05.03&11.10.00]
8. Intermodal Facility, Phase 3 Parking Lot Improvements: [T.Tucker/6.7.0 & 08.01.00]
  - A. Resolution No. 069-13 accepting bids for the Intermodal Facility, Phase 3 Parking Lot Improvements, Project No. C6006, and awarding the construction contract to Hess Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$1,371,176; and
  - B. Resolution No. 070-13 amending the agreement with Nolte Vertical Five (NV5) for construction phase services in the not-to-exceed amount of \$150,000.

Councilmember Avila Farias requested that Item #5, Contracts with the Martinez Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Martinez, be removed from the Consent Calendar.

On motion by Lara DeLaney, Vice Mayor, seconded by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, to approve Items #1 through #4 and #6 through #8 of the Consent Calendar. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

5. Resolution No. 066-13 authorizing the City Manager to enter into contracts with the Martinez Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Martinez. [M.Chandler/7.2.01&9.12.04]

Councilmember AnaMarie Avila Farias asked why the office hours listed in the Chamber's contract were only on weekdays and suggested they be opened at least one day on the weekend. Assistant City Manager Alan Shear stated it was probably based on past agreements and weekend hours could be added if the Council wished. Councilmember Avila Farias added that it would be helpful if the Council could see progress on goals and timelines and financial reports in a quarterly update. Mayor Schroder and staff indicated that would be possible.

Mayor Schroder opened the Item for public comment.

Kristin Henderson commented on Main Street's audit by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and on the importance of architectural preservation on Main Street.

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

On motion by Michael Menesini, Councilmember, seconded by Lara DeLaney, Vice Mayor, to approve Resolution No. 066-13 authorizing the City Manager to enter into contracts with the Martinez Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Martinez. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

## **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

### **CITY MANAGER**

9. Downtown Parking Meters. [T.Tucker/08.04.00]
  - A. Resolution No. 071-13 accepting the proposal from IPS Inc. and authorizing staff to purchase 165 credit card enabled parking meters.
  - B. Resolution No. 072-13 establishing parking meter rates as \$0.50 per hour at 10-hour parking meter locations.
  - C. Motion directing staff to initiate the process of amending Sections 10:36.060, Fees, of the Martinez Municipal Code to establish a maximum parking meter fee of \$1.00 per hour whereas the exact meter rate will be set by a future resolution approved by the Council.

City Engineer Tim Tucker provided the staff report. He reviewed the background of the Resolution and the options that had been discussed. He summarized the responses to the RFP for alternative parking meter firms and staff's recommendations based on reliability, experience, and quality. He also explained staff's recommendation with regard to parking rates.

Mayor Schroder asked about the location of the additional meters, and Mr. Tucker explained that they would go near the courthouse for juror parking. Mayor Schroder agreed with staff's choice of IPS Inc. and with the meter rate increases.

Vice Mayor DeLaney expressed appreciation for the RFP process and thanked staff for going the extra mile. She asked if the coin-operated meters could be sold back to the current vendor, and Mr. Tucker stated staff would look into it. Vice Mayor DeLaney asked if fogging would still be

an issue and Mr. Tucker stated the credit card readers are much more readable and staff is continuing to work on the problem. Vice Mayor DeLaney stated the rate increase was reasonable although she was surprised staff recommended staying on the low end of price ranges in the area.

Councilmember Ross expressed support for improving technology, parking, and convenience in downtown. He asked if variable pricing would be possible, and Mr. Tucker said that the vendor had that capability, although in their experience shoppers did not like it.

Councilmember Avila Farias expressed support for staff's recommendation and thanked Mr. Tucker for his work. She asked that the Council discuss the parking fund once the new meters are installed. Councilmember Menesini agreed with her comments.

Mayor Schroder opened the Item for public comment.

Mike Alford commented on the effect of the new courts on downtown parking and suggested the County help to provide parking. Mayor Schroder noted that the new employee would be working with the County on these issues, and that the court system is now under the State instead of the County.

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

Councilmember Menesini noted that court budgets had been cut statewide and access to the courts is an important issue.

On motion by Michael Menesini, Councilmember, seconded by Mark Ross, Councilmember, to approve Resolution No. 071-13 accepting proposal from IPS Inc. for parking meters; Resolution No. 072-13 establishing parking meter rates; and motion directing staff to initiate the process of amending Sections 10:36.060, Fees, of the Martinez Municipal Code to establish a maximum parking meter fee of \$1.00 per hour. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

Councilmember Mark Ross stated he would like to know how much free parking Martinez had provided to the court system over the years and suggested that information could be used in negotiations with the State regarding the Marina.

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

## **CHIEF OF POLICE**

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

Captain Eric Ghisletta reported that the 4th of July was successful, the events were spectacular and everything went very well. Captain Ghisletta announced National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6th, in at least three major venues. He also announced that the Police Officers Association will be holding the 3rd Annual Sgt. Carter Memorial Blood Drive on July 19 in the Council Chambers from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Participants can sign up on the POA's website, and drop-ins are also welcome.

## **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES**

## **CITY COUNCIL**

12. Creation of a Historic Train Depot Utilization Ad Hoc Committee and appointing Councilmembers Avila Farias and Menesini. [R.Schroder/41.06.01]

Mayor Schroder provided the staff report, noting that this had been discussed at the last meeting at which the Martinez Historical Society had expressed an interest in using the old train station.

Mayor Schroder opened the Item for public comment.

Kristin Henderson commented on rumors that the Historical Society would be "given" the old train station in return for making certain statements about the history of Martinez and buildings that are historic. She added that she hoped the rumor was wrong and that the Historical Society would continue to defend the historical buildings in downtown during the General Plan update; otherwise, she will personally sue the City.

Councilmember Menesini stated that no one on the City Council was encouraging the Historical Society to say something that was untrue, and Mayor Schroder agreed.

Mike Alford expressed support for the Committee's creation and the use of the train depot. He also commented on the importance of historic preservation, and he agreed that the Historical Society would not lie about historic issues.

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

Councilmember Avila-Farias expressed agreement with Councilmember Menesini as well.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required to approve creation of a Historic Train Depot Utilization Ad Hoc Committee and appointing Councilmembers Avila Farias and Menesini. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

13. Motion authorizing the Mayor to sign a letter of support encouraging the Martinez Unified School District Board not to rescind the motion passed last year to allocate funds to the "Vicente Martinez High School and Briones Independent Study" upgrade remodel. [41.01.00]

Councilmember Avila Farias explained the situation and expressed support for going through with the upgrades to ensure that students are given equal opportunities to learn. Councilmember Ross expressed support for the letter. Vice Mayor DeLaney agreed this is an important opportunity because of the matching funds provided by the State. She added there will be a public meeting with the architect and the school board on July 29th from 9:00 am to noon to discuss options for the upgrade. Councilmember Menesini noted the school district has already spent some money on designs for the upgrade and commented on how important good education is for the disadvantaged in the community.

Mayor Schroder opened the Item for public comment.

Mike Alford commented on the good work done by programs like New Leaf Collaborative and stated that children are one of the City's most important resources.

Cathy Ivers noted that Dr. Rona Zollinger, the architect of New Leaf Collaborative, was last year's Teacher of the Year. She expressed confidence that New Leaf would be able to do even more with more resources.

Marie Knutson stated that the New Leaf students have been helpful volunteers for many important community events and she hoped the City would support them in return.

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

On motion by Michael Menesini, Councilmember, seconded by Lara DeLaney, Vice Mayor, authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support encouraging the Martinez Unified School District Board not to rescind the motion passed last year to allocate funds to the "Vicente Martinez High School and Briones Independent Study" upgrade remodel. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

#### 14. Council Subcommittee Reports.

Councilmember Michael Menesini reported that he and Mayor Schroder as members of the Marina Subcommittee, City Manager Philip Vince, and Contract Community Services Manager Mitch Austin went to Sacramento to meet with Senator Wolk and Tomi VanderBrook, a representative of Assembly Member Susan Bonilla. He felt that the discussion on the Marina had very positive results. He reported that Senator Wolk is very supportive of re-establishing the Joint City/State Governing Committee. This committee will look at many of the issues this Council has discussed and will make a recommendation to the State. The Department of Finance, the Attorney General's office, and the Department of Boating and Waterways have agreed to participate in the committee. Mayor Schroder and Councilmember Menesini indicated to Senator Wolk and Ms. VanderBrook that the City is willing to be flexible and creative in partnering with the State to find ways to make the Marina viable and an asset to the region.

Vice Mayor Lara DeLaney mentioned that the first meeting of the Fall Concert Ad Hoc Committee will be held tomorrow, July 11th at noon in the City Manager's Office.

#### 15. City Council Comments.

Councilmember Lara DeLaney commended the Police and Public Works Departments for the fantastic showing on the Sgt. Paul Starzyk Memorial and a very well done event. She requested that the City introduce a Plastic Bag Ordinance. Vice Mayor DeLaney reported that the County Assessor's office has announced a 6.81% increase on the City's assessed value for 2013-14; she requested a report from staff on the effect of this increase on the City's budget. City Manager Vince stated that he would provide that to the Council.

Councilmember Mark Ross expressed support for a Plastic Bag Ordinance and recognized the efforts on the Sgt. Paul Starzyk Memorial which was well done and very touching.

Councilmember AnaMarie Avila Farias also supported the Plastic Bag Ordinance, but suggested that the concept needs to be fleshed out first with those who are distributing the plastic bags. She thanked City staff for the successful 4th of July event and suggested reinstating a full day family event.

Councilmember Michael Menesini also supported the Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance and the return of the 4th of July Family event. Councilmember Menesini thanked City Engineer Tim Tucker for a very informative and well done report on the Intermodal Phase III Project. He clarified with Mr. Tucker the improvements that need to be done at each crossing.

Mayor Rob Schroder agreed to move forward with the Plastic Bag Ordinance, but cautioned that the City should not move faster than the surrounding cities. Mayor Schroder mentioned that this year has been a turning point in his life, with his 60th birthday, family members' graduation from high school and college, and the marriage this Saturday of his oldest daughter Christie.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 9:54 p.m. to an Adjourned Regular Meeting on July 24, 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 8/8/13