

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

Mayor Rob Schroder called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with all members present except Vice Mayor Ross and Councilmember Avila Farias, who arrived shortly after the meeting started.

PRESENT: Rob Schroder, Mayor, Mark Ross, Vice Mayor, AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, and Debbie M<sup>c</sup>Killop, Councilmember.

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: None.

Mayor Schroder stated the Council will be adjourning to Closed Session regarding Public Employment - Title: Chief of Police. He further stated the Council is meeting at 2:00 p.m. because it was the only time they could get together.

Mayor Schroder explained public comment would be initially limited to 15 minutes, and the Council would go into Closed Session. Public comment would be opened again after they reconvene.

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

Mayor Schroder opened public comment.

Mike Benson commented leadership skills can't be taught, which Interim Chief Ghisletta had and the Council needs to develop.

Anita Brenig thanked Councilmember DeLaney and Vice Mayor Ross for their support of Interim Chief Ghisletta. She discussed the application, screening and interviewing process to date; noting a discrepancy between what Mayor Schroder had said regarding the number of candidates/interviewees and what the City Manager announced subsequently. She asked for clarification, adding it appears there was some collusion. She also indicated if he leaves two positions will need to be filled since Mr. Ghisletta is Captain and Interim Chief. She noted Martinez Police are some of the lowest-paid in the region, and she questioned whether anyone would want to work for a City which does not support its police.

Julian Frazer commented on the Council's reputation with higher management staff, noting there have been others who felt disregarded and/or pushed around by the Council and who no longer work for the City. He discussed the implications for the future if the Council continues on its present course, ignoring the residents and discouraging those in the community from working for the City. He urged the Council to reconsider its actions.

An unidentified female speaker also asked the Council to reconsider its decisions and do what is best for everyone by encouraging Mr. Ghisletta to continue working for the City.

Robert Perry commented due to what he has seen online and through the media, he believes the sanctity and secrecy of the Closed Session actions were not being observed as it should be, especially considering the legal implications.

The Council adjourned to the City Manager's Office for Closed Session at 2:15 p.m.

### **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 commented City Manager Rob Braulik received a phone call and visit from Eric Ghisletta where Eric delivered a letter to him. Mayor Schroder requested Mr. Braulik to read the letter and make any further statements.

City Manager Braulik noted he received a phone call in the morning from Eric Ghisletta, expressing he did not want to be the Chief of Police for the City, but would like to return back to his Police Captain rank and serve the department and the community. Mr. Braulik asked Mr. Ghisletta if it was his will to express, through a letter to the City, his wishes to rescind his prior letter of resignation; which he agreed. Mr. Braulik read the letter submitted by Interim Chief Ghisletta requesting to rescind his resignation dated May 26th asking to remain employed with the City of Martinez as Police Captain and would support the new Chief.

Councilmember Avila Farias thanked the City Manager for all his efforts. She indicated she was supportive of rescinding Eric's resignation and welcomed him back.

Vice Mayor Ross expressed his support for Interim Chief Ghisletta and said he was happy to have him back in our community and his.

Councilmember DeLaney echoed the previous comments; however, she was sorry he would not be serving as the City's Chief of Police. She looked forward to many years of excellent service from Captain Ghisletta.

Councilmember M<sup>c</sup>Killop indicated she was relieved Interim Chief Ghisletta had decided to stay with the Police Department and looked forward to working with him.

Mayor Schroder stated he felt the same way and was happy to learn Eric was staying with the City with such great attitude with respect to working with the new Chief. He acknowledged Eric Ghisletta's letter had been accepted and his resignation rescinded.

Mayor Schroder reported out from Closed Session stating the candidates were discussed and direction was given to staff to begin the required background check and contract negotiations with a candidate.

Mayor Schroder continued public comment.

Gay Gerlack stated if the Council and City Manager had spoken to the officers and City staff, listened to the community and really communicated, this issue and the strong emotions expressed could have been avoided. Ms. Gerlack commended the Council for not accepting Eric's resignation and reinstating him as Captain; however, she still felt he should be appointed as Chief.

Seeing no further speakers, Mayor Schroder closed public comment.

## **CITY COUNCIL**

1. City Manager and/or Council Comments.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 3:10 p.m. to a Regular City Council on June 3, at 6:00 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