

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

Mayor Rob Schroder called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez.

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

EXCUSED: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember and Debbie M^cKillop, Councilmember.

ABSENT: None.

PRESENTATION(S)

A. Proclaiming September 15th through October 15th as "National Hispanic Heritage Month."

Mayor Schroder, on behalf of the City Council, read and presented the proclamation to Councilmember Avila Farias.

C. First Annual "Ride to Remember."

Contra Costa District Attorney Mark Peterson and former Chief of Police Dave Cutaia spoke on a committee formed to organize the first annual "Ride to Remember" bike ride scheduled for October 17th beginning at 11 a.m. in Martinez. District Attorney Peterson thanked the Council for support of this event. All funds will benefit The 100 Club of Contra Costa County and Contra Costa Cops for Kids Organization. Mr. Cutaia remembered those in Martinez and Contra Costa County who have lost their lives and discussed the importance of these organizations. The 100 Club raises funds to support police and fire fighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty. Contra Costa Cops for Kids supports youth of Contra Costa County using many diverse programs.

Vice Mayor Ross thanked District Attorney Peterson and Mr. Cutaia for the presentation and stated he looked forward to the event.

D. Presentation by New Leaf Collaborative.

Dr. Rona Zollinger, the New Leaf Collaborative (NLC), spoke on mutual goals between NLC and the City, and how NLC accomplishes these goals. She reviewed 2014-15 achievements in Watershed Education, including ecoliteracy peer mentoring and promotion of environmental stewardship. Her students provided a skit on water quality and conservation, and reviewed the community science workshop providing lessons on rainwater and watershed educator training. Dr. Zollinger reviewed the 2015-16 education plan, including growing native plants and food gardening. She thanked City Engineer Tim Tucker and the City Council for the City's continued support.

Vice Mayor Ross complimented the students on their presentation and encouraged them to continue being involved in the community. Mayor Schroder commented on other methods of water conservation, which NLC can educate about.

B. Presentation from Mark Thomson - Sister City Dunbar Scotland.

Mark Thomson and Bruce Campbell of the John Muir Association provided a brief presentation on the Association's trip to Dunbar, Scotland. Mr. Campbell provided background on the John Muir Association and reviewed the history of the Sister City and major activities and events at the John Muir Historical site. Mr. Thomson reviewed opportunities to benefit both cities and encourage the Council to take action to move them forward.

Vice Mayor Ross agreed the City has an opportunity to recognize John Muir's history and applauded the Association's efforts. Councilmember Avila Farias asked Mr. Thomson and Mr. Campbell to contact the City with further suggestions and requests.

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

Jackie Johnston spoke on the need for a dog park and stated the issue is on the agenda for the Parks, Recreation, Marina and Cultural Commission (PRMCC) October meeting. She stated the group was very supportive and willing to help.

Lisa Whittaker expressed support for the idea of a dog park and stated its importance for building community in Martinez.

Melissa Mohoi supports a dog park and would like the Council to work with the PRMCC and see this project move forward.

Michael McGrath stated the City has made great improvements and he would like to see a dog park as part of these improvements. Mr. McGrath expressed his willingness to help with the design of a dog park and thanked the Council for considering the possibilities.

Rich Verrilli stated he was happy to endorse a dog park. He noticed the Alhambra Creek currently seems very low and unhealthy. Mr. Verrilli questioned the legality of the Campbell Theater and requested the item be placed on a future agenda for discussion.

Kristin Henderson stated the Post Office is being repaired as of this week. Ms. Henderson stated on October 25th, the Sacramento Center for Italian Studies has invited her to do a book talk on her book *Capito*, which was part of the National Register Multiple Property Submission. She invited families and residents of Italian heritage to attend the talk. Ms. Henderson recognized those who have assisted in preserving the history of Martinez.

CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Motion waiving reading of text of all Resolutions and Ordinances.

1. Motion approving City Council Minutes for August 19, 2015. [M.Cabral]

2. Motion rejecting Claim against the City by Stephanie Barclay, No. 15-21 and Proctor and Matsutani, No. 15-23. [M.Cabral]
3. Motion approving Check Reconciliation Register dated 9/24/15. [C.Spinella/2.1.1]
4. Resolution No. 100-15 accepting the Marina Vista Pedestrian/Bike Access Improvement Project per contract documents, and directing the City Clerk to file a Notice of Completion. [D.Salts/12.02.12]
5. Resolution No. 101-15 accepting bids for the 2015 Paving Project, and awarding the construction contract to MCK Services, Inc. [T.Tucker/12.04.00]

Mayor Schorder requested removal of Item #5 from the Consent Calendar.

Mayor Schroder opened and closed public comment on Item #A and Items #1 through #4 of the Consent Calendar with no speakers coming forward.

On motion by Mark Ross, Vice Mayor, seconded by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, to approve Item A, and Items #1 through #4 of the Consent Calendar. Motion unanimously passed 3 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; Mark Ross, Vice Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember.

Mayor Schroder noted the 2015 Paving Project in Item #5 has been anticipated for a long time. He noted the main areas which will be addressed, including Center Avenue at Nob Hill and Morello Avenue from John Muir to Arnold Drive. Mayor Schroder requested clarification on the work to be done on Haag Road; City Engineer Tim Tucker stated it will be resurfaced. Mayor Schroder thanked staff for moving this forward and noted the decrease in gas tax revenue has had an impact on the City's ability to fund road maintenance. Mayor Schroder stated other repaving projects will be before the Council at a later date.

Councilmember Avila Farias thanked staff for their work. She requested the City consider a sales tax increase to help fund long overdue infrastructure maintenance. Mayor Schroder agreed it is a possibility and noted other cities in the area have taken this action. He directed the Budget and Finance Subcommittee to consider Councilmember Avila Farias' suggestion.

Mayor Schroder opened Item #5 for public comment.

Michael McGrath thanked the Council for taking action on this. He asked about the difference between resurfacing and patch paving and why his street was downgraded. Public Works Director Dave Scola stated the failed areas will be completely removed and replaced and coated over to create a uniform surface. The project will take about three months once it is started.

Nadine Peyrucain asked if the contracted workers are unionized and what protections they have. Mayor Schroder stated because it is a government project, it requires a formal bid. Then it is awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, and they are required to pay prevailing wages.

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

On motion by AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember, seconded by Mark Ross, Vice Mayor, to approve Resolution No. 101-15 accepting bids for the 2015 Paving Project, and awarding the construction contract to MCK Services, Inc. Motion unanimously passed 3 - 0. Yes: Rob Schroder, Mayor; Mark Ross, Vice Mayor; AnaMarie Avila Farias, Councilmember.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

CITY MANAGER

6. El Niño - Storm Preparedness Update.

Bob Cellini, Public Works Superintendent, provided a general update on precautions and preparedness in the event of flooding. He reviewed sandbag and street sign inventory, tree pruning and removal, creek cleaning, and training of staff on transportation during floods, first responder responsibilities, and equipment use.

Mayor Schroder expressed concern about the drainage of the downtown creek as well as protection of wildlife in the creek. Mr. Cellini stated Public Works is monitoring the creek and wildlife.

Vice Mayor Ross encouraged monitoring of the tide and suggested community organizations be involved in walking the whole creek to evaluate where problems might arise. Mr. Cellini stated Public Works has been up and down the creek and is continuing to monitor it. He noted where the creekside is private property and the owner is responsible to maintain it. Vice Mayor Ross commended staff for their preparation.

Councilmember Avila Farias suggested a publication to educate creekside residents on preparedness. City Manager Rob Braulik stated staff has posted preparedness information from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on the City's website. The links will also be included in the City's next newsletter.

Mayor Schroder opened the Item for public comment.

Rich Verrilli commented on creek blockages and encouraged the City to address them.

Jackie Johnston asked if the Beaver Deceiver would be preserved for future usage. Mayor Schroder stated it may not be in a condition to be reused, but installing a new one would not be difficult.

Nadine Peyrucain asked if the City would be doing any rain harvesting. Mayor Schroder stated the City has no formal plans at this time, but may consider it in the future.

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

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

City Manager Rob Braulik reported Sister City signs have been installed at two key locations and additional signs are planned. He stated there is much more information about our Sister Cities on the City's website. Mr. Braulik thanked Public Works Superintendent Bob Cellini and his staff for getting the job done.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES

CITY COUNCIL

8. Mayor Schroder - China Silicon Valley Trip.

Mayor Schroder reported on his ten-day trip to China with fifteen other Bay Area Mayors, which was sponsored by China Silicon Valley, a non-profit organization. The mission of China Silicon Valley is to understand relationships and investment in our two countries. Mayor Schroder listed mayors and business owners who attended, commented on the cities the group visited, and discussed the topics explored. The Council thanked Mayor Schroder for representing the City well.

9. Council Subcommittee Reports.

10. City Council Comments.

Councilmember AnaMarie Avila Farias reported on her attendance to the Annual League of California Cities Conference held in San Jose, which Councilmember M^cKillop also attended. Councilmember Avila Farias was one of the voting delegates and serves on the Public Policy Housing and Economic Committee and on the Latino Caucus Board of Directors. She thanked the dog park group for their leadership and ownership of the process. She announced the next Public Safety Subcommittee meeting on October 19th at 6:30 p.m. Councilmember Avila Farias indicated she and Mayor Schroder met last year and informally discussed the idea of exploring a CAL Maritime facility in Martinez. She was hopeful the U.S. Department of Transportation will take an interest and requested the Marina Subcommittee meet soon to discuss the possibilities. Councilmember Avila Farias reported she and City Manager Braulik received an update from Loaves and Fishes on the organization's relocation. She indicated there has only been one incident and noted the organization serves many residents providing supportive services. She requested the Council to look at more progressive and better work policies for City employees during the upcoming union negotiations.

Vice Mayor Mark Ross stated the Joltin' Joe Christening event and the Shell MEF Run were great and successful events. He commended the community for their work on the Joltin' Joe.

Mayor Rob Schroder said the Shell Run raised \$100,000. He noted the progress being made retrofitting buildings in the downtown.

Councilmember Avila Farias asked for an update on the old jail. Mayor Schroder stated it is in the jurisdiction of the County; at one time the County wanted to make it an art museum, but they ran into asbestos problems. City Manager Braulik stated the County is working on the CEQA document, which still needs to go through the process.

Vice Mayor Ross indicated there should be a disposition process, whereby government agencies have the first right of refusal. Councilmember Avila Farias suggested some dialogue with the County before the CEQA document is published.

Mayor Schroder indicated Concord's City Attorney Mark Coon passed away yesterday and requested the meeting be adjourned in his memory.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:14 p.m. *in memory of City of Concord's City Attorney Mark Coon*, then to a Regular City Council Meeting on October 21, 2015 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 – 11/4/15