

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

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with all members present, except Janet Kennedy who arrived at 7:10 p.m.

**PRESENTATION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)**

*"Certificate of Appreciation" to Mark Waterman (former Park and Recreation Commissioner).*

Mark Waterman was unable to attend.

*Presentation by Assemblyman Joe Canciamilla.*

Assemblyman Canciamilla reviewed the bill status report for 2005-06 and thanked the Council for their support. The Mayor and Council also expressed their appreciation to Assemblyman Canciamilla and his staff.

Councilmember Wainwright requested that Assemblyman Canciamilla intervene with the State's administrative Offices to obtain State funding for the removal of the ferry pier, since it was a part of the State's highway system. Assemblyman Canciamilla agreed to do whatever he could.

*Presentation by Elizabeth Anello, Contra Costa Water District, regarding water quality issues.*

Presentation continued to later in the meeting.

*Proclamation celebrating the 17th Annual Lighting of the Martinez Hospice of Contra Costa Tree of Lights.*

The Council presented the proclamation to Peggy Hernandez and Mary Lou Johnson. Ms. Hernandez thanked the City and the community for their support. She also read a press release explaining the purpose of hospice care and reviewed the services offered. Ms. Johnson briefly announced that this year's tree lighting will be held on Saturday, November 18th at 5:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)**

Sheila Grilli, representative on the Contra Costa Community College Board Ward 3, requested support for the Community College Initiative being placed on the ballot next year.

Councilmember Ross expressed his support for the initiative. Vice Mayor DeLaney asked where people could go to sign the petitions for the initiative, and Ms. Grilli indicated her store would have copies of the petitions available. Councilmember Wainwright said he was appreciative of the role that the community college plays in the area.

Dr. Bob Barker expressed concern about campaign contributions from special interest groups during the past two elections, and he reviewed some of the contributions made. He was doubtful that new housing or redevelopment would help the City.

**Presentation by Elizabeth Anello, Contra Costa Water District, regarding water quality issues.**

Ms. Anello reviewed the mission statement for the Water District, and she noted that the health of the Delta water remains the key issue for CCWD. She also reviewed current issues, projects to improve water quality and education programs of the district.

Councilmember Wainwright asked whether the water for the alternative intake program would be from the San Joaquin River or the Sacramento River. Ms. Anello said it would be from the Sacramento River.

Councilmember Ross asked about plans of the Metropolitan Water District to the south, to create another canal system that would affect the Delta. Ms. Anello indicated that CCWD was monitoring the situation closely.

Vice Mayor DeLaney expressed appreciation for the moderate rate increases. She asked about future increases, and Ms. Anello said they should be about the same as in the past. In response to a question from Councilmember Wainwright, another representative from CCWD explained how rate increases are calculated.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)**

Paul Wilson thanked the Police Department for their assistance recently. He also asked if benches were going to be replaced downtown, and whether there would be more Christmas decorations for the downtown this year. He commented on the unfortunate end of the Pescatore fishing boat.

Mike Alford requested information from the Police Department about whether he was a "person of interest" to them, based on an article in the newspaper. Commander Mark Smith said he could not comment on the matter. Mr. Alford commented on mayoral campaign issues and the lack of response from the Mayor. Mayor Schroder clarified this was not the time for debate on the issues.

An unidentified speaker expressed his continuing concerns regarding the pavement conditions on Talbert Street. Mayor Schroder noted that many repairs had been done recently, and he asked staff to check on the status of the Talbert Street repairs.

Claude Nave thanked the Council for repairing some of the streets, especially Ulfonian Way.

Item #6 taken out of order.

**6. Report from Chief of Police regarding "Safe Streets."**

Commander Mark Smith presented the staff report in the absence of Chief Cutaita. He reviewed the purpose, goals and methods of the program, begun in the 1980s in Oakland.

Mayor Schroder commented that many of the elements of the program were already being done in the City. He asked whether adding other elements would help the City enact the full program. Commander Smith said it would help to codify the processes, and could easily be adopted. Vice Mayor DeLaney asked whether the City's online reporting system could be adapted to the Safe Streets Program. Commander Smith said he thought it could be done either way, online or in person.

Vice Mayor DeLaney asked, and Commander Smith confirmed that the program allows for anonymity of those making the reports.

Vice Mayor DeLaney asked about drug trafficking enforcement for marijuana use, particularly for medical purposes. Commander Smith said the Police Department would make reports to the District Attorney who would decide whether to prosecute.

Vice Mayor DeLaney asked about the eviction process, and Commander Smith indicated it was a civil matter, but any reports about tenants could be helpful to the landlords.

Administrative Services Director Lianne Marshall explained how the City Assist reporting program could be adapted to work with Safe Streets.

Councilmember Wainwright commented on the benefits of the Safe Streets program, particularly in raising public awareness of Police Department assistance. Commander Smith confirmed that a public outreach program would be done to inform the residents.

Mayor Schroder opened public comment on the item.

Cece Stahlgren shared some of her experiences in dealing with a problem house in her neighborhood and misinformation given by the police. She was very supportive of the Safe Streets program and encouraged the City to pursue grant funding in order to hire a staff person to manage the program.

Commander Smith acknowledged that most larger cities using the Safe Streets program have one or two staff persons assigned to manage it. He was confident, however, that Martinez could use the program with current staffing levels.

Maryetta Falk discussed her experience with illegal activity at a house in her neighborhood, and the lack of an adequate follow-up system with the Police Department.

Paul Wilson asked how specific the information reporting needs to be. Commander Smith said that more details would be beneficial. Mr. Wilson commented on those who park a distance from the drug homes and walk, making them difficult to identify.

Mike Alford questioned whether residents would have to testify in criminal court if the District Attorney files charges. He also asked if Mayor Schroder was aware of an incident at the Junior High School involving a gun threat that was not reported to the police. When Mayor Schroder asked how the information related to the Safe Streets program, Mr. Alford yielded the floor.

Allison Lynch commented on alcohol problems with teenagers in her neighborhood, Village Oaks, and the delayed police response to calls. She asked what could be done to enforce regulations with the liquor stores. Commander Smith noted that ABC had initiated action against the store. Charles Judd noted that marijuana could only be used medicinally with a prescription, and the police must arrest anyone using it illegally.

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

Councilmember Kennedy commented on the benefits a Safe Streets program can bring to a neighborhood. She also briefly commented on her experience with the program in the City of Concord.

Vice Mayor DeLaney asked about video evidence, and Commander Smith acknowledged it could be used, although he felt citizens might be more at risk in personally trying to get video evidence.

Vice Mayor DeLaney suggested some research be done into the type of demand letters used by other jurisdictions, and timelines for compliance. Commander Smith said most had ten day compliance requirements, and he was confident that other jurisdictions would be willing to share their information.

Vice Mayor DeLaney expressed support for moving ahead with the program, especially with online information and through the City's newsletter. She also indicated she would support hiring additional police staff if necessary.

Councilmember Wainwright commented on information he had received from a resident in the unincorporated area of the County on how a similar program had worked there. He asked about eviction requirements, and Assistant City Attorney Veronica Nebb explained that there were varied allowances for terminating a lease, but nuisance or illegal activities should substantiate any circumstances.

Councilmember Ross agreed most landlords will take action if neighbors have valid concerns. He was supportive of the program as beneficial to the community.

Mayor Schroder indicated his support as well. He agreed that he would support the addition of more staff, if necessary, to administer the program.

By consensus the Council approved directing staff to incorporate the program and conduct a community educational outreach.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **MOTION WAIVING READING OF TEXT OF ALL RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES.**

1. *Motion approving City Council Adjourned Regular and Regular Minutes of October 4, 2006.*

2. *Motion approving Check Reconciliation Register(s) dated 10/12/06, 10/19/06 and 10/20/06.*
3. *Motion supporting the seventeenth annual tree lighting of the Martinez Hospice of Contra Costa Tree of Lights and to contribute \$500 toward expenses.*
4. *Resolution No. 098-06 authorizing destruction of City files pertaining to the City Clerk's Office.*

Mayor Schroder opened public comment on the Consent Calendar.

Regarding Item #2, Paul Wilson asked what the \$126,000 allocation to Kappe & Du Architects was for. Administrative Services Director Lianne Marshall said she would check and report back.

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

On motion of J. Kennedy, seconded by L. DeLaney, the Council unanimously approved Items 1-4.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

5. *Public hearing to consider a resolution approving receipt of funds from the Supplemental Law Enforcement Fund Grant.*

Commander Mark Smith gave a brief staff report on the \$100,000 grant from the State of California to support operations in the Police Department.

Mayor Schroder opened and closed the public hearing with no speakers coming forward.

On motion of M. Ross, seconded by L. DeLaney, the Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 99-06 approving receipt of funds from the Supplemental Law Enforcement Fund Grant.

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

7. *RedFlex: RedLight Camera Program as requested by Vice Mayor DeLaney.*

Vice Mayor DeLaney discussed information she had received from a vendor about the capabilities of this type of technology, noting that there could be some intersections in the City that could benefit from it.

Mayor Schroder noted that even the installation of the cameras can provide a deterrent to redlight violations. He thought the idea warranted further investigation.

Councilmember Ross agreed that the technology could raise public awareness, and he acknowledged speeding was a greater problem than red light violations. Councilmember Wainwright agreed as well, suggesting that cameras could be placed to monitor speeding also.

Councilmember Kennedy was also supportive of further research.

There was no public comment on the item.

The Council gave direction to staff to pursue further information. Vice Mayor DeLaney suggested that a presentation be made at a future Council meeting and the Mayor agreed.

8. *City Council Comments.*

Councilmember Ross announced that the Air District would be hosting a Climate Change Summit. He also commented on a letter in the Martinez Gazette regarding his wife, Diane Dunlap, and research she was doing.

Councilmember Wainwright referred to an article in the Gazette about the condition of the Pescatore fishing boat and requested that an update be given at a future meeting on who is responsible for its deterioration and the possibility of its restoration.

Councilmember Kennedy announced the Alhambra High School homecoming and encouraged everyone to vote on Election Day.

Vice Mayor DeLaney questioned the possibility of RV parking at the Marina and asked staff to research short stays for overnight visitors. She requested future discussion on capital improvements and beautification funds for a possible mural at the library, as well as uses for the Texaco settlement money. She announced several community events.

Mayor Schroder reported on a discussion he had with the harbormaster regarding RV parking at the marina and agreed it should be discussed further. He wished good luck to his colleagues running for re-election.

**CITY MANAGER**

9. *Comment(s)/Update(s)/Report(s).*

No comments made.

**APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 9:08 p.m. to a Regular City Council Meeting on November 15, 2006, 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 -12/6/06