

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

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with Councilmembers Lara DeLaney and Mark Ross and Vice Mayor Janet Kennedy. Councilmember Michael Menesini arrived at 7:15 p.m.

PRESENTATION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

II. *Presentation on Defensible Space Standards by Contra Costa County Fire Protection District and Diablo Fire Safe Council.*

Emily Hopkins, Community & Media Relations for Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, began the presentation by discussing defensible space standards necessary to reduce the risk of wildfire, particularly in terms of weed abatement and exterior hazard control. She also commented on outreach and education of the public.

Maria Morales, Interim Executive Director for Diablo Fire Safe Council, reviewed specific partnership projects in the Martinez area (including Fire District training) and assessment of residential properties. She provided the Council with contact information.

Mayor Schroder commented on the fortunate outcome of the wildfire in 2004. Councilmember Ross expressed appreciation for the information provided, especially in terms of raising public awareness. Councilmember Menesini agreed.

Councilmember DeLaney asked about enforcement of the new standards, and notification to the property owners affected. Ms. Hopkins said the response to the program has been positive thus far, and she indicated that enforcement would be on a case-by-case basis.

Councilmember DeLaney asked how well the City code coincides with the standards. Ms. Hopkins expressed willingness to meet with City staff to review applicable ordinances.

III. *Proclamation proclaiming March 7, 2007, as "Arbor Day."*

Mayor Schroder noted that the City had been named a "Tree City USA" for the 5th year in a row, by the National Arbor Day Foundation. He briefly discussed the history and purpose of Arbor Day, and he noted that the 2007 proclamation would be posted in the lobby.

IV. *Certificate of Recognition to Noralea Gipner.*

Mayor Schroder discussed the volunteer services given by Noralea Gipner on behalf of the "Martinez Celebrates Cycling" event, which was so successful. The Council presented Ms. Gipner with a Certificate of Appreciation, commending her for her work. Ms. Gipner noted that the event would be repeated next year, hopefully with greater success.

PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)

John Triolo, Superintendent of MUSD, and Vicki Gordon, President of the MUSD School Board, expressed appreciation to Mike Menesini for his two years of public dedication serving on the School Board. They presented him a plaque commemorating his service. Councilmember Menesini commented on the honor he felt in being able to serve, acknowledging the challenges facing the Board.

Jerry Anselmi expressed his disappointment with the Council's direction to the Planning Commission to review the RV Parking Ordinance, since he had worked on drafting it originally. Mayor Schroder explained that it was being reviewed in response to public complaints. Mr. Anselmi discussed State law that could limit the City's jurisdiction in the matter.

Brian Holmes suggested that the picnic area (isolated area) in the back of Hidden Valley Park be torn down due to problems with vandalism. He also requested a residential parking program be instituted in the area. Police staff indicated they would follow up with Mr. Holmes.

Craig Berletti of Alhambra High School Earth Club invited the Council and the public to attend a free presentation of "An Inconvenient Truth," a documentary on preserving the earth on Thursday, March 15th at 6:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Theater. He also urged the City to make sustaining the environment a priority in policy-making. The Council indicated willingness to meet with the Earth Club.

Roger Goodwin announced job openings with the U.S. Postal Service.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion Waiving Reading of Text of all Resolutions and Ordinances.

1. *Motion approving City Council Minutes of February 21, 2007. [M.Cabral]*
2. *Motion approving Check Reconciliation Register(s) dated 02/15/07, 02/22/07, and 03/01/07. [C.Heater/2.1.0]*
3. *Motion approving Revenue Summary and Expenditure Summary for January 2007. [C.Heater/2.1.0]*
4. *Motion adopting Ordinance No. 1336 C.S. amending the Martinez Municipal Code Chapter 13.04.010 establishing Water Rates. [T.Tucker/15.01.01]*
5. *Motion approving Community Groups Funding Policy. [M.Chander/2.8.0]*

Mayor Schroder opened public comment on the Consent Calendar, with no speakers coming forward.

On motion by Mark Ross, Councilmember, seconded by Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor to approve Items 1-5 of the Consent Calendar. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES

Item 9 taken out of order.

9. [Consideration of appointments and reappointments to Commissions, Committees and Outside Agencies. \[M.Cabral/\]16.00.04](#)

Mayor Schroder noted that there would not be any new appointments at this time, just reappointments of current Commissioners whose terms have expired.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Karen Bell Patten to the Arts and Library Commission. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Donald Pallotta to the Arts and Library Commission. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Louise Fisher to the Cemetery Commission. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of George Freschi to the Cemetery Commission. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Brian Kilian to the Design Review Committee. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Eileen Tumlin to the Design Review Committee. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of AnaMarie Avila Farias to the Planning Commission. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Fred Korbmacher to the Planning Commission. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Chuck Evans to the Veterans Commission. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Jean V. May to the Veterans Commission. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Kevin Kean to the CCC Transit Authority (the County Connection). Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

On motion by Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, to approve reappointment of Douglas Sibley to the CCTA. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0. Yes: Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, Michael Menesini, Councilmember, Mark Ross, Councilmember, Janet Kennedy, Vice Mayor, and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

CITY COUNCIL

6. [City Council Comments.](#)

Councilmember Menesini asked that the Police Department explore the possibility of placing cameras (to discourage loitering, vandalism, etc.) throughout the City, and the Council agreed to a cost assessment survey.

Councilmember Mark Ross requested that the winners of the Hidden Valley Science Fair be presented certificates of recognition at a future meeting, to which the Council agreed.

Vice Mayor Kennedy requested that staff look into lights that light up at crosswalks especially at the intersection on Alhambra Ave and the baseball field and the intersection by the hospital at the Veterans Memorial, to which the Council agreed. She also reported on the Kaiser meeting that she and Councilmember Ross attended, and concerns raised about the need for adequate and convenient health care for Kaiser members in the area, and indicated that they would continue to meet and talk with Kaiser about the matter.

Councilmember DeLaney thanked Councilmember Ross and Vice Mayor Kennedy for their efforts. She indicated that there was an article in the paper ranking hospitals across the State compare with services provided and customer satisfaction. She further indicated that the Martinez Kaiser was not reviewed but the Walnut Creek Kaiser was and it ranked below average in the accessibility area. She suggested that the Subcommittee review the article.

Mayor Schroder acknowledged members of the audience, including former Mayor John Sparacino, former Councilmembers Kathy Radke and her husband, Ted Radke, Peter Langley, Bill Wainwright, former Councilmember and current Planning Commissioner Harriett Burt, former Park and Recreation Commissioner Sherida Bush, current Veteran's Commissioner Charles Martin, former Schoolboard members Maury Huguet, Larry Tool and his wife Joann Tool.

CITY MANAGER

7. [Proclamation to Richard Pearson on his retirement from the City of Martinez after 22 years of service.](#)

Mayor Schroder discussed some of the projects overseen by Mr. Pearson while employed by the City. The Council presented a Proclamation designating March 7, 2007, as "Richard Pearson Day." The audience gave a standing ovation. The Council also gave Mr. Pearson framed photographs of the Intermodal Station. Councilmembers expressed their congratulations individually and wished him well on his retirement.

Mr. Pearson expressed his appreciation to all the Mayors and Councils he worked under, City Managers, Commission members, consultants, residents of the community, and Barbara Neustader. He also recognized the members of his family who were present.

8. [Comment\(s\)/Update\(s\)/Report\(s\).](#)

No comments made.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:13 p.m. to a reception honoring Richard Pearson then to a Regular City Council Meeting on March 21, 2007, 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 – 3/21/07