

CALL TO ORDER

The Council met in closed session at 5:30 p.m. with all members present except Councilmembers Lara DeLaney and Michael Menesini who arrived at 5:50 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code section 54956.9(b): One potential case.

RECONVENE - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Councilmembers Lara DeLaney, Michael Menesini, Mark Ross, and Vice Mayor Janet Kennedy all present.

Mayor Schroder reported that the Council met in closed session and gave direction to legal counsel; nothing else was reported.

PRESENTATION(S)/PROCLAMATION(S)

IV. Interoperability of Emergency Radio Systems.

Police Chief David Cutaia made the presentation. He indicated that currently the City does not have the ability to communicate easily with other emergency service agencies during an emergency. He reviewed loss of life issues with past incidents and difficulties in relaying information from one agency to another. He also discussed levels of interoperability, and a history of local agency radio channels to the present. Chief Cutaia commented on the ultimate need to have complete multi-County interoperability between Contra Costa and Alameda counties. He also reviewed funding, governance, planning, and implementation strategies.

Mayor Schroder confirmed the goal of interoperability is shared between Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Councilmember Ross expressed support for the concept.

Councilmember DeLaney asked about the impact that rapidly-evolving technology will have on obsolescence of the system. Chief Cutaia agreed, but noted that the system should be easily upgradeable as technology improves.

Vice Mayor Kennedy expressed appreciation for the Fire Chief's attendance at the meeting. She was supportive of the idea, especially in considering public safety needs. She asked whether homeland security funds could be used to pay for the system. Chief Cutaia indicated it would

qualify. She also asked whether interoperability would have helped in the Martinez hills fire, even though it was a localized emergency. Chief Cutaia confirmed it could be used in localized emergencies as well as broader interoperability.

PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)

Reserved only for those requesting to speak on items not listed on the Agenda.

David Piersall expressed his concerns with communication needs of the public and the Red Cross in the event of a disaster. He commented on FCC licensed amateur radio operators called HAMS who can communicate locally and nationally. He urged the Council to be HAMS friendly by developing an ordinance to prevent any prohibitions against installation of ham radio antennas in new residential areas.

Mike Alford concurred with the comments expressed by Mr. Piersall. He also commented on his recent "Watch Dog" articles in the Martinez Gazette and how some involved in local government put a stop to it. He indicated that he will continue with the "Watch Dog" on his own, in order that the public can be fully informed. Vice Mayor Kennedy asked him to be sure his information is accurate.

Sara Shelton, President of the Martinez Community Swim Team, thanked the Council for the support and efforts to upgrade and landscape the Martinez Community Pool. She also requested that the Council support increased funding for the entire Park and Recreation Department, its facilities, and programs for the community when planning for the next budget. Mayor Schroder agreed more funding is needed.

Paul Wilson asked when the work on the Community Pool would begin since the bids were rejected due to lack of funding. He encouraged the Council to ensure that adequate funding is available. Mayor Schroder indicated that the project would be re-bid once the current swim season is over.

Richard Verrilli requested that the Public Comment be moved to follow the Consent Calendar, to allow more public participation.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion Waiving Reading of Text of all Resolutions and Ordinances.

1. *Motion approving City Council Minutes of March 7, 2007. [M.Cabral]*
2. *Motion rejecting claim(s) against the City by Ben Fogle, #07-01 and Bryant Gorton, #07-04. [M.Cabral]*
3. *Motion approving Check Reconciliation Register(s) dated 03/02/07 and 03/08/07. [C.Heater/2.1.0]*
4. *Motion approving Revenue Summary and Expenditure Summary for February 2007. [C.Heater/2.1.0]*

5. *Motion authorizing the City Manager to sign the Martinez Municipal Pool Use Agreement with the Martinez Community Swim Team. [J.Tool/11.04.01]*
6. *Motion approving attached Growth Management Checklist for submission to Contra Costa Transportation Authority. [R.Pearson/9.2.8]*
7. *Resolution No. 015-07 authorizing mayor to sign documents granting an easement to PG&E (relocated because of trackwork done for Intermodal Project). [R.Pearson/6.15.01&10.04.00]*
8. *Resolution No. 016-07 establishing the rate per Equivalent Runoff Unit for fiscal year 2007-2008. [T.Tucker/10.06.06]*
9. *Resolution No. 017-07 approving application to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for \$1 million TLC Funds for Marina Vista Streetscape Project. [R.Pearson/12.04.38]*

Mayor Schroder opened public comment on the Consent Calendar.

Regarding Item #5, Paul Wilson commented on parking difficulties in his neighborhood during the swim season. He suggested that the Council should ask the community swim team to work on a better parking strategy.

Regarding Item #8, Mr. Wilson asked how the ERU rate is determined. City Engineer Tim Tucker explained how the fee was calculated based on lot size and business impacts, noting the funds will be used to continue the City's clean water program. In response to a further question from Mr. Wilson, Mr. Tucker said that although new requirements have been added over the years, the water treatment standards were not as strict for runoff water as for sewage treatment.

Regarding Item #9, Mr. Wilson questioned whether the proposed project was accurately labeled, as it seems to be promoting an underground utility district. He was also concerned about the reference to high-density, transit-oriented developments. Community Development Director Richard Pearson explained that the Council had approved the undergrounding of utilities in a specific downtown neighborhood a year ago, but had postponed the project due to funding issues. He also confirmed that the high-density zoning referred to was approved as part of the Downtown Specific Plan.

Regarding Item #5, Sara Shelton asked for Council approval of the Use Agreement with the Martinez Community Swim Team. She briefly discussed the history of the swim team, and the community benefit it provides.

Seeing no further speakers, Mayor Schroder closed public comment.

On motion by Mark Ross, Councilmember, seconded by Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, to approve Consent Calendar Items 1 through 9. Motion unanimously passed 5 - 0.

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

ORDINANCE(S)

CITY COUNCIL

10. *City Council Comments.*

Councilmember Mark Ross commented on the nice spring day today and the improved condition of the Alhambra Creek, indicating he enjoyed watching the children looking down at the creek, spotting the fish and looking for the beaver.

Vice Mayor Janet Kennedy announced the Chamber's Dinner for Citizens of the Year Awards on Saturday, March 24th at the Shell Club House. She also asked Chief Cutaia to give a quick update on the Cert Program training classes. He noted that space was still available in classes scheduled for April.

Councilmember Ross commented on emails he had received regarding Kaiser. He distributed copies to the Council and one to the Clerk for the record. He urged citizens to keep sending their comments to keepingkaiser@sbcglobal.net.

Councilmember DeLaney said she will be representing the City on the League of California Cities Environmental Quality Policy Committee at the League meeting in Ontario on March 30th and will be bringing back a report. Vice Mayor Kennedy also indicated that she will be attending the League's meeting, as a member of the Community Services Committee and the Housing and Economic Development Committee.

Mayor Schroder reported on his trip to Washington D.C. representing the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority, as Vice Chair, lobbying for transportation funds. He also discussed his participation with the County-wide "Mayors for Meals" event earlier today. He expressed appreciation for the work that Meals on Wheels does in the community.

CITY MANAGER

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

No comments made.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 7:52 p.m. to a Regular City Council Meeting on April 4, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California.