

CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - ROLL CALL

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. with all members present except Councilmember Michael Menesini and Vice Mayor Janet Kennedy who were excused.

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

Julian Frazer provided an information packet to Council regarding the beavers. He stated that volunteers not be used for maintenance and/or monitoring the beavers, it should be the responsibility of the City. Mr. Frazer recommended an emergency plan be put into place as soon as possible with respect to the beaver dam in case of flooding. He also recommended that staff post information letting the public know the status of the beavers.

Mike Alford echoed Mr. Frazer's comments. He indicated that the Beavers are a great asset for the City, and they have done more for the City than any other group.

Paul Wilson questioned the hydrology report and indicated that the City continues to overbuild on the Alhambra Creek Watershed. He recommended placing a moratorium on building until the City can solve the flooding problem and no longer allow run-off from the storm drains to collect into the Creek. Mr. Wilson also scrutinized the Council for the lack of creek maintenance.

Moses Silva updated the Council on the beavers' progress. He indicated there is no real burrowing by the beavers, and urged the Council to keep the beavers for the children.

There being no further speakers, Mayor Schroder closed public comment.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMISSIONS AND/OR AGENCIES

1. Creation of Council Subcommittee "Beavers in Alhambra Creek" and appointment thereto.

Mayor Schroder strongly recommended that the Subcommittee review all the alternatives, and look at the current issues--burrowing, water quality, impact on other species, and relocation and that the Subcommittee consider implementing some alternatives right away.

Councilmember Ross concurred with the Mayor's recommendations. He commented that the Subcommittee will need to look at the bigger picture—not just the beavers and that part of the Creek, but the whole flooding issue in order to make it a win, win solution.

Councilmember DeLaney stated that the alternatives are rather basic, leave the beavers and work with engineering solutions, remove the dam or relocated the beavers; however, there are a lot of issues that need to be address in a quick and efficient manner.

Motion by Mark Ross, Councilmember, seconded by Lara DeLaney, Councilmember, to create a Council Subcommittee “Beavers in Alhambra Creek.” The Council voted to approve unanimously.

Rob Schroder, Mayor, no second required, appointed Councilmembers Ross and DeLaney to the Subcommittee. The Council voted unanimously.

CITY MANAGER/CITY COUNCIL

2. Comments.

Councilmember DeLaney stated that the meeting will be held in an open process and she welcomed all ideas.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 12:05 p.m. to a Regular Meeting on December 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers, 525 Henrietta Street, Martinez, California.

Approved by the City Council,

Rob Schroder, Mayor

Mercy G. Cabral, Deputy City Clerk – 12/05/07