

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – ROLL CALL

Mayor Schroder called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at the John Swett Elementary, 4955 Alhambra Valley Road in the Multi-Use Room, Martinez.

PRESENT: Janet Kennedy, Councilmember; Michael Menesini, Councilmember; Mark Ross, Councilmember; and Rob Schroder, Mayor.

EXCUSED: Lara DeLaney, Vice Mayor.

ABSENT: None.

I. DISCUSSION OF NIGHBORHOOD ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Mayor Schroder welcomed the public and introduced the City Council. He indicated that this was the last of three neighborhood meetings and that over 8,000 questionnaires were mailed requesting concerns. Over 50 concerns which were received and addressed by staff. He discussed the process for the meeting noting that they would break into groups specifically with respect to particular issues.

Mayor Schroder announced that the City Manager Phil Vince could not make tonight's meeting and provided a brief background on Mr. Vince noting that he came from the City of Moraga. Mayor Schroder introduced staff and departments/divisions they are responsible for. He also commented that Chip Griffin, a consultant, who would be assisting with issues on the Alhambra Highlands Project, was in attendance and available to answer questions.

** Councilmember Menesini arrived at 7:12 p.m.*

Mayor Schroder reviewed a matrix containing answers to the issues and concerns received noting that copies were available, and that the report was located on the website.

**7:15 p.m. broke out into groups and reconvened at 8:10 p.m.*

PUBLIC COMMENT (COMPLETE SPEAKER CARD AND GIVE TO CLERK)

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

Ryan Henige expressed his concerns regarding Alhambra Highlands and was not in favor of further development.

Pat Corr expressed concern regarding underground pipelines in the City and especially noted the Kinder Morgan pipelines and wanted to know what is being piped under the streets. Mayor Schroder stated that he did not know, but there is a county-wide effort spearheaded by the

Sherriff's Office. They will be gathering information and contacting all the companies on behalf of all the cities and at some point we will have that information.

Jean (did not state last name) was concerned with Ordinance 1356 C.S. Planned Unit Developments (PUD), and stated she believed that this would allow further development in the Downtown area. Terry Blount, Planning Manager, explained that the existing Ordinance was very old and some of the language was changed to bring the implementation of a PUD into compliance, which is generally considered as best practice in California, and that the new Ordinance amended technical aspects such as leaving the final decision with the Council.

Joy Dean, Tavan Estates Board of Directors, raised concern regarding public access to Briones Park. Ms. Dean stated that there is a resident who has blocked the entrance. Recently, the Police was called to have the entrance unblocked and the vehicles removed; however, they were told that the Police Department was working with the resident. Ms. Dean urged that working with the resident should happen immediately. The access is for the neighborhood and now the neighborhood has been denied access. Mayor Schroder stated he was aware of the situation. Chief of Police Simonetti stated that the department is monitoring the area.

Mayor Schroder read avspeaker card from Suzanne Henige advising the Council against the Alhambra Hills Project.

Mike Alford stated he was running for Mayor and urged to the Council to listen to the people—no further development of Alhambra Highlands, no North Pacheco or Alhambra Valley annexation, and no redevelopment. He again commented that the Mayor and Councilmember Menesini still have signs posted on telephone poles and City Manager Vince stated at the last meeting they would be removed.

John Fitzgerald stated he was running for Mayor and agreed with Mr. Alford's comments. He questioned the misuse of Marina Funds, disrepair of the marina, lack of police presence downtown, lack of police enforcement from loud motorcycles, and lack of code enforcement of illegal dumping.

Unidentified female speaker commented on the great work the Public Works Department has provided to her and appreciated staff's efforts.

Marshall Cochrane expressed concerns with traffic configuration on Marina Vista especially the problems that the curb cut outs will have on motorists and requested that staff review the area. Councilmember Ross indicated that staff is aware of the problems and staff will be meeting with the contractor.

Unidentified male speaker stated that when he had a couch dumped in front of his house, he contacted the Police Department, and an Officer came out and helped him move the couch, and later a crew came by and removed the couch; so in response to an earlier comment, he stated that the City is responsive.

Unidentified male speaker noted that the bait shop was in such bad condition, he fell through the floor but nothing serious happened which could have been an issue. Mayor Schroder stated that the City has been working on the Marina for many years and finally just received an extension of the lease from the Department of Boating and Waterways for 47 years; and the City can now go to the permitting agencies to begin improvements in the summer of next year.

Unidentified speaker raised issue with the past and present City Manager salaries especially the salary given to City Manager Don Blubaugh. Councilmember Menesini stated that Mr. Blubaugh came to the City with tremendous credentials and did a great job while he was here, and the salary was not out of line with his experience. Councilmember Menesini further stated that the current City Manager's salary is not out of line as compared to other City Manager salaries, but we want the best for our City. The unidentified speaker agreed, but urged the Council they should be mindful and not spend.

CITY MANAGER/CHIEF OF POLICE/CITY COUNCIL

1. City Manager Comments.

Nothing reported.

2. Chief of Police Comments

Nothing reported.

3. City Council Comments.

Mayor Rob Schroder thanked the residents for attending and voicing their concerns; and recognized staff's hard work in arranging tonight's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:40 p.m. to a Regular City Council Meeting on October 6, 2010 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 – 10/20/10