



**MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF COTATI
OF THE CITY OF COTATI
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2009
7:00 PM REGULAR SESSION**

7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Guardino called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present: Barich, Gilardi, Orchard, Vice Mayor Coleman-Senghor, Mayor Guardino.

Staff present: Administrative Services Director Jone Hayes, Asst. to the City Manager/Deputy Director of Community Development Marsha Sue Lustig, Director of Public Works/City Engineer Damien O'Bid, City Attorney Rich Rudnansky, Chief of Police Robert Stewart, Deputy City Clerk Tamara Taylor, City Manager Dianne Thompson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Guardino led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 2009 REGULAR MEETING AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING OF ALL RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES INTRODUCED AND/OR ADOPTED UNDER THIS AGENDA
(Action)**

Moved by Councilmember Barich to change 'read a statement' to 'made a statement' on page 10. The motion died for lack of a second.

Moved by Vice Mayor Coleman-Senghor seconded by Councilmember Orchard and passed 4-1 (Barich voting no) to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2009 Regular meeting as presented and to waive the reading of all ordinances introduced and/or adopted under this agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Cotati Farmers' Market takes place at 4:30 p.m. every Thursday through October 1st in La Plaza Park.

Cotati's annual Oktoberfest will take place on Saturday September 26 in La Plaza park.

2. PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 26, 2009 'RUSSIAN RIVER CLEANUP DAY'

Mayor Guardino read the proclamation. After brief discussion, the Mayor agreed to amend the proclamation to reflect that the Russian River has been listed as impaired by the State Water Board.

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Sonoma State University Student representative Jesse Schwartz provided a verbal report to Council.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Dianne Thompson updated the City Council regarding tree removal at Hwy 101 by PG&E, safety of pedestrian islands, recreation, Well No. 2 repair, Well No.3 damage, Mini park improvements, and commendations to Police officers Eric Bilcich and Chris Kaupa. In response to questions from the Council, she indicated that the recreation program information would be updated on the City's website.

APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

No changes.

CITIZEN BUSINESS

Jenny Blaker requested that Citizen Business speaking time be reduced to 3 minutes.

Jan Kravitz commented on the East Cotati Ave. pedestrian island.

Eric Kirchmann commented on the East Cotati Ave. pedestrian island.

Lori Ann Barbour, commended the Council for including chickens in the Downtown Specific Plan ordinance and indicated agreement with Ms.Blaker regarding speaker time limits.

Emily Straub discussed a potential "whisperwall" soundwall for the railroad tracks near Windmill Farms that could be decorated to honor Chief Kotate.

Ken Coleman commented about a statement that he said was made to him by Vice Mayor Coleman-Senghor.

Linda Skoko stated that Councilmember Barich was the only one who came to her door during the election.

Phil Maher discussed landscaping the Community Center and ways to increase revenue such as a per drink charge or alcohol tax, and the City Council Code of Ethics.

Greg Character commented on the effect of lowered sales tax revenue on the City's budget and funds raised by Citizens to Recall Councilmember Barich.

John Moore commented on Mr. Coleman's statements, a potential tax revenue measure and financial disclosure by Citizens to Recall Councilmember Barich.

City Manager Thompson responded to concerns regarding sales tax revenue and indicated that staff would update the City Council regarding Smart Train sound impacts.

Councilmembers briefly discussed comments made during Citizen Business.

DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion ensued as to scheduling speakers' time limits on a future agenda. The majority of Council members concurred that this is a matter for the Mayor's discretion.

REGULAR AGENDA

3. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HR3523 – TAX EXEMPT PRIVATE ACTIVITY BOND (PAB) FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION AND ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY PROJECTS. (City Manager) (Action)

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Damien O'Bid presented the staff report and responded to questions from the Council.

Mayor Guardino opened the floor to public comment.

Phil Maher discussed an incentive for people who lower their water usage.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Guardino closed the public comment period.

Mr. O'Bid described the City's current and future incentives for water efficiency.

Discussion ensued regarding groundwater management programs, the proposed letter, the benefit to consumers of lowering the cost of projects, tax-exempt bonds, greenhouse gas reduction, incentives to citizens for installing energy/water efficient improvements on their homes.

Moved by Vice Mayor Coleman-Senghor, seconded by Councilmember Orchard and passed unanimously to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter to U.S. Representative Mike Thompson in support of HR3523 – Tax Exempt Private Activity Bond (PAB) for renewable energy generation and energy and water efficiency projects.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND CALL TO ORDER OF JOINT MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mayor Guardino adjourned the regular meeting and convened the joint meeting to order at 8:18 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Guardino opened the floor to public comment; there being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Guardino closed the public comment period.

Moved by Councilmember Orchard, seconded by Councilmember Gilardi and approved 3-0-2 (Barich and Guardino abstaining) to approve Item 5 as it relates to the Northern Gateway subdistrict of the Downtown Specific Plan

Moved by Councilmember Orchard, seconded by Councilmember Gilardi and passed 4-0-1 (Barich abstaining) to approve Item 5 as it relates to the Historic Core subdistrict of the Downtown Specific Plan.

Moved by Councilmember Orchard, seconded by Councilmember Gilard and approved 3-1-1 (Barich voting no, Guardino abstaining) to approve Item 5 as it relates to the La Plaza Park subdistrict of the Downtown Specific Plan

Moved by Councilmember Orchard, seconded by Councilmember Gilardi and passed 4-1 (Barich voting no) to approve items 4 and 5 on the Consent Calendar.

4. WARRANTS AND AUDITED CLAIMS (Administrative Services) (Action)

This motion receives and files warrants and audited claims for July 23rd 2009 – August 12th, 2009.

5. ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE TO REZONE PROPERTIES WITHIN THE DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN AREA (Community Development) (Action)

Ordinance No. 823 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTATI REZONING CERTAIN PROPERTIES, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP, AND AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE LAND USE CODE TO PROVIDE CLARITY AND CONSISTENCY WITH THE DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN

ADJOURNMENT OF JOINT MEETING; RECONVENING OF REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Guardino adjourned the joint meeting and reconvened the regular meeting to order at 8:23 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS (*Discussion*)

Councilmembers reported on recent and upcoming activities, including reports from meetings attended at City expense. Damien reported on the WAC meeting.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO CLOSED SESSION

no one wishing to speak Mayor Guardino adjourned the regular meeting to closed session at 8:28 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL FOR CLOSED SESSION

CLOSED SESSION (CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE)

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54956.8)

Property: APN 144-301-012, corner of East Cotati and Ryan Lane.

City Negotiator: City Manager Dianne Thompson

Negotiating Parties: Cotati Community Redevelopment Agency and Sterling Savings Bank

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (California Government Code Section 54957)

Title: City Attorney

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Tamara Taylor, Deputy City Clerk