



MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COTATI COMMUNITY
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2011
6:00 PM CLOSED SESSION, 7:00 PM REGULAR SESSION
City Council Chambers, City Hall, 201 W. Sierra Avenue

6:00 PM CLOSED SESSION CALL TO ORDER (CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS)

Mayor Orchard called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

City Attorney Rich Rudnansky announced that a legal matter came to the attention of the City after the agenda was posted and there is a need to take immediate action on it. He recommended that the City Council add the following item to the closed session agenda:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))

Mead vs. City of Cotati et al. (United States Supreme Court Case # 10-828)

Moved by Vice Mayor Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Landman and passed unanimously to add the above item because it came to the attention of the City after the agenda was posted and there is a need to take immediate action on it.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION (CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))

The Colvin Group Fund 1, LP vs City of Cotati, et. al. (Sonoma County Superior Court Case # SCV-248067)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(a))

Mead vs. City of Cotati et al. (United States Supreme Court Case # 10-828)

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Nothing to report.

7:00 PM REGULAR SESSION

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Orchard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and stated there was nothing to report out of closed session.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Coleman-Senghor, Gilardi, and Landman, Vice Mayor Harvey and Mayor Orchard.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Orchard led the pledge of allegiance.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2011 REGULAR MEETING MEETING AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING OF ALL RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES INTRODUCED AND/OR ADOPTED UNDER THIS AGENDA (*Action*)

Moved by Councilmember Landman, seconded by Vice Mayor Susan Harvey and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2011 Regular meeting as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The City of Cotati has a number of volunteer positions available, including appointments to the Community and Environment Commission and for an Office Assistant. For more information see the City's website at ci.cotati.ca.us or call the City Manager's office at 707-665-3622.

The 19th Annual Cotati Pasta Dinner & Bingo event will be held on Saturday March 12, 2010 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Cotati Veterans Memorial Building. For details contact the Cotati Chamber of Commerce at 707-795-5508 or on the web at cotati.org.

Open House workshops for the Old Redwood Highway Downtown Street Improvement project will be on Tuesday March 1 and Tuesday March 29, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council chamber.

HONORARY MAYOR

James Adams of Rancho Cotate High School presented a verbal report to Council, responded to questions and introduced his family and friends. Mayor Orchard presented him with a certificate of commendation and a city pin.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Dianne Thompson announced the following:

- A new art exhibit is displayed in City Hall; the artists are students from El Camino High School.
- The Sonoma County Economic Development Board has released a City Economic Reports for Cotati.
- A General Plan kickoff meeting is scheduled for Monday March 21st. Three community vision workshops will take place over the next few months. Information on the General Plan can be found at www.cotati.generalplan.org.

City Manager Thompson responded to questions regarding the scheduling of the CalEd leadership forum and strategic planning dates and process.

APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

This item was discussed after 'Direction on Future Agenda Items'.

Moved by Councilmember Landman, seconded by Vice Mayor Susan Harvey and passed unanimously, to approve the final agenda.

CITIZEN BUSINESS

Emily Straub commented on her concerns regarding the 2006 City Council election and campaign contributions, and international politics.

Philip Salazar addressed the Council regarding issues he is having with his water.

George Barich commented on the lack of a mid-year budget review, how City Council meetings are conducted and his concerns regarding the use of electronic devices by the Council.

Elizabeth Clary, representing a group called Old Adobe Developmental Services, which serves the intellectual and developmentally disabled community, expressed concern regarding state budget cuts that are affecting their clients and requested that the Council sign a letter in support of retaining services to this community.

Mayor Orchard asked if anyone wished to speak a second time; there being no one else wishing to speak again, Mayor Orchard closed Citizen Business.

Councilmembers and staff briefly discussed comments made during Citizen Business.

DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Orchard summarized items that the Council has previously directed be scheduled for discussion, noting that the Ethics subcommittee will meet soon, the CalEd Leadership economic preplanning forum is being planned and City Manager evaluation criteria will be discussed in a closed session.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2011/12 SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY BUDGET (Engineering/Public Works) (Action)

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

Mayor Orchard opened the floor to public comment.

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

Councilmembers briefly discussed the proposed budget and directed questions to the Sonoma County Water Agency representative. Councilmember Landman, the Council's representative to the Water Advisory Committee, expressed support for the proposed budget. Vice Mayor Susan Harvey expressed concerns regarding the budget and provided a list of her concerns to the Agency.

Spencer Bader of the Sonoma County Water Agency responded to questions from the Council relative to the proposed budget. Vice Mayor Susan Harvey indicated that she did not require answers at this meeting but would appreciate receiving a response to her questions and concerns. Mr. Bader indicated that he would review Vice Mayor Susan Harvey's questions and respond in detail.

Discussion and questions regarding the budget continued at length. The Council recognized that the Water Advisory Committee has indicated support of the proposed budget.

Moved by Councilmember Gilardi seconded by Councilmember Landman and passed 4-0-1 (Vice Mayor Susan Harvey voting no) to endorse the Water Agency's proposed Fiscal Year 2011/12 water transmission system budget at the March 7, 2011 special meeting of the Water Advisory Committee.

Mayor Orchard recessed the meeting at 8:24 p.m. and reconvened at 9:38 p.m.

3. PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2010/11 RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION WORK PLAN AND BUDGET (Engineering/Public Works) (Action)

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

Councilmember Landman, the Council's representative to the Russian River Watershed Association, expressed support for the proposed budget. Discussion ensued relative to the proposed budget, signage and the stormwater permit.

Mayor Orchard opened the floor to public comment.

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

The Council expressed support for the work that the Russian River Watershed Association, the City's participation in the Association and the proposed budget and ten signs.

Mr. O'Bid indicated in response to Council direction that he would provide the Council with a prioritized list of sign locations.

Moved by Councilmember Robert Coleman-Senghor seconded by Councilmember Gilardi and passed unanimously to direct the City's Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) representative to endorse the RRWA's proposed Fiscal Year 2011/12 work plan and budget, and to approve a Special Benefit Project for creek signage, for the February 24, 2011 RRWA Board of Directors Meeting.

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

Mayor Orchard adjourned the Regular meeting and called to order the joint meeting at 9:02 p.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR (JOINT MEETING)

Mayor Orchard opened the floor to public comment on the Consent Calendar; there being no one wishing to speak, she closed the public comment period.

Moved by Councilmember Landman, seconded by Vice Mayor Susan Harvey and passed unanimously to approve item 4 on the joint Consent Calendar.

4. WARRANTS AND AUDITED CLAIMS JANUARY 27TH, 2011 – FEBRUARY 10TH, 2011 (Administrative Services) (Action)

This motion receives and files warrants and audited claims for January 27th, 2010 – February 10th 2011.

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

Mayor Orchard adjourned the Joint meeting and reconvened the Regular meeting at 9:04 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS (Discussion)

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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Orchard adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Tamara Taylor, Deputy City Clerk