



MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING, JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COTATI COMMUNITY
REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8, 2010
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 Coleman-Senghor called the meeting to order at 6.02 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION (CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE)

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representative: Dianne Thompson

Unrepresented Employee: Police Chief

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code Section 54957.6)

Agency designated representatives: Dianne Thompson, Jone Hayes Employee Organization:
Cotati Employees Association

Unrepresented employee(s): Senior Planner, Senior Building Inspector, Associate Planner, Public Works Field Maintenance Supervisor, Administrative Analyst, Building Inspector, Assistant Planner, Accountant, Maintenance Worker II, Accounting Specialist, Administrative Secretary, Permit Technician, Account Clerk II, Maintenance Worker I, Planning Technician, Recreation Coordinator, Administrative Clerk, Recreation Assistant, Account Clerk I

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

None

7:00 PM REGULAR SESSION

CALL TO ORDER OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Coleman-Senghor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He indicated that there was nothing to report out of the closed session.

ROLL CALL

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

Staff present: Administrative Services Director Jone Hayes, Acting Community Development Director/Assistant to the City Manager Marsha Sue Lustig, City Engineer/Director of Public Works Damien O'Bid, Interim Chief Susan Jones, Administrative Secretary Keri Pajon, City Attorney Rich Rudnansky and City Manager Dianne Thompson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Steve Onines led the pledge of allegiance.

1. DECLARATION OF RESULTS OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND SWEARING IN OF NEW COUNCILMEMBERS

RECEIVE AND FILE STATEMENT OF THE VOTES CAST AND DECLARATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE CITY OF COTATI CONSOLIDATED GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON NOVEMBER 2, 2010 (City Manager) (Action)

Moved by Vice-Mayor Orchard, seconded by Councilmember Harvey and passed unanimously to
1) Adopt a motion to receive and file the Sonoma County Clerk's Statement of the Votes Cast; and
2) adopt a resolution 2010-64 declaring the results of the Consolidated General Municipal Election held on November 2, 2010.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW COUNCILMEMBER AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION

Dianne Thompson, City Manager/City Clerk administered the oaths of office and presented the certificates of election to the newly elected Councilmembers.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 23, 2010 REGULAR MEETING AND NOTICE OF WAIVING OF READING OF ALL RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES INTRODUCED AND/OR ADOPTED UNDER THIS AGENDA (Action)

Moved by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Vice Mayor Orchard and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2010 Regular meeting as presented and to waive reading of all resolutions and ordinances introduced and/or adopted under this agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Residents can register at nixle.com to receive City Council agenda notifications and construction and road closure updates by email and text message.

Cotati Creek Critters invites you to help take care of native plants along the Laguna de Santa Rosa by attending a Creek Stewardship Day on Saturday December 11th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For details contact Cotati Creek Critters by phone 707-792-4422 or on the web at CotatiCreekCritters.info.

The Cotati Historical Society Museum is open regularly on Saturdays from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. and the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

HONORARY MAYOR

Emily Wilson of El Camino High School provided a report to the Council. Mayor Coleman-Senghor presented her with a certificate of commendation and a City pin.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Dianne Thompson reported on the following:

- Holiday Tree Lighting
- Peet's Coffee recently received their Final Design Review Approval
- Economic Sub-Committee meeting
- Police Chief recruitment
- New Reserve Officer Dan Murphy – Dan introduced himself and shared his experience
- Interim Chief Susan Jones will finish her term with Cotati at the end of December

APPROVAL OF FINAL AGENDA

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

CITIZEN BUSINESS

George Barich commented on the election and the economy.

Cindy Steffy, 40 Kingston Way spoke about an incident that she encountered with the police department that she didn't feel was handled correctly.

Tony Adler commented on PG&E Smart meters, setting sewer base fees, and land turned over to Burbank housing.

Open Public Comment at 7:38 p.m.

Closed Public Comment at 7:38 p.m.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor said that he would like Ms. Stephan to put this information in writing and forward to Interim Chief Jones.

City Manager Thompson said that Interim Chief Jones will be following up at the staff level.

Administrative Services Director Jone Hayes stated a rate study will be conducted in the spring and that there will be public outreach.

DIRECTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Landman asked that Item 3 be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

Moved by Vice-Mayor Orchard, seconded by Councilmember Harvey and passed unanimously to adopt item 4 on the Consent Calendar.

3. ENDORSEMENT OF APPLICATIONS FROM THE SONOMA COUNTY HOUSING LAND TRUST AND THE CITY OF COTATI FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2011-2012 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS (City Manager) (Action)

This item pulled off consent calendar

In response to Councilmember Landman's concern with the ADA compliant route for the location proposed, Acting Community Development Director Lustig explained that at this time there was no design of the project and there would be a public workshop held to allow public input.

Opened Public Comment at 7:47 p.m.

The following individuals commented:

George Barich

Neil Hancock

Closed Public Comment at 7:50 p.m.

It is recommended that the City Council adopt

Moved by Vice Mayor Orchard, seconded by Councilmember Harvey and passed unanimously to approve Resolution 2010-65 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTATI ENDORSING APPLICATIONS FROM THE SONOMA COUNTY HOUSING LAND TRUST AND THE CITY OF COTATI FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2011-2012 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDS

4. AGREEMENTS WITH THE COUNTY OF SONOMA TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE LIMITED LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$ 199,500 FROM THE GENERAL FUND (Administrative Services) (Action)

Motion authorizing the City Manager to execute agreements and amendments with the County of Sonoma to continue to provide limited law enforcement services to the City and appropriate funds in an amount not to exceed \$ 199,500 from the General Fund.

REGULAR AGENDA

5. DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (Community Development - Planning) (Action)

Acting Community Development Director Lustig presented the staff report.

Applicant Steven Onines introduced himself and gave a brief history of his experience.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor and the Council thanked Mr. Onines for his service to the community and for volunteering for this committee.

Lars Langberg introduced himself and gave a brief history of his experience.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor and the Council offered their gratitude to Mr. Langberg and those who serve their community in this capacity.

Acting Community Development Director listed the followings applicants as:

- Lars Langberg
- Edie Robbins
- Steven Onines
- Chris Davis
- reappointment of Sally Glendening, and
- extension of term for Tim Morgan

Mayor Coleman-Senghor said that each of the applicants listed is appointed, in addition to the Committee Member Glendening being reappointed and Committee Member Morgan receiving an extension.

Moved by Vice Mayor Orchard, seconded by Councilmember Gilardi and passed unanimously to ratify the Mayor's appointments, reappointment and extension to the Design Review Committee.

Councilmember Landman thanked the committee members who have been on Design Review Committee and are moving on, Richard Merriss and Ben Ford.

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

6. 2008 ADOPTED BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN – MAP AND PRIORITIZATION SCHEDULE UPDATE (Community Development - Planning) (Action)

Acting Community Development Director Lustig presented the staff report.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor opened Public Comment.

Neil Hancock, Arthur Street, is in support of this item and would like Council to support this update. He thanked Councilmember Gilardi and all those who worked on this project and worked on improving conditions for bicyclist.

He commented on the following:

- focus should be made on the area that connects Cotati to SSU
- safety for cyclist throughout the City of Cotati
- safety near the railroad tracks
- safety for the section of road between Windmill Farms and the boundary of Rohnert Park that needs some visibility
- west School Street to west Sierra Avenue needs attention for kids walking to school
- pedestrian enhancements are still very weak in the plan

He request that the plan be brought back next year to the Planning Commission to review the pedestrian enhancements. He thanked staff for all their work on this project.

Elyse Lord, 3 Pine Tree Circle, introduced herself and said that she is a faculty representative for Sonoma State University for the transportation committee which is looking into alternative transportation issues.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor closed Public Comment.

Mayor Robert Coleman-Senghor asked Ms. Lord to help with strengthen the relationship with the City of Cotati and SSU. He said that there is an enormous increase of bicycles on campus and not enough bicycle racks available. He expressed concern for bicyclist going to the middle school, stating that the pathway is not safe. He also commented on the bicycle lane that disappears once you pass Lowes.

Acting Community Development Director Lustig stated that the tree roots in the sidewalk have been repaired recently and she said that there is a project on Redwood Drive, which will produce bike lanes.

In response to Vice Mayor Orchard, Acting Community Development Director Lustig said that updating the plan will help in receiving funding.

Vice Mayor Orchard said that she appreciates this plan and thanked everyone who spent time on it. She also expressed concern with the area near Windmill Farms and the boundary of Rohnert Park.

Acting Community Development Director Lustig explained that past Windmill Farms would be Rohnert Park. She said that staff can make contact with Rohnert Park regarding this concern.

Councilmember Harvey said that she attended the Planning Commission meetings for this plan and said that there was a lot of great information. She specifically thanked Neil for the time he spent gathering information.

Councilmember Gilardi said that she appreciates the work that has been done. She agrees with Mr. Hancock in bringing back the plan to the Planning Commission in 2011 to discuss the pedestrian enhancements. She is pleased to see the route to Thomas Page School addressed, stating the importance of kids having a safe route to school.

Councilmember Landman commented on the route past Santero headed east, have received complaints this last year. He said that if the Smart project is delayed maybe working on improving this area with Rohnert Park might be good.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor commented about the dedication that many citizens have made for this plan.

Moved by Councilmember Landman, seconded by Councilmember Gilardi and passed unanimously to adopt Resolution No. 2010-66 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTATI UPDATING THE COTATI BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN AND MAP

Mayor Coleman-Senghor called a recess at 8:35 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

7. ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GARBAGE AND RUBBISH DISPOSAL RATE INCREASE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011 (City Manager) (Action)

Acting Community Development Director Lustig presented the staff report. She advised the Council of the approved increase for last year by Redwood Empire Disposal and the error that occurred when they didn't put the rate increase into affect. This was discovered in September and they decided not to retro the customers, instead to just charge the 4th quarter increase and spread it over the next 12 months of the new year.

Councilmember Landman commented on complaints regarding the street sweeping and the paragraph in the contract which deals with this item.

Pam Davis, Redwood Empire Disposal said that they have a back up piece of equipment to assist with the street sweeping and they are looking at getting a new piece of equipment into the City.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor wanted to know why garbage service in Cotati was more expensive than garbage service in Healdsburg or Rohnert Park.

Discussion ensued on rates for other local cities and why Cotati's rates are higher.

In response to Council Gilardi, Pam Davis explained the changes that customers would see when they receive a new bill.

Councilmember Gilardi suggested that a notice of explanation be included in the billing to clarify the increase.

Acting Community Development Director Lustig suggested that the language be approved by Jone Hayes, Director of Finance.

In response to Councilmember Harvey, Pam Davis clarified that a new customer would only get the new rate, not the new rate plus one quarter.

Councilmember Harvey stated that she would like some level of commitment on the street sweeping service.

Mayor Coleman Senghor asked for a commitment of February 1, 2011. Pam Davis said that she will try to get it for January 1, 2011, but will make sure it is available for the February 1, 2011.

Councilmember Landman said that if they do not comply we could always charge the fee for not receiving quality street sweeping that is available in the contract.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor opened the public hearing.

George Barich stated that Redwood Empire Disposal had received an extra increase to pay a higher fuel price due to the increase for fuel and this increase was supposed to be reversed when prices for fuel went back down. This has not been reversed. He asked that all members of Council not accept any holiday gifts from Redwood Empire Disposal, that they should not accept gifts that wasn't given to all customers.

Councilmember Gilardi asked staff if rates increased due to the rise in fuel cost and were they supposed to be reversed.

Acting Community Development Director Lustig said that they will be looking into this.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor asked Pam Davis if other cities revisited this when fuel prices went down.

Pam Davis stated that she remembers a conversation about the fuel but wasn't sure if there was an increase for fuel, but she will look into this.

Councilmember Gilardi said that they would like a follow up on fuel cost and if there was an emergency rate increase.

Acting Community Development Director Lustig said that they will also look into Rohnert Park's rates.

Moved by Councilmember Landman seconded by Councilmember Harvey/Gilardi and passed unanimously to adopt a Resolution No. 2010-67 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COTATI APPROVING AN INCREASE IN MAXIMUM GARBAGE AND RUBBISH DISPOSAL RATE THAT REDWOOD EMPIRE DISPOSAL MAY CHARGE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011,

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 Coleman-Senghor adjourned the Regular meeting and called to order the joint meeting at 9:10 p.m. and opened the floor to public comment on the Consent Calendar (Joint Meeting).

CONSENT CALENDAR (JOINT MEETING)

Mayor Coleman-Senghor opened Public Comment.

Mayor Coleman-Senghor closed Public Comment.

Moved by Councilmember Gilardi seconded by Councilmember Harvey and passed unanimously to adopt item 8 on the Joint Consent Calendar.

8. WARRANTS AND AUDITED CLAIMS OCTOBER 28 THROUGH NOVEMBER 24, 2010 (Administrative Services) (Action)

This motion receives and files warrants and audited claims for October 28th, 2010 – November 24, 2010

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

Mayor Coleman-Senghor adjourned the Joint meeting and called to order the Regular meeting 9:15 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS (Discussion)

Councilmember Landman attended a Sonoma County Alliance breakfast meeting where a presentation on Economic Development was done. He shared a concept from Sunnyvale called "one bite of the apple".

Vice-Mayor Orchard attended the Spirit of Sonoma County award luncheon and was pleased with the selection of Mike Pastryk as honoree this year. She commented on the Tree Lighting and thought the Chamber of Commerce should be recognized for their assistance in this event.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Coleman-Senghor adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Keri Pajon
Administrative Secretary