

MAYOR RICHARD S. CLAIRE
VICE MAYOR JEFF IRA

MINUTES
1017 MIDDLEFIELD RD

COUNCIL MEMBER JIM HARTNETT
COUNCIL MEMBER DIANE HOWARD
COUNCIL MEMBER COLLEEN M. JORDAN
COUNCIL MEMBER BARBARA PIERCE
COUNCIL MEMBER IRA RUSKIN

REDWOOD CITY, CA

CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
June 30, 2003
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Hartnett, Howard, Pierce, Ruskin, Vice Mayor Ira, Mayor Claire

Council Members Absent: Jordan

Staff Present: City Manager Everett, Financial Services Director/Assistant City Manager Ponty, City Clerk Howe, City Attorney Yamamoto, Assistant City Attorney Brower, Assistant to the City Manager Gonzalez, Interim Community Development Services Director Liedstrand, Community Development Services Manager Patterson, Community Development Services Manager LaTorra, Planning Manager Church, Housing Coordinator Jones-Thomas, Human Resources Director Rivera-Peña, Police Chief/interim Fire Chief Bolanos, Public Works Services Director Ingram, Public Works Superintendent Rosas, Public Works Superintendent Mann, Public Works Superintendent Barwacz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director Centeno, Library Director Chen, Volunteer Balsamo

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Jim Hartnett, Council Member**
4. **INVOCATION - Lead Pastor Ben van Gaasbeek, Mission Community Church**
5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

John Scott speaking on behalf of what he stated he believes to be a silent majority of Redwood City residents. He stated the topic to be recycled water and three points to make. The first being that recycled water can be safely used in the area and is safely used in other areas and the practice is both effective and economical. Secondly, the deployment of recycled water carries great responsibility. Lastly, he stated that the facts need to drive the decisions with regard to the project. He asked that the Council keep the louder minority opposing the use of recycled water from weighing heavily on the final decision.

Rudy Luca stated that the letter received from PRCS Director Centeno regarding the liability of the skate park did not completely answer his question. He requested a copy of the regulation that states the City is not liable for injuries. His second topic of discussion was regarding the Cinema project and Borders Books withdrawing from the project. He asked what the City will be doing to get businesses to locate within the project.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Items on the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine by the City Council and are enacted by one motion and one vote.

M/S Ruskin/Hartnett to waive reading of the Consent Calendar except the ordinances by title, adopt the resolutions and the ordinances, and approve other items. **The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote with Council Member Jordan absent and Mayor Claire abstaining on item 6.1.A.**

6.1 Section - Motions

- A. Approve the Minutes of June 23, 2003 as submitted; **MINUTE ORDER 03-143**
- B. The San Francisco Chronicle, through RhodyCo Productions, is requesting the City Council issue a letter permit for their annual "Tour de Peninsula."

Recommendation:

Authorize execution of a Letter Permit for the "Tour de Peninsula."

MINUTE ORDER 03-144

- C. Consolidated General Municipal Election, November 4, 2003, candidate's statement and related matters.

Adopt resolution calling the November 4, 2003 General Municipal Election;

1. Resolution requesting consolidation with the school district election and other local elections;

ADOPT RESOLUTION 14533 CALLING ELECTION AND REQUESTING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, TO CONSOLIDATE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2003

2. Resolution authorizing execution of the contract with the County of San Mateo for election services.

ADOPT RESOLUTION 14534 APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO FOR CERTAIN SERVICES RELATING TO GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION OF NOVEMBER 4, 2003

3. Motion to require a deposit of \$300.00 for a candidate's statement to be translated and printed in English, Chinese and Spanish as required under Section 203 of the Federal Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973aa-1a Section 203. All amounts are to cover actual estimated costs. **MINUTE ORDER 03-145**

D. Appointment to Senior Affairs Commission

Motion to appoint Vincent Truscelli to fill an unexpired term, ending on May 31, 2004. **MINUTE ORDER 03-146**

E. Establishment of Workers' Compensation Excess Insurance Policy

Approve, by motion, the purchase of the City's excess workers' compensation insurance policy with the Local Agency Workers' Compensation Excess pool (LAWCX) under the group purchasing program from Bay Cities Joint Powers Insurance Authority effective July 1, 2003. **MINUTE ORDER 03-147**

F. Approval of Projects for the Proposed Continuation of the Measure "A" ½ Cent Sales Tax for Transportation

Recommendation:

Approve the recommendations of the following projects for eligibility for Measure "A" funding:

- Woodside Road Interchange Improvements/Reconstruction

- Improvements to the Union Pacific Right-of-Way from the Caltrain main line to and through the Port of Redwood City
- Caltrain Planning and Station Improvements to the Redwood City train/bus depot area to create a more inviting transit-friendly atmosphere
- Interim Woodside Road/Broadway Intersection Improvements

MINUTE ORDER 03-148

- G.** Request that funding be included in San Mateo County's Measure A sales tax extension for the proposed Water Transit Authority ferry service for Redwood City

Recommendation:

Authorize the City Manager to sign the attached letter to the Chief Development Officer of the San Mateo County Transportation Authority requesting that funding for the proposed Water Transit Authority ferry service for Redwood City be included in San Mateo County's Measure A sales tax extension.

MINUTE ORDER 03-149

6.2 Section – Warrants (301)

- A.** Approve warrants dated through June 30, 2003 and usual and necessary payments through July 14, 2003;

MINUTE ORDER 03-150

6.3 Section – Ordinances (Introduction)

A. Utility Users' Tax Ordinance

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the revised utility users' tax ordinance as presented, which will only update and clarify the current ordinance and will not increase the tax rate.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY AMENDING CHAPTER 32, ARTICLE VII OF THE REDWOOD CITY MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING THE UTILITIES TAX OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY

MINUTE ORDER 03-151

7. STUDY SESSION: FY 2003/04 Budget Study Session I

A. General Fund

City Manager Everett explained the outline for the study sessions on both June 30 and July 14 and the three problems that every city on the Peninsula and in the County are facing: The economy is down,

contributions to the retirement system are up and the State continues to take local revenues to solve the State problems. He stated that Council has already dealt with reductions for fiscal years 02/03, is now beginning to work on 03/04 and that the most difficult budget year will be fiscal year 04/05.

Financial Services Director Ponty presented an overview on the General Fund. Assistant to the City Manager Gonzalez described the recommended budget reductions for fiscal year 03/04.

Public Comment:

Rudy Luca stated that the City has serious problems yet salary increases have been approved. He asked that Council analyze the proposed cuts to service and return with a more proper plan. He further stated that staff recommendations are rarely challenged and asked who runs the City.

Bob Diaz spoke about the DARE program proposed elimination, stating that this program addresses needs of youth in the most formative years and has seen positive results. He thanked Council and staff for the programs.

Janet Borgens agreed that there will be tough cuts by Department Heads and the responsibility belongs to everyone. She further stated that Friendly Acres will be supportive during this time.

John Dempsey stated that notes or handouts would be helpful in the future. He asked about an article referencing sales tax having risen and asked about the Redevelopment Agency budget.

Recess: 8:45 – 9:03 p.m.

Council questions and comments ensued.

City Manager Everett stated that staff will return on July 14 with budget page annotations and options for Council consideration.

B. Human Services Financial Assistance (HSFA)

Chairperson Charlie Greer explained the HSFA funding allocations provide assistance to community members in need of housing, emergency assistance, supportive services or disabled seniors and youth in need of assistance. He summarized the various programs and the recommendations consistent with the City Manager's recommendation to reduce all departments by 7% except Police and Fire which is recommended at 4.5% reduction.

Public Comment:

Sherry Squire Mitchell, Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Francisco and the Peninsula, read an excerpt of a letter from a parent of a child involved as a mentee in their program.

Michelle Smith, representing Friends for Youth, stated that she has had the privilege to see the work of the mentors and being a part of the growth of these local young children despite the challenges they encounter at home, school or the community. She shared some successes of the junior friends. Ms. Smith thanked the Council for helping to allow the friendships to happen by providing the wonderful opportunities for the junior friends in Redwood City.

Becky Cooper, Executive Director of Friends for Youth program, stated that after her 24 years she thanked the Council and City for the support of the non-profit groups. She stated that she is a long-term resident of Redwood City and has seen both professionally and personally, the results of the youth and mentors who continue lifelong friendships with their mentors, graduating from college, and starting families of their own. She stated that in these economic times, the investment in cost effective prevention programs can have a particularly significant long-term impact.

Annette Passalacqua, speaking on behalf of Youth and Family Assistance, thanked Council for the support of Your House South and the Crisis Center. She gave statistics related to the services provided by the program. The request equals 3% of their budget and asked that Council continue to support the Redwood City residents and thanked them for their past support.

Julie Wesolek, representing the YMCA, thanked Council for the past support of the after school licensed childcare program. She stated that the dollars allocated by the City are leveraged by personal contributions that have been solicited. The YMCA childcare program provides financial assistance for low income families that assist them in allowing them to continue school and work to change their future.

Kitty Lopez, Executive Director of the Samaritan House Free Medical Center, thanked Council for past support and consideration of this request. She stated that the center serves the City with free medical services for people who have no other place to go and no health insurance. Diane Redmond, a resident of Redwood City, stated that the last two years she has been a patient of the center and suffers from diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol. She stated that in November, her mobile home burned down and she went to the center for assistance and without their help she would not be here today.

Judy Gaither, Executive Director of the Human Investment Project HIP Housing, thanked Council for the many years of support of the self sufficiency program and home sharing program. The self sufficiency provides the opportunity for family heads of households who are motivated to achieve self reliance to have housing through HIP Housing properties in Redwood City. They are provided with support services such as life skills workshops and case management that enables them to focus on goals and move forward toward self reliance and better their lives and the lives of their families.

M/S Ruskin/Ira to direct staff to incorporate the recommendations for the HFSA into the 03/04 budget at the 7% reduction level for consideration at a later date.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote by those present with Council Member Jordan absent.

MINUTE ORDER 03-164

C. Water and Sewer Funds

Public Works Services Director Ingram highlighted the budget changes for the two enterprise funds to prepare with basic information that will be included in the staff report for July 14 when recommendation for rate adjustments will be made. In reference to the sewer enterprise fund, he stated that there were three areas of change in the \$7.9M proposed budget. The total revenue demand increase needed will be 3.6% or \$340,000.00 with 50% of that being SBSA and the other 50% split among additional cost to the City in complying with NPDES, regulation that prevents pollutants going into the bay. Staff costs that primarily involve salaries, benefits and retirement medical costs comprise the remaining increases. The next adjustment recommendation is to be conveyed by the Utilities Committee at the July 14 budget study session.

He explained that the water enterprise fund budget is estimated at \$14M in the next fiscal year and the revenue demand to balance is a 12% increase, or \$1.5M. About 83% of that increase is driven by the wholesale price of water increasing by 25% beginning on July 1, with the remaining costs split among support to BAWUA and staff operational costs. One item to be proposed in the budget to be paid out of rate increases included in the capital side of the budget is a substantial account to being the toilet replacement program which rounds out the active conservation programs. The large landscape audit program will be continued. The rate change proposal will be explained on July 14.

Council to provide direction

8. MATTERS OF COUNCIL INTEREST

A. Legislation (information only) - This sub-section involves possible discussion of City Position on Proposed Legislation described in the League of California Cities Priority Focus Bulletin 24-2003. Council may direct staff to act on positions taken by Council. (Copies of League of California Cities Priority Focus available in City Clerk's Department.)

B. Council Member Ruskin – stated that an item was brought to his attention from the American Lung Association of California regarding clean fleets. He stated that he thought it a good recommendation, wherever possible, for the City to consider clean fleets to reduce pollution in the air. He stated that the proposal appears to be revenue neutral and that he hopes to bring it forward to the Council for consideration in the future.

9. ADJOURNMENT – 10:20 P.M.

M/S Ruskin/Hartnett to adjourn until the next City Council meeting of July 14, 2003.
The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia S. Howe, CMC
City Clerk