

MAYOR JEFF IRA
VICE MAYOR BARBARA PIERCE

MINUTES

1017 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD
REDWOOD CITY, CA

COUNCIL MEMBER IAN BAIN
COUNCIL MEMBER ROSANNE FOUST
COUNCIL MEMBER JIM HARTNETT
COUNCIL MEMBER DIANE HOWARD
COUNCIL MEMBER IRA RUSKIN

CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 24, 2003
7:00 P.M.

6:30 p.m. – a reception was held in the City Hall Foyer in honor of the graduating P.A.C.T. class.

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, PRCS Director/Assistant City Manager Centeno, City Clerk Howe, City Attorney Yamamoto, Assistant City Attorney Brower, Deputy City Clerk Conly, Administrative Secretary Dale, Administrative Clerk III Yoshida, Executive Assistant to the City Manager La Croix, Public Communications Manager Smith, Community Development Services Manager Patterson, Development Services Manager Passanisi, Police Chief Bolanos, Fire Chief Kohlmann, Volunteer Balsamo

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Richard Claire, Mayor

4. **INVOCATION** - Pastor Dennis Logie, Sequoia Christian Church

5. **SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY** – P.A.C.T. Graduation and Presentation of Certificates by Mayor Claire and Vice Mayor Ira.

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Rudy Luca congratulated the P.A.C.T. graduates and the newly elected Council Members. He cited statistics on voter turnout and stated that we must do more to get people out to vote. He commented to Mayor Claire regarding a newspaper article pertaining to, "people screaming at him". He stated his opinion that he was not given much time, was shut off, and promised he would be recognized, but was not. He asked a question regarding the use of "Council Member" on the ballot.

7. CITY COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZATION

A. Results of November 4, 2003 Consolidated General Municipal Election (307)

City Clerk Howe explained that the results of the election have been certified by the County Elections official. The election called for the election of four Council Members for a term of four years each and those successful candidates were Ira Ruskin, Barbara Pierce, Rosanne Foust and Ian Bain. There were two City measures on the ballot, Measure "F" relating to an increase in the Uniform Transient Occupancy Tax and Measure "G" relating to various Charter Amendments. A majority of voters voting on Measures "F" and "G" did vote in favor of both measures.

M/S Hartnett/Howard to:

1. Adopt a resolution declaring Canvass of Returns and Results of General Municipal Election held on November 4, 2003

RESOLUTION 14562 OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY, RECITING THE FACT OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2003 DECLARING THE RESULT AND SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS PROVIDED BY LAW

The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote by those present, with Council Member Jordan absent.

M/S Howard/Pierce to:

2. Introduce an ordinance amending Section 32.75 of the municipal code, providing for an increase in the Uniform Transient Occupancy Tax to ten percent (10%)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY AMENDING SECTION 32.75 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY, PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE UNIFORM TRANSIENT OCCUPANCY TAX FROM EIGHT PERCENT (8%) TO TEN PERCENT (10%)

The motion passed by a majority roll call vote with Council Member Hartnett abstaining due to past representation of a hotel that would be affected by the tax, and Council Member Jordan absent. **MINUTE ORDER 03-271**

M/S Ira/Howard to:

3. Direct the City Clerk to submit the amended ratified sections of the City Charter to the Secretary of State and file a copy with the County Recorder, pursuant to Government Code 34459, 34460 and Elections Code Section 9269

The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote by those present with Council Member Jordan absent. **MINUTE ORDER 03-272**

B. Recognition of Council Member Colleen M. Jordan and Mayor Richard S. Claire

Council Member Howard stated she was sorry to hear that Council Member Jordan would not be present and wished her a speedy recovery. She thanked City Council Member Jordan for using her energy as an individual and Council Member to ensure that Redwood Shores residents were represented. She stated that she was a staunch advocate for protecting open space and maintaining public access. She was an advocate of getting information to the people and having a better informed electorate. She stated that the Council had a gift for Council Member Jordan and would be sure she received it.

Council Member Hartnett seconded the comments and stated that whenever someone runs for City Council a big step is taken forward to make a substantial commitment to community service and each person should be applauded.

Council Member Hartnett made various comments regarding Mayor Claire, stating that along with the community service dedicated through the City, people may not realize the time and dedication he has devoted to education in the community. He has provided the opportunity to learn in a great environment and that extends beyond teaching, expanding to leading the faculty, and working with and prodding various administrations. The intense dedication to the public required serving over 21 years and still being sane, leaving such a track record of achievement is extraordinary. He stated that Mayor Claire's record of achievements and elections speaks for itself and that there is no better person in the community that has done what he has done, making him tremendously proud to have served with him and become his friend.

Council Member Ruskin seconded the comments and stated that Mayor Claire's commitment to serve 20 years in elected office is a monumental contribution to Redwood City. He thanked him for that, his personal friendship, for teaching and supporting him. He further stated that it has been a pleasure and privilege fighting

in the trenches together and rarely with each other. He stated that he has learned a great deal from Mayor Claire and admires him and the service he has given, thanking him sincerely and wholeheartedly.

Council Member Howard stated that Mayor Claire was one of the main reasons she got involved in City politics having known him for approximately 20 years, while on the HHCC and City Council. She stated that he had given her a solid foundation by providing information on the past that has given a solid foundation to make decisions on the future. She further stated that over the years they have agreed on many things and disagreed on some, but she always knew that he would base his decision on what was best for the community and is not impacted by special interests or political parties. She stated that Mayor Claire has shown true grit and is a real leader, while allowing the observance of interactions and love with his wife, children and grandchildren showing the compassion and gentle side. She presented, on behalf of the City Council, a thank you memento signifying how much they appreciated his savings of thousands of taxpayer dollars during his terms of office.

Council Member Pierce stated her appreciation of the time spent in understanding the right course of action and even when disagreeing, Mayor Claire challenged her to look for the best for the community. She thanked Mayor Claire and said it has been a real pleasure. On behalf of the City Council, she gave Mayor Claire an umbrella signed by various people in City Hall.

Vice Mayor Ira stated that he would truly be missed. He stated that when the flooding problems arose, Mayor Claire was there and his historical knowledge has proved invaluable. He further stated that for him, personally, having someone that understood finances was very much appreciated. He thanked Mayor Claire stating that he will miss him very much and presented a fossil heart to him along with other gems. Vice Mayor Ira read the proclamation and presented it to Mayor Claire.

Mayor Claire stated that there had been 20 Council Members that had left during his tenure. He thanked many people including Bob Bury, City Manager Everett, City Attorney Yamamoto, City Clerk Howe and Volunteer Art Balsamo. He asked that he go out as Mayor the same way he went in asking his family to gather around the Council dais for a photograph and expressing his thanks and appreciation. Mayor Claire left by requesting adjournment and leaving Vice Mayor Ira to chair the meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

- A. M/S Ruskin/Hartnett to adjourn sine die. **The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote by those present.**

9. INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS, CONDUCTED BY CITY CLERK

- A. Administration of Oath of Office, and presentation of Certificates of Election to newly elected Council Members;

Newly elected Council Members Ira Ruskin, Barbara Pierce, Rosanne Foust and Ian Bain were called individually to the podium to take the Oath of Office and receive the Certificate of Election. Each Council Member took a seat at the Council dais.

- B. Comments from newly installed Council Members

Council Member Ruskin stated he was very gratified to be back for a third term and thanked the people of Redwood City for the honor and the confidence placed in him to serve. He stated that he would provide the leadership necessary with his fellow Council Members and members of the community to meet the challenges. He pledged to continue to work as hard as he can to do the best for Redwood City. He not only thanked the voters but thanked the many people who worked on his campaign, and mostly his wife for her continual support and work on the campaign. He stated that he is honored to continue to work with the current Council Members and thankful for having worked with Dick Claire and Colleen Jordan.

Council Member Pierce stated that she is so thrilled and proud to be elected for another four years. She thanked the residents of Redwood City and stated that she understands the great confidence placed in her and she values the opportunity to work together to face the challenges ahead. She said it takes a small army of people and eight months of work to do it, thanking all who helped her in every way. She stated she believes Redwood City is a fabulous community filled with wonderful people and she will work very hard on their behalf. She stated her excitement in working with the Council.

Council Member Foust thanked her husband and daughters, thanking Dick Claire as starting the journey and serving as a mentor. She thanked the new and former Council Members and stated that she looks forward to working with the City Council. She further thanked the City staff for the assistance offered and available for the future. She thanked the community made up of those who live, work, own a business or have other ties to the community. She stated her plan to work very hard to show her appreciation and that she looks forward to working for and with the community.

Ian Bain thanked the voters who have humbled him with their support and faith that he can do this job. He thanked a core group of people instrumental in his election

success. He thanked his wife and stated that she spent countless hours on his campaign. He stated he is looking very much forward to working with the Council and that nobody accomplishes anything on his or her own. Although, each will have a different approach, he stated that common ground would be found in the best interests of Redwood City. He stated that Dick Claire has an energy and presence that cannot be replaced, but his stories would be missed most. He stated that although his interest in public service came, primarily, from his father, that he was very impacted by John F. Kennedy. He stated the power in the ability to inspire and make people believe that what some people might think impossible is possible. He acknowledged those candidates who ran in the election as running a clean and good race.

- C. Nominations and selection of Mayor for a two-year term, conducted by City Clerk; (Nominations do not require a second.)

M/S Hartnett/Ruskin nominating current Vice Mayor Ira for Mayor stating that he is the right person for the job at this time when we are facing tremendous financial challenges in this city in this county and throughout the state. The City has been fortunate to have his fiscal and financial leadership during his service. He further stated that his leadership ability will serve the City well in the next two years. He is a person of great integrity, sincerity, empathy for the public and sensitivity to the interests of the public.

Council Member Ruskin seconded the motion to choose Vice Mayor Ira as Mayor. He stated that last year he seconded the motion for Vice Mayor Ira, mentioning that he would make an excellent next Mayor. He further stated that Vice Mayor has all the qualities one could ask for of a public servant, being bright, caring about the people and willing to do what is right and best. He stated he knows Vice Mayor Ira will make a superb Mayor and he will be honored to serve with him as our Mayor.

The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

MINUTE ORDER 03-294

10. CALL TO ORDER BY THE NEWLY SELECTED MAYOR

- A. Nominations and selection of Vice Mayor for a two-year term, conducted by the Mayor;

M/S Howard/Foust nominating Council Member Pierce as Vice Mayor for the next two years. Council Member Howard stated that during her term of office, she has demonstrated teambuilding and collaboration. In addition, she has demonstrated incredible leadership skills spanning from neighborhood concerns, child care needs and school district partnering for children's needs.

Council Member Foust seconded the nomination of Council Member Pierce stating that she is an incredible addition to the Council and the community with heart, integrity and that she cares. She stated her pride in seconding the nomination.

The motion passed by a unanimous roll call vote.

MINUTE ORDER 03-295

B. Comments by Council Members, newly selected Vice Mayor, and Mayor;

Council Member Hartnett stated that the newly elected colleagues are a welcome addition to the Council. He stated that there were over 8,000 citizens who voted in the election and if taken the number of votes of each, the percentage is sometimes different than calculated in the press. After reporting the percentages, he stated that it represented a very strong vote for all four of the elected Council Members. He stated his belief that the positive campaigns were well received, the public will be well served and it is with pride that he will serve with his colleagues.

Council Member Howard seconded the comments and stated that the voters have sent a message confirming the direction Redwood City is going. She expressed her excitement about the dynamics and make-up of the Council stating that the group will be committed to the betterment of the City and its positive future.

Vice Mayor Pierce thanked the Council for the honor of being voted Vice Mayor. She stated that there are challenges ahead and that within major challenges come great opportunities. She stated that the qualities she believes this Council brings are that of vision, determination, optimism and awareness of individual responsibilities. She further stated that government cannot achieve, alone, what we need done, so it is up to each one of us to participate and get involved. Vice Mayor Pierce thanked everyone for the opportunity.

Mayor Ira thanked his colleagues for the honor and confidence in him. He thanked his wife, children, parents, sister and her family, stating that it is what causes him to make difficult decisions. He stated that he thinks of seniors, because of his parents; how it will affect his children and with the long tradition of family in Redwood City, how it will affect his children's children. He stated that often times it is easy to make the decisions because they are based on what is important to him, the values of family, and his principles. He stated that although the financial times are difficult, we are also in some very exciting times with the downtown renaissance having begun. There will be some difficult times, financially, but he stated that he has confidence that the Council will make tough decisions, if necessary, keeping the best interests of Redwood City at heart. Mayor Ira thanked City staff stating that they care about Redwood City and he is honored to serve as Mayor.

C. Public Comment - None

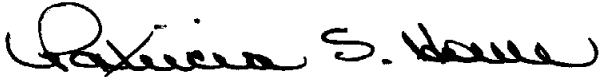
11. ADJOURNMENT – 8:50 p.m.

M/S Hartnett/Howard to adjourn in memory of Council Member Foust's father, Jack Skibo, who recently passed away. Mr. Skibo was a hard worker and supported his family, his grandchildren and son-in-law, Joe. He stated that the legacy of Jack Skibo as a basketball point guard is carried out in Rosanne Foust. A point guard must take charge, drive through the lane, know when to go to the basket and know when to dish off for an assist. Above all, a point guard must have heart, be tough and be bigger than that person is on his own. In passing on values to Rosanne and her siblings, he stated that the Council will see her father's legacy play out.

Adjournment to a reception in honor of newly elected Council Members and outgoing Council Members and until the next City Council meeting of December 1, 2003. **The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

A reception for the newly elected Council Members Ian Bain, Rosanne Foust, Barbara Pierce, and Ira Ruskin, and outgoing Mayor Richard Claire and Council Member Colleen Jordan was held in the City Hall foyer at 8:50 p.m. at the close of the Regular City Council Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia S. Howe, CMC
City Clerk