

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

August 27, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IN HONOR OF THE US MILITARY TROOPS

The City Council Meeting was held in the Pinole Council Chambers, 2131 Pear Street, Pinole, California. Mayor Murray called the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order 5:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL, CITY CLERK'S REPORT & STATEMENT OF CONFLICT

A. COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT

Peter Murray, Mayor
Roy Swearingen, Mayor Pro Tem
Norma Martinez-Rubin, Councilmember
Vincent Salimi, Councilmember
Anthony Tave, Councilmember

B. STAFF PRESENT

Michelle Fitzer, City Manager
Hector De La Rosa, Assistant City Manager
Heather Iopu, City Clerk
Eric Casher, City Attorney
Scott Kouns, Fire Chief
Tamara Miller, Development Services Director/City Engineer

City Clerk Iopu announced the agenda was posted on August 22nd at 4:00 p.m. then amended and posted on August 23rd at 1:00 p.m.. All legally required notice was provided.

City Clerk Iopu announced that additional materials pertaining to Agenda Item 5A on the agenda were provided at the dais for the Council and copies were placed at the rear of the Chamber for the public.

Following an inquiry to the Council, the Council reported there were no conflicts with any items on the agenda.

3. CONVENE TO A CLOSED SESSION

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT

Pursuant to Gov. Code § 54957

Title: City Manager

The City Council convened into closed session at 5:06 p.m.

4. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION TO ANNOUNCE RESULTS OF CLOSED SESSION

At 6:08 Mayor Murray reconvened the meeting and City Attorney Casher announced that there was no reportable action.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Fire Study & Potential Ballot Measure Timing [Action: Discuss & Provide Direction (Fitzer)]

City Manager Fitzer introduced the item.

Councilmember Salimi presented a report he created regarding his opinion of the timeline of the fire study and potential ballot measure. Expressed concerns regarding not having sufficient time to move forward with a ballot measure in March 2020.

City Manager Fitzer provided information in response to Council member Salimi's report.

Council members asked questions of Council member Salimi regarding his report.

Council member Salimi responded to questions.

Discussion by Council members and staff regarding the existing timeline for the current Fire Study and proposing a ballot measure for the March 2020 Primary Election. Discussion of the possibility to wait for the November 2020 election

The following speakers addressed the City Council:

Thelma McPherson, resident of Pinole, stated that more code enforcement and weed abatement would help with fire hazards and expressed opposition to an increase in any additional tax.

Rafael Menis, resident of Pinole, spoke regarding Council member Salimi's report. Stated that the tax being proposed by the CCTA will clearly be different than the one from the City. Made comments regarding funding of fire study and asked whether other types of taxes are being considered other than a parcel tax. Asked that the public have the opportunity to give input on the draft study.

Ivette Ricco, resident of Pinole, expressed that fire safety is of great concern to the community. Asked whether the City has the information it needs in order to be successful in regards to a ballot measure.

Sandy McNeel, resident of Pinole, spoke regarding the importance of public education efforts for a fire study and expressed concerns regarding the first community fire study workshop.

Chris Wimmer, resident of Pinole, spoke that he has lived here 60 years, spoke regarding the importance of having a fire station in Pinole Valley. Expressed not wanting to rush the ballot measure question so that it has a better chance for success.

Debbie Long, resident of Pinole, stated that there is not enough time to put the ballot measure forward in March 2020 and expressed that the public hasn't been given enough information it

needs in order to make the decision. Encouraged the Council to wait until the November 2020 election.

Vincent Wells, spoke regarding the timing of the ballot measure. Asked for clarification regarding what the next steps will be at the conclusion of this meeting. Made comments regarding the process and asked that the City slow down in order to get more community support.

Bob Kopp, resident of Pinole, spoke regarding the need to provide more information from the public. Agreed with Council member Salimi's proposal to extend the ballot measure timeline.

Allen Dorsey, spoke regarding the community and importance of educating the public ahead of placing a measure on the ballot. Encouraged the Council to increase community outreach in order to gather more information and make the best decision.

Council members asked questions and made comments.

Staff responded to comments and questions of Council members.

ACTION: Motion by Councilmembers Salimi/Tave to Move the Fire Ballot Measure Question from the March 2020 Election to the November 2020 Election, Provided That All Scheduled Steps Have Been Completed and the City Has Sufficient Information.

Vote:	Passed	4-1
	Ayes:	Murray, Swearingen, Tave, Salimi
	Noes:	Martinez-Rubin
	Abstain:	None
	Absent:	None

6. **ADJOURNMENT** to the Regular City Council Meeting of September 3, 2019 In Remembrance of Amber Swartz.

At 8:13 p.m. p.m., Mayor Murray adjourned to the City Council Meeting of September 3, 2019 In Remembrance of Amber Swartz.

Submitted by:



Heather Tava, CMC
City Clerk

Approved by City Council: Approved September 17, 2019