

**MINUTES OF
SPECIAL
CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
34009 ALVARADO NILES ROAD**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Green called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

I.a Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Green led the salute to the flag.

I.b Roll Call

Present: Councilmembers Dutra-Vernaci, Fernandez, Navarro, Vice Mayor Valle,
Mayor Green

Absent: None

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

III. PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS - None

IV. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Alice Arce, former Union City Councilmember from 1989 to 1997, expressed concern about dwindling reserves and contingency funds, and offered numerous economizing suggestions.

Myrla Ramundo announced the publishing of her book, *Union City Historical Museum*.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR - None

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

VII. CITY MANAGER REPORTS

7.a Alameda County Fire Department Fire Service Contract.

Consider whether or not to approve contract with Alameda County Fire Department for provision of fire services to Union City

City Manager Cheeves provided introductions, background information, and an overview of the process to date in exploring the possibility of a contract for fire services with the Alameda County Fire Department. City Manager Cheeves reviewed the key elements of the proposed contract for fire/emergency services.

Fire Chief Rodriguez provided an overview of the operational issues involved with the proposed contract including Administration, Suppression, 911 Communications, EMS, Training, Fire Prevention, Emergency Preparedness, and the re-assignment of CUPA from the city's Fire department to its Economic and Community Development department.

Administrative Services Director Digre provided updated cost comparison information.

City Manager Cheeves acknowledged the potential operational benefits of a regional fire response, but noted those operational benefits would be offset by the costly impact on the General Fund budget given the current unstable economic and recessionary period.

Staff responded to questions from Councilmembers. Alameda County Fire Chief Gilbert responded to questions from Councilmembers.

Alameda County Fire Chief Gilbert offered recommendations regarding potential equipment and personnel savings to offset fiscal impacts of a merger. A discussion occurred between Mayor Green and Chief Gilbert on the merits of some of the positions or options in the scope of work. Chief Gilbert offered to cover certain duties with current county staff and thereby reduce the cost of the contract by those positions he spoke about (deputy fire marshal and emergency preparedness manager). Further discussion occurred between Council as to the merits of Chief Gilbert's suggestions regarding a reduction in staff. City Manager Cheeves clarified fiscal and personnel parameters within which the City must operate with regard to any revenue earned or personnel savings that might be realized from Chief Gilbert's proposed suggestions. City Manager Cheeves objected to the potential reductions of the deputy fire marshal and emergency preparedness manager based upon the need for the City to have someone at the front counter as well as the importance of maintaining an emergency preparedness plan. Two additional issues discussed related to mechanic service on fire apparatus equipment and the disposition of a tiller truck. Chief Gilbert estimated he could provide apparatus maintenance with his current staff, and would be willing to absorb what might be an excess mechanic due to the removal of the fire department fleet maintenance from Public Works. Chief Gilbert stated the County may be interested in acquiring the tiller truck with an estimated value of \$900,000. Chief Gilbert also stated \$200,000 in potential savings could be realized as the result of ongoing bargaining unit negotiations for concessions.

Dublin City Council member Kevin Hart and San Leandro City Council member Michael Gregory provided supportive comments of, and recommendations for, the Alameda County Fire Department.

Alameda County Supervisor Haggerty expressed his pride in the Alameda County Fire Department and support for the proposed merger.

Mayor Green recessed the special meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Mayor Green reconvened the special meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Alice Arce recommended selling the Union City Sports Center and Kennedy Park to generate revenue to pay for public safety services.

The following individuals spoke in support of the merger:

Robert Guerrero
Carlos Olivarez
Mattie Rousseau
Jason Cartee
Fins Killian-Barnes
Harvey Thomas
Naomi Aylesworth
Barry Ferrier
Joe Angeles
Lynda Schwabe
Ronnie Oatis
Reverend Jerome Brown
Tony Hayworth
Newark City Councilmember Ana Apodaca

The following individuals expressed opposition to the merger:

Paul Hammond, Union City Professional Employees Group
Brian Foley, Union City Police Managers Association
Mike Ward, President of the Union City Police Officers Association
Sheryl Arroyo-Glausch
Union City Police Chief Greg Stewart
Gene Troxell
Mark Evanoff, Union City Mid-Managers Group
Paul Roman, President of SEIU Local 1021
Millie Cleveland, SEIU Local 1021 Bargaining Representative
Virginia Cummins
Elizabeth Ames
Lorin Ellis
Steve Sprotte

Councilmembers provided comment.

It was moved by Mayor Green, seconded by Councilmember Valle, to:

- approve the ACFD Contract for Fire Service as written, with all options
- direct staff to surplus the tiller truck per City policy and have it go out to bid for potential purchase by Alameda County or other interested parties
- have staff and the County engage in discussions regarding the potential for the County to perform maintenance work on fire apparatus equipment
- adopt **Resolution No. 3977-10** authorizing the Mayor to sign a Five-Year Agreement between the Alameda County Fire Department and the City of Union City to Provide Fire and Emergency Response Services.

Ayes: Councilmember Navarro, Vice Mayor Valle, Mayor Green
Noes: Councilmembers Dutra-Vernaci and Fernandez
Absent: None
Abstain: None

VIII. REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY - None

- IX. AUTHORITIES AND AGENCIES - None**
- X. CITY COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS - None**
- XI. SECOND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None**
- XII. SCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATION - None**
- XIII. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL - None**
- XIV. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Councilmember Navarro stated the Chapel of the Chimes wished to invite everyone to attend a Memorial Day celebration.

Vice Mayor Valle announced a New Haven Schools Foundation scholarship luncheon scheduled for Friday, April 23, at the Crown Plaza.

Mayor Green stated the Boosters Club at Logan High was putting together a program to recognize its coaches during the 2011/2012 season.

- XV. CLOSED SESSION - None**

- XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Green adjourned the special meeting at 10:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Elliott
City Clerk