MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF HAYWARD
City Council Chambers
777 B Street, Hayward, CA 94541
Tuesday, December 5, 2006, 8:00 p.m.

MEETING

The Meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Sweeney at 8:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council Member Dowling.

ROLL CALL

Present: COUNCIL MEMBERS Rodriquez, Quirk, Halliday, Ward, Dowling, Henson
MAYOR Sweeney
Absent: COUNCIL MEMBERS None

PRESENTATION

Business Recognition Award

The December 2006 Business Recognition Award was presented to Circuit City Stores. The Hayward Circuit City Store originally opened in November of 1987 and relocated in March 2005 to open a Superstore at 2480 Whipple Road in Hayward. They employ 51 full and part time associates and 90% are Hayward residents. This award was presented to Circuit City for the many contributions made by being a positive retail presence for Hayward residents, providing jobs to Hayward residents, and contributing to the economic well being of the City. Mr. Robert Collado, Store Manager, and Susan Azim, Operations Manager, accepted the award and thanked Council for this honor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests to speak.

CONSENT

1. Approval of Minutes of the City Council Meeting of November 28, 2006

It was moved by Council Member Henson, seconded by Council Member Ward, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of the City Council Meeting of November 28, 2006.

2. Benefit District 411-06 – Saklan Road Unincorporated Island Water, Sewer, and Storm Drain Benefit District – Initiate Proceedings, and Appoint the Engineer of Work for the Formation of the Benefit District

Staff report submitted by Development Review Service Engineer Anastas, dated December 5, 2006, was filed.

It was moved by Council Member Henson, seconded by Council Member Ward, and unanimously carried to adopt the following:

> Resolution 06-145, "Resolution Initiating Proceedings for the Formation of Benefit District 411-06, Saklan Road Unincorporated Island Water, Sewer and Storm Drain Benefit District, for the Purpose of Providing Reimbursement to the Installers of Public Improvements Benefiting the Saklan Island Area and Directing Preparation of an Engineer's Report"

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

3. Consideration of the Alameda County-Wide Homeless and Special Needs Housing Plan

> Staff report submitted by Acting Neighborhood and Economic Development Manager Korth, dated December 5, 2006, was filed.

Community and Economic Development Director Daluddung made the report, noting the City's efforts towards providing for those with needs made locally. On the regional level, she introduced Linda Gardner, Housing Director with Alameda County, who made a presentation on the current implementation plan. She responded to Council questions, including the meaning of the phrase, "no wrong door," which means that care providers will be trained to know where and what can be offered to those in need such as housing, medical services and counseling. She discussed the data collected to support the goals of this implementation plan. Council thanked staff and Ms. Gardner for the information presented.

Community Economic and Development Director Daluddung summarized that Hayward has taken steps to address social service needs in this community, enumerating various allocations of funds towards emergency shelter and support programs. She urged recommendation of the Alameda County-wide Homeless and Special Needs Housing Plan via a resolution and partner with other cities to address this issue that goes beyond jurisdictional boundaries.

Council Member Henson discussed his agreement with the "no wrong door" policy that allows those in need to determine where to obtain needed services. He also agreed with the green building concept. He commented on his recent experience in walking along Mission Boulevard and meeting with veterans with special needs.

Linda Gardner reported that veteran needs will be addressed in this plan.

Council Member Halliday commented on the need for the military to respond to needs of our veterans. She discussed homeless encampments and their impacts to neighborhoods. She commended those who prepared the plan and felt that it was very comprehensive to addressing homelessness.

Council Member Dowling thanked all involved in developing this plan and asked if other counties are involved in this type of project. He commented that this is a significant first step to addressing the homeless situation in particular in our downtown. He emphasized the need to coordinate with other non-profits to find resources for housing for our homeless.

Council Member Quirk thanked Ms. Gardner for her presentation. He asked if this Plan would change anything that is already set by the City, noting the City's inclusionary ordinance that was adopted to address low income housing needs.

Ms. Gardner mentioned that some counties have developed 10-year plans to eliminate homelessness. She stated that some shelters would still be needed to respond to domestic violence cases.

City Manager Armas agreed with Council that it is essential to review and evaluate social and community services to determine what is working well in Hayward.

Mayor Sweeney opened the public hearing at 8:57 p.m.

Nancy Schluntz, Executive Director of FESCO, asked for endorsement of this plan in the implementation of a long-term solution, noting that homelessness is a regional issue, not limited by boundaries. She commended Council for its efforts towards adopting this plan.

Louis Chicoine, representing Tri Cities Homeless Coalition, noted that about 25% of the Coalition's clients are from Hayward. He discussed barriers to housing for the homeless. He encouraged Council Members to review the projects as they are presented to consider assistance for transitional housing for those leaving foster care when they reach adult age. He described transitional housing objectives.

Duncan Buchanon, representing FESCO, spoke in support of the program to benefit the homeless.

Gwen Butler spoke on behalf of CRIL's Disability Action Network in support of the Plan to assist the homeless.

Mayor Sweeney closed the public hearing at 9:07 p.m.

Council Members further discussed the "low barrier" housing but urged better oversight so that problems do not impact the neighborhood. They felt that there needs to be more money to fund these types of projects. Rules and standards are necessary and must be maintained even though the "low barrier housing" is a good effort so that neighborhoods are not impacted by those who may have problems with alcohol and drugs. They hoped that this would be a priority in all cities of this County.

Council Member Rodriquez spoke on her past experience living in a tent with her family. She emphasized that life was difficult but folks strived to provide for their families. We are now dealing with the disabled, the mentally disabled, and the problems of our veterans. In this day and age living in homelessness is more difficult than in past years.

It was moved by Council Member Dowling, seconded by Council Member Ward, and unanimously carried to adopt the following:

> Resolution 06-146, "Resolution Adopting the Alameda County-Wide Homeless and Special Needs Housing Plan"

City Manager Armas stated that in light of this approval, a work session will be scheduled in early spring to discuss this issue more specifically to Hayward.

COUNCIL REPORTS

There were no Council Reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Sweeney adjourned the meeting at 9:24 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Michael Sweeney, Mayor, City of Hayward

ATTEST:

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Angelina Reyes, City Clerk, City of Hayward