

**PINOLE CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 29, 2013**

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

The Special Pinole City Council meeting was held in the Pinole Council Chambers, 2131 Pear Street, Pinole, California. Mayor Long called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Phil Green, Council Member Peter  
Murray, Council Member Roy  
Swearingen, Council Member  
Tim Banuelos, Mayor Pro Tern  
Debbie Long, Mayor

**WCCUSD BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Randall Enos, Board Member  
Groves, Todd, Board Member  
Merriweather, Elaine, Board Member  
Ramsey, Charles, Clerk  
Kronenberg, Madeline, President

**B. STAFF PRESENT**

Belinda Espinosa, City Manager  
Stephanie Downs, Assistant City Attorney  
Hector De La Rosa, Interim Assistant City Clerk  
Jill B. Deane, City Clerk

an inquiry by the City Clerk, no conflicts were reported on any items on the Agenda. She advised the Council of presentation materials for Items 6A on the dais and at the rear of the Chamber for the public.

**3. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (Public Comments)**

The following speakers addressed the City Council: No speakers addressed the City Council.

**Ivette Ricco**, Pinole citizen, discussed false statements about her opposition to several development proposals in the Old Town, which were made at a prior Council meeting and in a newspaper article in the West County Times. She said in the ten years as the Chamber Executive Director and as the Chamber President she never spoke in opposition to the Hirahara



**Cindy Trego**, Pinole citizen, thanked the Council and the District for the cameras. She requested the development of written guidelines on reporting procedures, and asked who was responsible for reporting incidents to the parents the mode of reporting and the lack of tracking. She suggested this topic needs attention at the State level.

Mayor Long suggested Ms. Trego agendize this on the WCCUSD School Safety agenda.

Board Member Ramsey asked Mr. Fay to address the preservation of the bell at Collins elementary and also communicate with



## 2. Confirmation on City of Pinole Soccer Field Contribution

City Manager Espinosa confirmed that the City was committed to the \$500,000 contribution originally promised from the Redevelopment Agency, which will be funded from the approved ROPS.

## 3. Plans and Schedule for Pinole Elementary Schools

Mr. Holtslander discussed smaller capital projects; the new fire alarm system at Collins was completed and plans are moving forward for a new alarm system at Shannon. Plans are underway for a needs assessment at Shannon and a recommendation will follow for retention of an architectural firm. Roof work is being completed at Ellerhorst, where there have been delays due to weather. Upgrades at Stewart are complete and a marquee sign should be installed in summer. The total cost allocated or spent in Pinole schools is just over \$281 million.

Mr. Holtslander responded to questions from Council regarding details on several of the project, including a status on renovations at Collins and Shannon. He said that renovations were starting on Shannon now and Collins would be master planned by the end of 2013 or the beginning of 2014.

## 4. Academic Performance Standards and Expectations

**Katy Von Husen**, Coordinator of Educational Services addressed the academic successes in Pinole schools. She explained the API / Academic Performance Indicators, stating that the average growth since 2009 was over 30 points. All elementary schools scored over 700 and two of the four elementary are over 800, with Collins at 799. The college and career academies are the crowning achievement at Pinole Valley High. The report included statistical information on academic achievements in all schools.

Mayor Long said years ago Pinole was the school everyone wanted to attend, based on test scores, and throughout the years the scores have plummeted. She asked what was done at De Anza to raise the scores while Pinole's declined. She asked that the data be tracked so that quick responses and adjustments could be made.

Dr. Harter responded to Mayor Long's comments.

**Al Kirkman**, Pinole citizen, addressed the Boards, stating that security was the number one priority, and cited the need for more volunteers and staff on the



Pinole contracts for fire administrative services through the end of this FY 2012/13. The Rodeo-Hercules proposals outlined in the exhibit materials included, but were not I

Chief Hanley responded stating the Veteran hiring is a priority for the District, and they are looking at the Veterans Hiring model and applying for a grant to reopen a Rodeo-Hercules station. [REDACTED] requested assistance from Thompson's office and local businesses to contact their legislators to request consideration for the grant.

Mayor Long asked if the City assigned their grant, could it be conditioned upon Veteran's hiring.

Belinda said the City would be responsible; and R-H would be administering the grant, unless the City chose to contract for services, then the grant would be transferred to Rodeo-Hercules.

Mayor Long noted there were benefits to Rodeo-Hercules also, if Station 74 was reopened and asked the Chief if there were any discussions about sharing costs, such as recruitment.

Chief Hanley said they are very successful with their electronic recruitments, stating that the cost the City noted could be reduced.

Mayor Long also identified issues related to OPES costs and the Tara Hills agreement. She said a pre-requisite to contracting, would be for the City Finance Director to examine the District's books. Mayor Long asked whether the District had discussed annexation.

Chief Hanley said Rodeo-Hercules District was open to whatever the City preferred with respect to the Tara Hills contract with Con Fire. Chief Hanley said examination of the books had been discussed in generalities. The District had discussed the possibility of a Joint Powers Authority and then could look at discussions of annexation. He said LAFCO supports removing artificial boundaries.

The following speakers addressed the Council:

**Charles Hammack**, Pinole citizen, appreciated the Council's continuance to perform due diligence and advocated support for reopening Station 74 on a full time basis. He said the

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