

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Special Meeting
6:00 P.M.

December 18, 2012
Council Chambers

Mayor Harper called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M., and welcomed newly elected City Clerk Simonsen. City Clerk Simonsen called the roll.

Present: Council Members Wilson, Rocha, Agopian and Mayor Harper

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Rocha led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Harper announced a vigil would be held for the Sandy Hook Elementary School victims of Newtown, Connecticut at 5:30 P.M. on December 19, 2012. He led the Council and audience in a moment of silence.

City Attorney Nerland presented the staff reports dated December 13, 2012, recommending the City Council Action: 1) Adopt a resolution appointing a person to fill the City Council vacancy or take other action as appropriate; or 2) Adopt a resolution calling for a special election for the position of City Council Member on June 4, 2013. She reviewed the options available for the Council to consider for the selection process this evening.

Following discussion, the Council agreed to the following process:

- Three minute presentations by each applicant, random draw
- Hear public comment
- Each Councilmember selects applicants to advance
- Vote on those applicants to advance to the next round
- Question and answer round – (optional)

PRESENTATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL APPLICANTS

Presentations of the City Council applicants were drawn at random in the following order:

1. Jonathan M. Hernandez
2. Donald Freitas
3. Tony Tiscareno
4. Debra Vinson
5. Vincent Gregory Manuel
6. Sean Wright
7. James Davis
8. Robert A. Miller
9. Manuel "Manny" Louis Soliz, Jr.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Harper read written comment from Antioch resident, Martin Fernandez, in support of Don Freitas or Jim Davis being appointed to the vacant seat on the City Council.

Jim Conley, Antioch resident, spoke in support of Don Freitas being appointed the vacant seat on the City Council.

Ralph Hernandez, Antioch resident representing the Citizens for Democracy, spoke in support of Manuel Vincent or Tony Tiscareno being appointed to the vacant seat on the City Council.

Charles Richard and Angel Luevano, Antioch residents, spoke in support of Tony Tiscareno being appointed to the vacant seat on the City Council.

Fred Hoskins, Antioch resident, spoke in support of Debra Vinson being appointed to the vacant seat on the City Council.

Sherry Starks, Julie and Megan Young, Antioch residents, spoke in support of former Mayor Davis being appointed to serve for the remaining two years of the vacant term since he received the next highest vote count. Julie Young also stated she had a petition signed by 50 people who supported this position.

Willie Mims, Black Political Association and the NAACP, voiced his support for the decision to be made by the Council this evening and he encouraged them to follow the process they had agreed upon. He questioned why there was an option on the agenda to adopt a resolution calling for a Special Election since that was not the direction of the Council when this item was previously discussed.

City Attorney Nerland clarified if the Council could not reach a majority agreement, then the item would call for a Special Election.

Kenneth Gardner, representing Deer Valley High School on behalf of the administrative staff, teachers, and students, thanked the Antioch Fire and Police Departments for their professionalism.

The Council selected two candidates to advance in the process. Those not selected would be eliminated.

- Councilmember Wilson: Donald Freitas and Tony Tiscareno
- Councilmember Agopian: James Davis and Donald Freitas
- Councilmember Rocha: Tony Tiscareno and Donald Freitas
- Mayor Harper: Vincent Manuel and Tony Tiscareno

Applicants, Donald Freitas, Tony Tiscareno, James Davis, and Vincent Manuel advanced. Council consensus was to vote on these candidates and those receiving three or more votes advance.

- James Davis – Agopian (eliminated)
- Donald Freitas – Rocha, Wilson, Agopian (advanced)
- Vincent Manuel - Harper (eliminated)
- Tony Tiscareno – Harper, Rocha, Wilson (advanced)

2. FILLING THE CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

Speaking to the following motion, Councilmember Agopian discussed Donald Freitas' vast experience and requested the City Council reconsider and appoint him to fill the Council vacancy.

RESOLUTION NO. 2012/75

On motion by Councilmember Rocha, seconded by Mayor Harper, the Council adopted the resolution appointing Tony Tiscareno to fill the City Council vacancy. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Wilson, Rocha, and Mayor Harper

Noes: Agopian

Mayor Harper thanked everyone who participated and submitted applications. He encouraged everyone to stay involved and continue to serve the community.

Councilmember Agopian amended his vote; the motion was unanimous to adopt the resolution appointing Tony Tiscareno to fill the City Council vacancy.

The Oath of Office was administered to Tony Tiscareno by City Clerk Simonsen.

Mayor Harper declared a recess at 7:28 P.M. The meeting reconvened at 7:42 P.M. and City Clerk Simonsen called the roll.

Present: Council Members Wilson, Rocha, Tiscareno, Agopian and Mayor Harper

Mayor Harper welcomed Councilmember Tiscareno to the City Council.

Councilmember Tiscareno thanked his supporters, friends, and family. He stated he looked forward to working with Council toward positive changes for Antioch. He introduced his family in attendance this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brittney Gougeon, representing Take Back Antioch, updated the community on the rebuilding City Park fundraiser project. She announced a press conference would be held at 10:00 A.M. at City Park on December 21, 2012.

Fred Hoskins, Antioch resident, requested the City file an appeal to the State of California for the Hard House property and provided Council with documentation regarding the property.

Willie Mims, representing East County NAACP and the Black Political Association, congratulated Councilmember Tiscareno on his appointment to the City Council. He wished everyone good luck in 2013. He questioned why the Council had not asked questions of final candidates for the City Council vacancy.

Mayor Harper clarified, the question and answer round was only an option available to Council.

Angel Luevano, Antioch resident, welcomed Councilmember Tiscareno, wished the entire Council good luck, and offered his support.

3. COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 4, 2012

Councilmember Tiscareno reported he had read the agenda, reviewed the minutes, and was prepared to vote on agenda items this evening.

On motion by Councilmember Rocha, seconded by Councilmember Agopian, the Council unanimously approved the Council Consent Calendar with the exception of Item B, which was pulled.

B. REQUEST FOR TRAINING AND TRAVEL – LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES CONFERENCE – NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS ACADEMY

On motion by Councilmember Rocha, seconded by Councilmember Agopian, the Council approved travel for Councilmember Wilson. The motion carried the following vote:

Ayes: Wilson, Rocha, Agopian, and Mayor Harper

Abstain: Tiscareno

4. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

- Budget – Mayor Harper and Councilmember Agopian
- CDBG – Councilmember Wilson and Councilmember Tiscareno
- East County Library Board – Councilmember Tiscareno
- Graffiti Subcommittee – Councilmember Tiscareno
- ICLEI – Councilmember Tiscareno
- Lone Tree Golf Course – Mayor Harper and Councilmember Tiscareno
- Sycamore Subcommittee (*New*) – Mayor Harper and Councilmember Wilson

Mayor Harper stated it was his intent the Sycamore Subcommittee would be an adhoc committee to meet with the community to address crime.

Councilmember Tiscareno agreed that the Sycamore area is a major concern and a safety committee is important for the area. He stated he would be willing to participate to improve the quality of life for residents in the area.

Councilmember Agopian suggested starting with the Sycamore area and then expanding beyond the area to address crime in general, in Antioch. He also suggested changing the name to the crime committee or something similar.

Councilmember Rocha stated she supports Councilmember Agopian suggestion to change the name.

City Manager Jakel stated the committee would begin as an adhoc committee focused on Sycamore Public Safety with the first step to define tasks. He noted best practices could be developed to be replicated in other parts of the City.

Mayor Harper welcomed all recommendations.

On motion by Councilmember Rocha, seconded by Councilmember Wilson, the City Council unanimously approved the appointments to Committee Assignments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Jakel announced the City Council would be meeting on Thursday, December 27, 2012, at 6:00 P.M. with Closed Session, immediately following. The next Regular City Council Meeting would be January 8, 2013. He reported an appeal related to the Hard House and other parcels had already been made with the State and the Friends of the Roswell Butler Hard House are aware of that appeal.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilmember Wilson stated she was happy to be a full Council that would work hard and be successful.

Councilmember Rocha welcomed Councilmember Tiscareno and stated she was pleased Councilmember Agopian and Councilmember Wilson were serving on the AUSD/City Council Subcommittee. She stated she hoped youth programs developed through the partnership with the School District.

Councilmember Tiscareno stated he looks forward to working with the City Council to make a better Antioch and thanked the City Council for the appointment.

Councilmember Agopian stated he felt the Council could work together in a professional manner to address the needs of the community. He welcomed Councilmember Tiscareno and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mayor Harper reminded the community a vigil would be held at 5:30 P.M. on December 19, 2012, at The Commons at Dallas Ranch in remembrance of the Sandy Hook victims. He announced his

current office hours at City Hall were Tuesday – Thursday, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. In addition, he noted residents could contact him by telephone and email.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mayor Harper adjourned the meeting at 8:14 P.M. to the next Council Special Meeting on December 27, 2012.

Respectfully submitted:

Kitty Eiden

KITTY EIDEN, Minutes Clerk