

NOTE: These minutes are subject to Council approval and are not verbatim; however, tapes are available for public review.

MINUTES OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL
IN SPECIAL SESSION, 1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE
MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2008

8:00 p.m.

Mayor Lieber, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, called the special meeting of the Albany City Council to order on the above date.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Atkinson, Javandel, Okawachi, Wile & Mayor Lieber
Absent: None

STAFF PRESENT

Beth Pollard, City Administrator; Ann Chaney, Community Development Director; Jeff Bond, Planning Manager.

2. WORK SESSION

Staff presentation on the Preparation of an Update to the Housing Element portion of the City's General Plan including discussion of associated Housing Policies.

The Planning Manager reported that State law mandates that all local governments prepare and maintain policies to address the State's housing needs. From the City's perspective, one of the most significant components of State policy is the requirement that the City adopts and maintains a Housing Element as a chapter of its General Plan. The Housing Element specifies policies necessary to attain the City's allocation of housing.

The City's current Housing Element was approved in 1992, as part of the comprehensive update to the City's General Plan. Since that time, draft updates have been prepared by the City and reviewed by the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). The recent updates, however, have not been formally adopted by the City nor approved HCD.

In 1999, the City's share of the allocation was 277 units of housing, of which 174 units were required to meet affordability thresholds. For 2007, the City's share of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation is 276 housing units, of which 159 units would be required to meet

affordability thresholds.

The Planning Manager noted that the Housing Element must include four main elements: 1) Review of the previous Housing Element. 2) Assessment of housing needs. 3) Inventory of Potential Sites for housing development. 4) Analysis of City regulatory framework related to developing housing.

The City must complete the preparation of the new housing element by June 30, 2009. The approval process includes compliance with California Environmental Quality Act requirements and review of a draft Housing Element will be a major work effort for the City in 2008 and 2009.

3. ADJOURNMENT

9:15 p.m. – There being no further discussion it was moved and seconded to adjourn the special meeting.

Minutes submitted by Jacqueline L. Bucholz, CMC, City Clerk.

ROBERT S. LIEBER
MAYOR

ATTEST:

JACQUELINE L.BUCHOLZ, CMC
CITY CLERK