



Orinda

Public Meetings

City Council

Tuesday, April 7, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

Planning Commission

Tuesday, April 14, 7 p.m.
Auditorium, Orinda Library,
26 Orinda Way

School Board Meeting Orinda Union School District

Monday, April 13, 6 p.m.
OUSD Office, 8 Altarinda Road,
www.orindaschools.org
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

City of Orinda:

www.cityoforinda.org
Phone (925) 253-4200

Chamber of Commerce:

www.orindachamber.org

The Orinda Association:

www.orindaassociation.org



Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report March 8-14

Alarms 40

Barking Dog

10 block Evergreen Dr
30 block Southwood Dr

Burglary, Residential

10 block Monte Veda Dr

911 calls 6

Disturbance

Orchard Rd/Glorietta Bl
Theatre Square

Police/Fire/EMS

Hall Dr/Moraga Wy
Bryant Wy/Moraga Wy
100 block Crane Ter

Harassment

Library

Indecent Exposure

30 block Valley View Dr

Loud Party

Miramonte High School
Lavina Ct/Ivy Dr
Los Cerros/Moraga Wy

Theft, Petty

90 block Davis Rd
Safeway

Missing Juvenile

30 block Park Ln
10 block Calvin Dr

Neighbor Dispute

100 block Ardith Dr

Promiscuous Shooting

Theatre Square

Public Nuisance

50 block Via Floreado
10 block Tappan Ln
10 block Birch Ct
El Ribero/Camino Sobrante
100 block Lombardy Ln

Reckless Driving

Moraga Via/Glorietta Bl
Moraga Wy/Overhill Rd

Susp. Circumstance

5

Suspicious Subject

4

Suspicious Vehicle

2

Traffic Stops

61

Vandalism

10 block Overhill Ct
10 block Overhill Rd
100 block Ivy Dr (2)
Miramonte High School (2)
Glorietta Elementary
700 block Moraga Wy

Warrant

300 block N Civic Dr, WC

Share your thoughts,
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**Send a letter to
the editor:**
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weekly.com

please...



...thanks!



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Orinda City Council Mulls Nuts and Bolts Matters

By Laurie Snyder

The most recent Orinda City Council meeting was an efficient one. Held on the evening of a statewide special election when Orinda Mayor Steve Glazer was vying with four other candidates for the California Senate's District 7 seat, the March 17 affair was reminiscent of pre-Housing Element sessions for its relative brevity (lasting just 113 minutes), and was focused primarily on operational matters.

The meat of the meeting began with a report by Vice mayor Victoria Smith on council's closed session held earlier in the evening. Closed sessions are permissible under state law (the Brown Act) for a range of matters, including but not limited to personnel issues, public safety threats, or when government officials need to confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation.

All four items on the March 17 agenda fell under legally permissible categories. Item one involved labor negotiations with unrepresented management employees and city personnel represented by Teamsters Local Union No. 856. Explaining there was nothing reportable at this juncture, Smith moved on to item two

– Painter versus the City of Orinda, Contra Costa Superior Court Case No. N14-0068, a lawsuit launched in 2014 by the owners of 34 Broadview Terrace to challenge the city's denial of their design review application. Smith reported that council directed the city attorney to refrain from challenging an adverse decision in the case. Due to the length of the first two matters, the remaining items – Skoumbas versus the City of Orinda and Moll versus the City of Orinda – were deferred to a continuation of the closed session later that same evening, and will be addressed by council when there is news to report.

Council then adopted the majority of items on its consent calendar before engaging in a "For the Good of the City" matter – proclaiming March as "Red Cross Month." Council members praised the American Red Cross for its important work, and received information from ARC representatives about two helpful programs – a home fire preparedness initiative and "The Pillowcase Project," which teaches children about disaster preparedness and response. Developed

after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans in 2005, the project now reaches children in schools and summer camp settings in the majority of U.S. states and Puerto Rico thanks to funding from The Walt Disney Company. For more information, visit: www.redcross.org/prepare/location/school/preparedness-education/the-pillowcase-project.

Council then addressed three policy matters: financial auditing, the city's new draft storm drain master plan, and signage to be displayed during Orinda's infrastructure overhaul. Regarding auditing, Orinda finance director Susan Mahoney explained that accounting best practices dictate that, even if a public agency is well served by a specific financial auditing firm, that agency should still change auditors periodically to ensure that it receives the most reliable auditing services possible. Staff reviewed the services of four firms; two were ruled out due to high fees. Council then weighed proposals from the other two firms, ultimately awarding a three-year contract totaling \$76,670 to Maze & Associates based on that firm's depth of experience. Maze will

prepare Orinda's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), Appropriations Limit Review, Single Audit, and State Controller's Report.

The overriding theme of council discussions regarding the draft Storm Drain Master Plan was clarity. Individual council members took turns asking staff and a representative of Schaaf & Wheeler, the consultant hired to prepare the SDMP, to clarify segments of the SDMP's executive summary, ultimately directing staff to work with the consultant in improving the document's overall comprehensibility for the average Orindan. One of the salient points made was that, although the SDMP is an important first step, it is not truly a "master plan" because its creation did not involve a comprehensive analysis of every pipe in Orinda's drainage network. According to the staff report, while the SDMP assessed Orinda's system for both capacity and existing pipe status, the consultants were given just two weeks to conduct "field inspections to determine condition ratings at 48 locations throughout the City. ... continued on page A9

Standard & Poor's Gives High Marks to Orinda City Leaders for Management Practices

Measure J bond sale proceeds smoothly

By Laurie Snyder

Representatives from Standard & Poor's, one of the world's Big Three credit rating agencies, gave verbal high fives to Orinda city leaders during a conference call Feb. 24. That call was scheduled in preparation for the city's sale of \$10 million in general obligation bonds to help repair Orinda's infrastructure. (See "Orinda Authorizes Multimillion-Dollar Measure J Bond Sale" in the Lamorinda Weekly's online archives.)

Orinda City Manager Janet Keeter gave the news to the Orinda

City Council at its March 17 meeting as part of her update regarding the sale's progress. Orinda was not only awarded the coveted AAA bond rating city leaders had hoped for, but also garnered reaffirmation of its AA+ rating for its certificates of participation, according to Keeter. S&P representatives also took the highly unusual step of explaining why they were issuing such high ratings. Noting that "Orinda's local economy is very strong," the S&P representatives called Orinda's budgetary perform-

ance strong and its budgetary flexibility "very strong." They also commended Orinda's "very strong liquidity, which supports Orinda's finances," and noted that "Orinda's management conditions are strong with good financial practices," said Keeter. Those practices "include the strong oversight of budget to actual results during the year, long-term capital and financial planning and investment management policies."

As for the bond sale, the official statement was posted on the city's

website after Orinda received its S&P rating. The \$10 million in Measure J bonds were snapped up by roughly 30 local asset managers, individual investors and small institutions, and the city's underwriter also underwrote about 25 percent of the bonds for likely sale to additional individual investors. The bonds' overall interest rate was set at 2.88 percent – "similar to an APR for a home loan," said Keeter.

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Sunday
April 5

6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

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