

1 To appoint Mr. David Moore to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term
2 set to expire June 30, 2008
3

4 Mayor Gill thanked the other candidates for their interest and asked them to consider working on
5 the Town Park Master Plan Steering Committee. She stated the next committee meeting would
6 be on May 10th at 3:00 p.m.
7

8 PRESENTATION
9

10 Wildlife Urban Interface Code Program
11

12 The Deputy Fire Chief made a Powerpoint presentation regarding the Wildlife Urban Interface
13 (WUI) Code Program and discussed the following topics: 1) the 1929 Mill Valley Fire, 2) What
14 can be done? 3) Countywide efforts, 4) County and State maps, 5) State regulations, 6) Where
15 will the WUI be? 7) Outreach, 8) Timeline, 9) and stated that Council input is needed.
16

17 Councilmember Lappert asked how much extra work this would put on staff in terms of code
18 enforcement, etc. The Director of Emergency Services stated the impact would not be great but
19 there could be construction costs to homeowners. He stated local codes could not be less
20 restrictive than State codes. Staff would like the Council to adopt this program in order to make
21 a safer community from a fire point of view. He also noted Corte Madera has always been on
22 the “cutting edge” with respect to codes and ordinances.
23

24 Councilmember Lappert discussed the insurance issue and stated adopting the codes would place
25 all residents in the same situation. The Director of Emergency Services stated he thought
26 insurance companies would look at this in a favorable light.
27

28 Councilmember Lappert asked if it made sense to include all of Corte Madera in the map. The
29 Director of Emergency Services stated he would have a difficult time including areas such as
30 Madera Gardens in the map.
31

32 Mayor Gill had questions about the letter that was sent to residents. The Deputy Fire Chief
33 stated over a year ago he sent a letter to residents. They have also included a notice in the
34 Community Newsletter and the Chamber Newsletter and held several workshops.
35

36 Mayor Gill thanked staff for the presentation and noted the Council would be discussing this
37 issue again in the near future.
38

39 1. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION
40

41 Mr. Dutch Knapp, 20 Oak Lane, asked the Council to consider waiving the building permit fees
42 for residential solar panels. There has been a recent trend in the County for lowering or
43 eliminating these fees. He stated Corte Madera’s fees were the second highest in the County.
44 The Planning Director stated the fee was \$220, and that the information on the Sierra Club
45 website is incorrect as it pertains to Corte Madera.
46

1 The Town Manager stated this issue was tentatively scheduled for the May 15th Council agenda.

2
3 Mayor Gill stated the Town was in the process of trying to get a grant to install solar panels on
4 Town Hall and the two fire stations.

5
6 2. COUNCIL AND TOWN MANAGER REPORTS

7
8 Town Manager Report

9
10 The Town Manager reported the Town will hold a ceremony recognizing the acquisition of
11 Menke Park on Friday, May 11th beginning at 3:30 p.m. Staff has prepared and distributed a flyer
12 for the event. Councilmember Yang suggested staff arrange for a press release to advertise this
13 event. Councilmember Condon stated the flyers could be passed out by the various civic
14 organizations.

15
16 The Town Manager discussed the CRS (Community Rating Service) Audit Program that
17 effectively reduces the cost of flood insurance based on certain building code applications. He
18 noted FEMA concluded their 5-year audit and staff has some modifications to make.

19
20 He also pointed out that the fencing around the fields at Town Park has been removed and the
21 fields are now available for use.

22
23 Council Reports

24
25 Councilmember Condon reported she attended the League of California Cities Housing and
26 Community Development Policy Committee meeting and discussed the following legislative
27 items that would affect local government: 1) a requirement to amend General Plans to address
28 global warming issues; 2) a mandate for homeless shelters in all localities; 3) a bill that would
29 assign affordable housing on what appears to be available land; 4) SB 303 which would mandate
30 that the ABAG regional housing allocation numbers be assigned for a 10-year period and that
31 they can not be changed.

32
33 Councilmember Condon stated she attended the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
34 meeting and noted that money had been allocated to special homes for developmentally disabled
35 adults.

36
37 Mayor Gill stated there was a meeting in March regarding the Greenbrae Corridor Project and
38 the plan is for another public workshop sometime in July. The project could have a tremendous
39 impact on the Town of Corte Madera. A community luncheon is being planned to discuss this
40 matter.

41
42 Councilmember Condon stated LAFCO had a meeting resulting in a Ross Valley Area Service
43 review and Sphere of Influence update. She noted Corte Madera has maintained status quo
44 except for one portion of Ring Mountain that would come under the County's jurisdiction.

45

1 Councilmember Lappert stated the Library Board had a meeting and discussed the County's
2 Master Plan process of looking at all libraries in the County system. He noted there would be
3 some changes in the Corte Madera Library in the next couple of years.

4
5 CONSENT CALENDAR
6

7 Councilmember Condon asked for the removal of item 3g for discussion. She asked the Council
8 to review the letter she wrote regarding opposition to SB 303. The Assistant Town Attorney
9 asked if there was a substitute letter that has been suggested by the League of California Cities.
10 Councilmember Condon stated "yes". Mayor Gill stated this item could be placed at the end of
11 the agenda.

12
13 MOTION: Moved by Lappert seconded by Condon and carried unanimously by those present
14 with Dupar absent

15
16 To approve Consent Calendar items 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e, 3f, 3h, and 3i
17

18 3a. Approved Warrants and Payroll for the Period March 16, 2007, through April 11, 2007,
19 Warrant Check Numbers 115765 through 116051 and Payroll Check Numbers
20 1890 through 1927, Payroll Direct Deposit Numbers 8693 through 8880 and Payroll
21 Wire Transfer Numbers 560 through 571
22

23 3b. Approved Warrants and Payroll for the Period of April 12, 2007, through April 23, 2007,
24 Warrant Check Numbers 116052 through 116149 and Payroll Check Numbers 1928
25 through 1949, Payroll Direct Deposit Numbers 8881 through 8963 and Payroll Wire
26 Transfer Numbers 572 through 576
27

28 3c. Approved Investment Report for the Month of March 2007
29

30 3d. Acquisition of an Additional Tax-Defaulted Property (APN 025-133-07) Contiguous to
31 the Open Space Acquisition of Tax-Defaulted Property (APN 021-163-10) Acquired in
32 2001; Approved Supplemental Appropriation in the Amount of \$4,800 to Purchase APN
33 025-133-07; and Adopted Resolution No. 3490 Directing Staff to Take all Actions and
34 Complete all Documentation Necessary to Complete the Acquisition on APN 025-133-
35 07, a Tax Defaulted Property, for Open Space
36

37 3e. Approved Recommendation of the Citizen of the Year Committee naming the Corte
38 Madera Women's Club as the 2007 Citizens of the Year
39

40 3f. Confirmed Appointment of Mayor Gill to the Twin Cities Police Council

- 1
2 3h. Adopted Resolution No. 3491 Approving the Marin County Department of Health and
3 Human Services' Request to Place a Temporary Banner in the Public Right-of-Way
4 Advertising the Marin Women's Study
5
6 3i. Approved Agreement Between the Town of Corte Madera and the Novato Fire District
7 for the Purpose of Providing Billing Services for Advanced Life Support and Basic Life
8 Support Services
9

10 PUBLIC HEARING

11 Town Item

- 12
13
14 4. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Adoption of a Resolution Establishing Fees for
15 Community Development Services, Including Processing Applications, Design Reviews,
16 Plan Checks, Permits and Inspections by the Department of Planning, Building, Engineering,
17 and Fire, and Cost Recovery for All Departments Effective July 2, 2007
18

19 The Director of Administrative Services presented the staff report. He noted that if approved,
20 the new fees would go into effect in 60 days (July 2nd).
21

22 Mayor Gill asked if the changes had to do with salaries and cost recovery. The Director of
23 Administrative Services Town Treasurer stated not entirely and staff has refined the way they
24 track time for personnel, materials, supplies, etc.
25

26 Councilmember Lappert stated he was concerned that local government should be relatively
27 solvent at any given time. He was concerned about the progressive escalation of fees and the
28 feeling that salaries should be commensurate with those fees. The Director of Administrative
29 Services stated this would only affect the processing of certain applications that are a direct
30 benefit to a private individual or company. Many of the functions of the Building Department, in
31 particular code enforcement, are not fee driven. In addition, the fees in the resolution are behind
32 the wage scales by about a year.
33

34 Mayor Gill opened the public hearing.
35

36 Ms. Harry Schriebman stated it seemed that the Town was trying to get as much money as
37 possible from the taxpayers. Mayor Gill stated these fees have to be reasonably based on the
38 work that the Town performs. The Director of Administrative Services stated if the Town does
39 not charge a reasonable fee then the General Fund for which all taxpayers are contributing makes
40 up the difference.
41

42 Mr. Schriebman stated Proposition 218 prohibits any fee from charging more than the cost to do
43 the service. The Director of Administrative Services stated none of these fees do that.
44

45 Mayor Gill closed the Public Hearing.
46

1 MOTION: Moved by Condon, seconded by Lappert and carried unanimously by those
2 present, with Dupar absent

3
4 To adopt Resolution No. 3492 a Resolution Establishing Fees for Community
5 Development Services, Including Processing Applications, Design Reviews,
6 Plan Checks, Permits and Inspections by the Department of Planning, Building,
7 Engineering, and Fire, and Cost Recovery for All Departments, Including but not
8 Limited to Public Works, Finance, Town Clerk, and Town Manager Effective
9 July 2, 2007

10

11 The Council adjourned and convened as members of the Sanitary District Board.

12

13 Sanitary District Item

14

15 5. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Introduction of a Sanitary District Ordinance
16 Establishing Fees for Sewer Permit Services and Inspections Effective July 16, 2007

17

18 The Director of Administrative Services presented the staff report.

19

20 President Gill opened the public hearing.

21

22 There were no comments, and the public hearing was closed.

23

24 MOTION: Moved by Lappert seconded by Condon and carried unanimously by those present
25 With Dupar absent.

26

27 To introduce Sanitary District Ordinance No. 42. an Ordinance Establishing and
28 Increasing Fees for Sewer Permit Services and Inspections Effective July 16,
29 2007, by title only and waving further reading.

30

31 BUSINESS ITEMS

32

33 Sanitary District Item

34

35 6. Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Adoption of a Resolution Establishing the
36 District's Position on Central Marin Sanitation Agency's Current Reorganization Study

37

38 The Interim Director of Public Works presented the staff report.

39

40 President Gill stated she, along with several staff members, met with the manager of CMSA and
41 San Rafael Councilmember Paul Cohen to explain that this was not in our District's best
42 interests. This does not mean that the District could not support the rest of the agencies' efforts
43 to add value to their operations through consolidation.

44

45 President Gill referred to the resolution, page 2, the paragraph that begins "Now, Therefore, be it
46 resolved..." and asked if the wording basically states that the District does not want to take part

1 in the new agency but does not have any objection if the other agencies take part. The Town
2 Attorney stated it could be interpreted that the District does not support them doing it either.
3 President Gill suggested the following wording: “Now, Therefore, be it resolved.... the District
4 does not presently support *Sanitary District No. 2’s participation in* a new regional sanitary
5 agency....”. She noted they do not really have an opinion on what the other agencies do. The
6 Town Manager agreed.

7
8 Councilmember Condon thanked the Town Manager and Director of Administrative Services
9 for meeting with Mr. Peter Banning from LAFCO to discuss this issue and making it clear that
10 this was not in the best interests of Corte Madera.

11
12 President Gill opened the public hearing.

13
14 Dr. Bob Bundy, 89 Golden Hind Passage, asked for an explanation as to why the proposed
15 consolidation was not in the best interests of Corte Madera. President Gill stated it had to do
16 with the condition of the system. The Interim Public Works Director stated the district is already
17 consolidated with the Town’s Public Works Department and there is already integration with
18 Public Works employees who are dedicated to those tasks. Sanitary District No. 2 has policies in
19 place that are farther ahead and more technologically advanced (lateral replacement program,
20 etc.) than what is in place in other agencies.

21
22 The Town Manager stated there was better representation by keeping status quo with the current
23 Board. Other districts could not compare to Sanitary District No. 2 in terms of capital projects.

24
25 The Director of Administrative Services gave a brief history of Sanitary District No. 2 and
26 current consolidation efforts.

27
28 The Town Manager stated the resolution is saying they do not want to participate at the present
29 time but reconsideration could occur in the future if it was in the best interests of the residents.

30
31 MOTION: Moved by Lappert second by Condon and carried unanimously by those present
32 with Dupar absent,

33
34 To adopt Resolution No. 2007-1 with the following amendment: “Now,
35 Therefore, Be It Resolved, ... District does not presently support the *participation*
36 *of Sanitary District No. 2, a subsidiary District of the Town of Corte Madera, in a*
37 *new.....”*

38
39 Town Items

40
41 7. Set Meeting Date for the Budget Workshop and Budget Meeting(s)

42
43 The Town Manager presented a brief staff report.

44
45 It was the consensus of the Council to hold the Capital Improvement Program Budget meeting
46 on Thursday, May 24th.

1
2 It was the consensus of the Council to hold the budget meeting on Monday, June 25th and, if
3 needed, Tuesday, June 26th.

4
5 8. Report on Ross Valley Fire Services Consolidation

6
7 The Director of Emergency Services introduced Mr. Tom Brightbill of CRG Management
8 Consultants.

9
10 Mr. Brightbill gave a Powerpoint presentation and discussed the following issues: 1) Phase I
11 Goals; 2) Current situation; 3) Consolidation considerations; 4) The two consolidation scenario;
12 5) Does this make sense?; and 6) Do you want to be included in Phase II? He noted both
13 scenarios assume a three-person engine company; the first scenario includes all five entities
14 (Larkspur, Corte Madera, Kentfield, Ross, Ross Valley Fire Authority, and the Ross Valley
15 Paramedic Authority); it looks at average compensation; estimated operating and capital costs;
16 and bumping up the staffing levels including administration. The second scenario looked at four
17 entities and some participation from the RVPA. Corte Madera was excluded from this scenario
18 due to its higher salary structure. Scenario one would result in result in a budget deficit and
19 Scenario Two would result in basically a “wash.” He discussed using some type of Joint Powers
20 Agreement (JPA) or the formation of an independent district. He noted there could be some
21 benefits for Corte Madera in the long run.

22
23 The Director of Emergency Services stated there were numerous fire stations up the valley that
24 could incorporate the RVPA into the system. The best place to put the paramedics would be
25 downtown Larkspur, Ross, and Sleepy Hollow. He noted that neither scenario improves fire
26 service in Corte Madera. Many of the communities up the valley got involved in this process to
27 try to save money and in the long term it is a good idea for them.

28
29 Councilmember Lappert stated some of these entities have some very hard political decisions to
30 make regarding the possibility of closing some obsolete fire stations. Mr. Brightbill agreed and
31 stated that was a long-range decision. The original three entities, Kentfield, Larkspur, and Ross
32 have an interest in continuing to pursue the idea of consolidation.

33
34 Councilmember Lappert asked about the cost to participate in Phase II and whether or not the
35 original three entities would go ahead with the idea. Mr. Brightbill stated it would cost about
36 \$17,000 to \$20,000 per jurisdiction. Mayor Gill asked if Phase II would address station closures.
37 Mr. Brightbill stated he would like to but not if it included only the three entities.

38
39 Mayor Gill opened the public hearing.

40
41 Dr. Bob Bundy stated he has always been an advocate of looking at consolidation and stated
42 there were funds available that could be used in a consolidated system. He would not be in favor
43 of it if the costs were as presented by Mr. Brightbill. He asked about the number of agencies
44 using the three-person engine system and stated he could accept the level of risk of a two-person
45 engine system in exchange for a more cost effective system.

46

1 Mr. Harry Schriebman stated he has been pushing for consolidation for a long time and he would
2 like to review the study. He asked if copies were available. Mr. Brightbill stated the Powerpoint
3 presentation was the report and he could provide copies.

4
5 Mayor Gill closed the public hearing.

6
7 After Council discussion Mayor Gill stated it was the consensus of the Council to not pursue
8 participation in Phase II.

9
10 9. Status Report on Non-Motorized Pilot Transportation Program

11
12 The Town Manager presented the staff report.

13
14 Mayor Gill stated the Board of Supervisors has taken over jurisdiction of the funds from the
15 Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM). They received input from a committee of
16 representatives from local jurisdiction.

17
18 Mayor Gill opened the public hearing.

19
20 Mr. Jerry Edelbrock, 19 Palm Avenue, President of the Marin County Bicycle Coalition, stated
21 he was disappointed that the Alto Park Tunnel Study was not funded in the amount of \$850,000.
22 He discussed Resolution No. 3113, passed by the Council in August, 2000, which identified a
23 number of issues that needed to be studied. This project was identified as the top priority in the
24 Town's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Mayor Gill disagreed and stated the projects in the plan
25 were not prioritized. Mr. Edelbrock discussed the document titled "Tunnels on Trails". He
26 stated the tunnel would be a huge asset for Corte Madera. He asked the Council to seek enough
27 information to get a preferred alternative.

28
29 Mr. David McPherson, 431 Corte Madera Avenue, supported the Alto Tunnel Study and was
30 disappointed that the study did not get fully funded. He discussed the letter from the Town
31 Manager to the Board of Supervisors and stated residents of Corte Madera should have been able
32 to comment on some of the issues in the letter.

33
34 Ms. Wendy Barnett, 359 Corte Madera Avenue, stated residents should be able to comment on
35 recommendations made by staff to the Board of Supervisors. She would like the Council to
36 consider alternative routes.

37
38 Mr. Joe Meylan, 150 Willow, stated he was disappointed that the Town has not represented
39 cyclists. The tunnel would be a huge asset and its opening was inevitable. The longer they wait,
40 the more it would cost. This project should be moved to the forefront.

41
42 Mr. Greg Arenson, 514 Manzanita, stated he spoke in support of the tunnel at the Board of
43 Supervisors meeting. He was disappointed that the Council expressed support of the tunnel and
44 then wrote a letter denying support. These railroad right-of-ways and tunnels are a legacy from
45 the past. Opening the tunnel would be a huge asset to the community.

46

1 Dr. Bob Bundy stated he would like to see the Council support this project as a long-term goal.
2 He wondered if any of the alternative routes were feasible. A level, safe route from Corte
3 Madera to Mill Valley that was hooked into the existing bike trails was a worthy project.

4
5 Mayor Gill stated the Town would be revising the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and this issue
6 would be addressed.

7
8 3g. Authorize the Town Manager to Send a Letter (Notice of Opposition) to Senator Denise
9 Ducheny Opposing SB 303

10
11 MOTION: Moved by Condon, second by Lappert, and carried unanimously by those present
12 with Dupar absent,

13
14 To ask the Mayor to sign a letter in opposition to SB 303 as soon as information is
15 available from the League of California Cities pertaining to this bill.

16
17 10. Approve Minutes of March 20, 2007

18
19 MOTION: Moved by Condon, second by Lappert,

20
21 To approve the minutes of March 20, 2007 with the following corrections: on the
22 last page, under Proclaim April, 2007 as Fair Housing Month, the first sentence
23 should read: "Councilmember Dupar..... it had been *his practice* not to put..."

24
25 VOTE: Ayes: Condon, Gill, Lappert
26 Noes: None
27 Abstain: Yang
28 Absent: Dupar

29
30 ADJOURNMENT

31
32 The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.