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Time flies, but Steve Salomon will stay put

By Sora O'Doherty

The Orinda City Council has agreed to remove the provision from City Manager Steve Salomon's employment contract that would have resulted in his term expiring in June. Instead, Salomon and the city have agreed that he will continue indefinitely, subject to termination by either side with notice. In order to ensure a smooth transition of city business, the new agreement is that the city will provide two-month's notice of termination and the city manager will provide six-month's notice of retirement, if feasible.

Salomon came to Orinda as an interim city manager following the retirement of Janet Keeter. He brought with him some 40 years of experience, including previously serving as Visalia's city manager for 17 years. He was Albany's city administrator, and city manager for the cities of Watsonville and Hercules. He also worked for the city of Concord in a variety of positions and has served in numerous leadership positions within the California Redevelopment Association, Contra Costa City Manager's Group, and South San Joaquin Valley Division of the League of California Cities - City Managers' Department, and is a member of the International City/Council Management Association.

While Salomon was interim city manager, Orinda searched for a candidate to take on the position on a permanent basis, but they were dissatisfied with the candidates they reviewed. Salomon agreed to stay on for two years as city manager, working on a 90 percent full-time basis to allow for his long daily commute to Brentwood. That part of his contract remains unchanged. Previous contract amendments have provided for salary increases. It is anticipated that his contract will come back to the city council for a further review in the summer or fall.

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[back](#)

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