



**Minutes**  
**Town of Atherton**  
**CITY COUNCIL/ATHERTON CHANNEL**  
**DRAINAGE DISTRICT**

**January 15, 2003**

**7:00 p.m.**

**TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

94 Ashfield Road  
Atherton, California

**REGULAR MEETING**

Mayor Janz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**            **Kathy McKeithen**  
                             **Charles E. Marsala**  
                             **James R. Janz**  
                             **Alan B. Carlson**  
                             **William R. Conwell**

City Manager Jim Robinson and City Attorney Marc Hynes were also present.

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Janz presented a proclamation to the Menlo-Atherton High School 2002/2003 Varsity Football Team and Coach Martin Billings in recognition of their championship season.

4. **COUNCIL REPORTS**

- Vice Mayor McKeithen reported that the General Plan Committee will meet February 5. The Transportation Committee will meet Tuesday, February 11 at 6:00 p.m. If approved, an item on this agenda will direct the Transportation Committee to address the issue of traffic on Emilie Avenue. The Atherton Channel Drainage District Sub-committee will meet in late February at a date to be determined. Vice Mayor McKeithen noted that the Sequoia Union School District meeting on February 20 will include a walkthrough of the District offices and schools.

- Council Member Conwell reported that the San Francisco Airport Roundtable did not meet this month. He attended the Criminal Justice Commission meeting today. The Commission is working on grant writing proposals. The City/County Association of Governments Board meets tomorrow.
- Council Member Carlson reported that the Finance Committee will meet to discuss the impact the State budget will have on Town revenues. He asked that an item be placed on the next agenda for the City Attorney to create a timeline for the Council to consider to levy the additional portion of the parcel tax if necessary.
- Council Member Marsala attended a three-day League of Cities Institute in Sacramento for new council members. The State budget deficit's impact on city revenues was addressed.
- Mayor Janz thanked the staff for getting out the new edition of the Athertonian. He commended the Police Department for their success in participating in the "Avoid the 23" program over the holidays. The Mayor announced that one of his goals is to address the issue of recycling. He asked staff to look into additional recycling programs that would benefit Town residents. He also notified staff of ABAG's green business program which helps businesses and public agencies become more environmentally friendly. The ABAG Board will meet Thursday night, January 16. The Council of Cities will meet January 24 and the Peninsula Division League of Cities will meet January 30. A seminar on storm pollution will be conducted by ABAG on January 30.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Rugeiro, Stockbridge Avenue  
Lou Paponis, MacBain Avenue

## 6. STAFF REPORTS

City Manager Jim Robinson reported on several invoices listed on the Bills and Claims report on this agenda. He reported that at their next meeting the Finance Committee will address the possible reduction in Vehicle License Funds. The staff and Finance Committee will work together on this issue and report back to the Council.

The Council gave the City Manager authorization to send a letter to P.G.&E. reflecting the concerns of the residents regarding recent power outages.

The City Manager will report back regarding the list of proposed improvements for the Town home which was developed by a Council sub-committee consisting of Vice Mayor McKeithen and former Council Member Fisher.

The Waste Reduction Committee will meet February 24. Items to be addressed will be the BFI franchise agreement and recycling programs.



**REGULAR AGENDA**

**13. CONSIDERATION OF MENLO PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THAT THE TOWN OF ATHERTON ADHERE TO FIRE DISTRICT REGULATIONS REQUIRING THE INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLERS IN CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES**

**Building Official Mike Hood presented the staff report for this item. The Menlo Park Fire Protection District has recommended that the Town consider adhering to Fire District regulations requiring the installation of automatic fire sprinklers where new residential construction exceeds 5000 square feet or where a new basement exceeds 250 square feet.**

**Board President Peter Carpenter, of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District, gave a brief explanation of the District's request and stated that the District would like to obtain feedback from the City Council on this issue. He introduced new Fire District Chief Paul Wilson. A Powerpoint presentation on residential fire sprinklers was provided along with statistics on the results of fires in homes that are equipped with sprinkler systems.**

**Discussion ensued regarding the process that will be necessary if the City Council agrees to adopt the District regulations. Chief Wilson stated that any inspections of sprinkler systems would be performed by the District.**

**City Attorney Marc Hynes will prepare a memo on possible liability the Town might incur if the Council does not take any action on this issue. The Council asked the City Attorney to return to the Council with a clarification of the legal relationship between the District and the Town.**

**MOTION – to continue this item to the next Council meeting.**

**M/S Carlson/McKeithen**

**Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0**

**14. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS WITH MENLO PARK RELATING TO VALPARAISO AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS:**

- PHASE 1 IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT**
- VALPARAISO AVENUE AND UNIVERSITY DRIVE TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

**Public Works Director Cliff Temps presented the staff report for this item. The Atherton and Menlo Park City Councils, at a joint meeting in September, agreed that a traffic signal should be installed at the intersection of Valparaiso Avenue and University Drive, and that a raised pavement marker island on Valparaiso near Victoria Drive be replaced with a raised curb. He stated that the Menlo Park City Council approved the agreements**



**Public Works Director Cliff Temps presented the staff report for this item. The Council, at their December meeting, directed staff to agendize an item for the January meeting directing the Transportation Committee to address traffic issues on Emilie Avenue. The Committee was asked to meet with residents and appropriate professionals.**

**The Public Works Director reported on discussions held at a meeting on Monday night with Sacred Heart School and the homeowners in the Emilie Avenue area. The items discussed were enabling enforceable no parking and no stopping as soon as possible, resolving sight distance problems for cars coming out of MacBain, painting and elevating a crosswalk across Emilie somewhere south of MacBain, and resolving the issue of cars coming out of the School circular driveway allowing cars coming out of MacBain to retain the right-of-way.**

**In regards to the question of Emilie Avenue being designated a public street, Public Works Director Temps stated that the Vehicle Code would allow the Town to enforce traffic regulations since it is being used as a public road. He stated that he is waiting for a response from the School's attorney regarding having the School offer the Town a roadway easement.**

**The following members of the audience spoke:**

**Lou Paponis, 96 MacBain Avenue**

**Teri Waters, 25 Emilie Avenue**

**Ed Goodstein, MacBain Avenue**

**Public Works Director Temps stated that area homeowners will be notified 10 days in advance of the Transportation Committee meetings.**

**MOTION – to refer to the Transportation Committee for study the attachment to the staff report entitled “Emilie Avenue Issues and Discussion Points” and any other matter connected with this issue that the Transportation Committee deems appropriate to study.**

**M/S Carlson/Janz Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 1 (Marsala – recused) Absent: 0**

**Council Member Marsala returned to the meeting at 10:18 p.m. after the deliberation and vote on Items 8 and 15.**

- 16. CONTINUED FROM DECEMBER 18, 2002 MEETING:  
DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – CONSIDER THE DEVELOPMENT OF A  
POLICY FOR THE NAMING OF TOWN OF ATHERTON BUILDINGS AND  
FACILITIES**



**19. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**There were no public comments.**

**20. ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting adjourned at 10:55 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Sharon Barker, City Clerk**