



Draft Minutes
Town of Atherton
CITY COUNCIL
ATHERTON CHANNEL DRAINAGE DISTRICT
December 21, 2011
7:00 p.m.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
94 Ashfield Road
Atherton, California
REGULAR MEETING

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

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **ROLL CALL** Lewis, Dobbie, Widmer, McKeithen, Carlson – All present
3. **PRESENTATIONS**

MESSAGE FROM OUTGOING MAYOR – Jim Dobbie

Mayor Dobbie said he knew former Mayor McKeithen would be a hard act to follow during his tenure as Mayor. Dobbie said the Town realized at the beginning of the year that unprecedented steps would have to be taken to stop spending more than what the Town was taking in. He added that the difficult decision of several layoffs and the outsourcing of the Building and Public Works Department took place, with no reduction in services. The Interim City Manager, Police Chief and City Attorney quickly began solving long-term problems, and litigation costs are far less than previous years. Dobbie said the town's financial results have vastly improved, however new sources of revenue still need to be formed. Dobbie said he felt that the one thing that energizes Council is the amount of dedicated and capable volunteers that serve this Town. Dobbie concluded by thanking Council and staff for their dedication over a turbulent year.

SELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR

Deputy City Clerk Theresa DellaSanta opened the nominations for the Office of Mayor.

Mayor McKeithen nominated Vice Mayor Widmer for the Office of Mayor. Council Member Lewis seconded the nomination.

Ayes: 5 Opposed: 0

Deputy City Clerk DellaSanta opened the nominations for the Office of Vice Mayor.

Mayor Widmer said he spoke to a number of people around Town. He felt for purposes of fairness and effectiveness he wanted to nominate Elizabeth Lewis.

Mayor Widmer nominated Council Member Lewis for the Office of Vice Mayor. Council Member Carlson seconded the nomination.

Ayes: 5 Opposed: 0

OATH OF OFFICE

Deputy City Clerk DellaSanta administered the oath of office to Mayor Dobbie and Vice Mayor Widmer.

Mayor Widmer gave his incoming speech.

Widmer thanked Council for their support. He thanked his family and former Mayor Dobbie for his leadership over the last year. Widmer said his goals are that Council begin filling all interim positions need to be filled with permanent positions. Objectives and performance should be set and measured, efficiencies from outsourcing contracts should be gained, and processes should be improved through technology. Widmer concluded that Council should get together on a long term plan and hold meetings in other locations including the various schools in Atherton.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

William Grindley, Atherton resident, briefed Council on High Speed Rail. Two polls were recently released where a majority of people polled wanted to get rid of the project. U.S. Senators Boxer and Feinstein, and Congresswomen Eshoo and Speier all voted to zero out any funding for the project in 2012. The project, which is now estimated at \$98.5 billion, is almost totally dependent on federal funding, and about \$13 billion will be required of local cities rather than the \$4 to \$5 billion originally proposed. Grindley discussed many inconsistencies in the report and said he felt the Authority was very deceiving in their numbers.

Council thanked Grindley for all of his support and dedication in serving the Town.

5. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION – None.

6. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT – None.

**7. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION ROUNDTABLE REPORT
CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 8-18)**

Vice Mayor Lewis had a clarification question on item 11.

Council Member McKeithen pulled item 12.

Mayor Widmer pulled item 10 and 17, and had a question on item 13.

8. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 16, 2011 REGULAR MEETING

Recommendation: Approve November 16, 2011 regular meeting minutes

9. **APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS FOR DECEMBER, 2011 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$831,368**

Recommendation: Approve Bills and Claims in the amount of \$831,368

11. **ACCEPTANCE OF FISCAL YEAR 2010-2011 BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE AGREEMENT FOR DISTRIBUTION OF SAN MATEO COUNTY MEASURE A FUNDS FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PURPOSE, AGREED UPON PROCEDURES REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROPOSITION 111 APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT, AND MEMORANDUM ON INTERNAL CONTROL AND REQUIRED COMMUNICATIONS**

Report: Finance Director Debra Auker

Recommendation: Accept FY 2010-2011 Basic Financial Statements, Report on Compliance with the Agreement for Distribution of San Mateo County Measure A Funds, Agreed Upon Procedures Report on Compliance with the Proposition 111 Appropriations Limit, and the Memorandum on Internal Control and Required Communications

Council Member Lewis asked if the former Finance Director had anything to do with the report. Interim Finance Director Debra Auker said the former Director prepared the entire report.

13. **CONTINUATION OF SWEEPING CONTRACT WITH CONTRACT SWEEPING FOR 1 ADDITIONAL YEAR**

Report: Public Works Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: Staff recommends approving contract change order 2A continuing for 1 additional year town sweeping services to Contract sweeping services of San Jose for the amount not to exceed \$13,912.40 (\$11,912.40 plus 10% emergency contingency), for a total authorization of 13,912.40

Mayor Widmer asked why there was such a large difference in the bids received. Kashiwagi said the bids were received years ago and this item is to extend the contract.

14. **ACCEPTANCE OF WORK, AUTHORIZATION TO RECORD NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND APPROVAL OF CONTRACT CHANGE ORDERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,495.46 FOR A TOTAL PROJECT COST OF \$393,666.71 FOR THE 2011 CAPE/SLURRY PROJECT, PROJECT NUMBER 56049**

Report: Public Works Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: Accept work and authorize recording of a notice of completion and approving contract change orders in the amount of \$12,495.46 for a total project cost of \$393,666.71 for the 2011 Cape/Slurry Project, Project Number 56049

15. **APPROVE A MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO FOR COUNTY DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AT CAMINO DE LOS ROBLES WITHIN THE TOWN OF ATHERTON JURISDICTION**

Report: Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: Approve a Maintenance Agreement with the County of San Mateo for County Drainage Improvement Project at Camino De Los Robles and authorize the Public Works Director to execute the Maintenance Agreement

16. RECOMMENDATION BY RAIL COMMITTEE TO APPROVE A LETTER TO CALIFORNIA HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY REAFFIRMING THE TOWN OF ATHERTONS OPPOSITION TO CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH SPEED RAIL AS DESCRIBED IN THE NEWLY REVISED BUSINESS PLAN

Report: Rail Committee

Recommendation: Approve letter to California High Speed Rail Authority

18. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON INCREASING THE RATES FOR SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES

Report: Interim City Manager John Danielson

Recommendation: Waive further reading, and adopt ordinance increasing the rates for solid waste/recycling collection services

MOTION by Lewis, second by Dobbie to approve the consent calendar excluding items 10, 12 and 17. The motion passed.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Council took up items that were removed next.

10. APPROVAL OF LETTER TO CALPERS EXTENDING TIME OF PERFORMANCE FOR INTERIM CITY MANAGER AND AMEND CONTRACT TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL TIME AS DEFINED BY CALPERS

Report: City Attorney Bill Connors

Recommendation: 1. City Council sign the letter of extension to the CalPERS Board, and 2. City Council direct the City Attorney to amend the Interim City Manager contract to include additional time as defined by CalPERS and direct the Mayor to authorize the contract extension

Mayor Widmer asked where the Town is on recruitment of a successor City Manager. Carlson said that item is not agendized and therefore it cannot be discussed.

Widmer said the letter should be cleaned up and suggested changing the 12 month contract to a 6 month contract.

Council Member Dobbie suggested asking for the 12 months and wait to see what they allow. Lewis said this letter does not commit the Town to 12 months.

Widmer said the letter discusses the fact that the Town has all interim positions and he didn't feel that was a justification for the request.

Dobbie said the purpose of this letter is to be granted the extension and it won't help the Town to include things that were not done that should have been done.

Widmer suggested that the letter be revised so that the analysis of the Town's current situation is a bit softer.

Vice Mayor Lewis said the situation is not dire, and in fact it has improved under Danielson's leadership.

Council agreed.

MOTION by Lewis, second by Carlson that City Council sign the letter of extension to the CalPERS Board, and direct the City Attorney to amend the Interim City Manager contract to include additional time as defined by CalPERS and direct the Mayor to authorize the contract extension with the following change in paragraph two, fourth sentence to say: Because of the efforts of John Danielson, the current key positions of Police Chief, Finance Director, Public Works Director, and Building Official are filled with interim or new contract employees. It is imperative that John Danielson be allowed to guide the Town to get full-time employees in key positions, including that of City Manager. We have no Assistant City Manager, no City Clerk, and 13 of 16 general employees were laid off due to financial constraints. The motion passed unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

12. TOWN CENTER TASK FORCE COMMITTEE REPORT – UPDATE ONLY

Report: Town Center Task Force

Recommendation: Receive report

Council Member McKeithen said she felt she hasn't been doing her due diligence with following this issue. She added that recognizing that a recommendation will come to Council in January for selection of an architect prompted her to look at it more closely. McKeithen went over a list of questions for the Committee and asked for a report back on the following issues:

- Why there are no meeting minutes from certain years
- What is the proposed size of the Town Center
- Cost of the project?
- Why the evaluation matrix changed from what City Council approved
- Since the current matrix was not approved by Council would the RFP responses/process be valid
- Why was a diagram of the town center including a library posted to the Towns website
- Questions about basis of programming/size, future trending and space needs
- Wants accounting of staff time/costs
- How can building department funds be used to hire architect?
- Inappropriate to use disproportionate share of building funds

Council Member McKeithen concluded by asking why there is no discussion of a master plan for the town center.

Council Member Dobbie said he was concerned about using the \$1.8 million dollar building department reserve fund for anything at this time. Dobbie suggested not using the funding until there is at least 70% commitment from residents for the project.

Council Member Carlson said these are all issues to discuss at the January meeting and this report was solely to update Council in preparation for January.

MOTION by Carlson, second by Lewis to receive the report. The motion passed.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Charles Marsala, former Council Member, said this project and all the work leading up to it dates back to 2005. He suggested that Council get the ball rolling on it since the current Town center is less than adequate.

17. APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH DEBRA AUKER FOR FINANCE DIRECTOR SERVICES FOR THE TOWN

Report: Interim City Manager John Danielson

Recommendation: Approve an agreement with Debra Auker to provide interim finance director services on a month to month basis in the amount of \$112 per hour, and authorize City Manager to execute a contract on behalf of the Town

Mayor Widmer asked how many days per week the interim finance director plans to work. Chief Flint said she plans to spend approximately 20 to 30 hours per week in Town while she finishes up work in the City of San Carlos.

Auker said if more hours are required she would be happy to work with the Town.

MOTION by Lewis, second by Dobbie to approve an agreement with Debra Auker to provide interim finance director services on a month to month basis in the amount of \$112 per hour, and authorize City Manager to execute a contract on behalf of the Town. The motion passed.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

REGULAR AGENDA – (Items 19-21)

19. CONTINUATION OF EVENT BOOKINGS AT HOLBROOK-PALMER PARK THROUGH THE 2012 CALENDAR YEAR

Report: Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: Provide direction to staff to regarding the continuation of full event bookings at Holbrook-Palmer Park through December 31, 2012

City Manager Danielson noted that staff will need direction from Council because if no decision is made then the Town will potentially lose the 2012 season.

Steve Tyler, Public Works Superintendent, said staff was directed to provide further fiscal profitability for continuing these events including an analysis of revenue versus costs. Staff has since refined the reports and reviewed them with the new interim Finance Director. Staff analysis proves that the Town has a potential to net over \$80,000 per fiscal year with the new event model in the park.

Council Member McKeithen said she was disappointed in the report and the fact that it is not clear. She questioned the figures in the report and why the revenues from previous years don't show the loss to the Town from the events. She added that by not including the losses and several other costs

associated with the events makes the Town look like they are closing the season for no reason. McKeithen said she was not in favor of taxpayer money being subsidized for others to have weddings in the park.

Council Member Dobbie said certain events fill every single parking space in the park, leaving no room for the Atherton residents to use the park. Dobbie suggested review of Oliver Palmers will of the park to the Town which states that the park is to be for public recreation.

Council Member McKeithen said that until it is proven that the Town stands to make a profit she cannot support it.

Vice Mayor Lewis suggested giving it one year to try it out.

Council Member Carlson said he is confident that the Town has competent staff. Carlson confirmed that under the new contract model each and every event is profitable to the Town, and therefore he supported the concept. Carlson asked what kind of message it sends when Council has taken away so much from staff and then passes up this opportunity for revenue.

Mayor Dobbie asked if Auker looked at the report. Auker said yes. She felt that Tyler can respond to the expenditures and noted that she had detailed information about the revenues.

Auker noted that the prior years' losses were a result of the staffing costs which the Town no longer has since it moved to contract. McKeithen asked if the costs of garbage, insurance, depreciation or replacement costs are included.

Kashiwagi said those costs were not included because staff is basing the revenue of the 2012 season only since potentially library construction may take place in 2013. Danielson added that the Town does not pay for garbage and the Town is self-insured.

Danielson noted that staff has no "dog in this fight," and if Council determines from a policy standpoint to close the season down then staff will do so. In previous years because the event model was so badly structured it wasn't making the kind of revenue it can under the new model. Danielson concluded that he was asked by former Mayor Dobbie to fix the structure or get rid of it and that's exactly what staff did. Danielson concluded that the report is not bad and suggested that Council either direct staff to continue the events or stop them.

Council Member Dobbie felt that this amount of money wasn't worth depriving Atherton residents of park usage and he was very concerned about it.

Council Member Lewis said that with all the cuts to staff and services over the last year that Council should approve this method of revenue. Lewis said it would be unquestionably irresponsible not to do so.

Council Member Carlson said the two arguments include depriving residents of park usage and the fact that we can't prove whether this will generate revenue. Carlson asked for staff comment.

Council Member McKeithen felt there were glaring omissions in the report including who is administering the contract and what that cost is to the Town. Carlson said it doesn't change his mind that the Town has competent staff and he supports the system.

Mayor Widmer asked if it would be possible to limit the size of events. Tyler noted that it would be Council policy to do so; however it could impact the marketability of the park for certain events. Tyler said currently the Town doesn't allow any events for more than 250 people.

Kashiwagi noted that the park has three parking lots with parking stripes. Those three lots total 124 parking spaces. In addition there are parking spaces along the access roads in the park and there is the North Meadow area for parking on existing turf. Kashiwagi concluded that by adding these three parking options the total parking would allow 240 cars.

Council Member Dobbie noted that several of the events generate very loud music and it is not appropriate.

Council Member Lewis said she walks her dog in the park regularly and in her experience there is hardly anyone ever there. Lewis added that she has attended several large events in the park which generate loud music and she hasn't heard of any complaints.

Walter Sleeth, Atherton resident, supported continuing the events subject to Dobbie and McKeithens concerns.

Charles Marsala, Atherton resident, supported continuing the events.

Stuart Aubrey, Atherton resident, said the traffic in the park is already dangerous and with a playschool in the park the Town should be very careful.

Valerie Gardener, Atherton resident, said she has never seen the park full in all the years she has been going. Gardner supported continuing the events.

Council Member McKeithen asked how much it costs for the police department personnel to oversee the events.

Chief Flint said the Police Department Executive Assistant assists with overseeing the park as an additional duty but he does not have an accurate reflection of the exact amount of time she spends. Flint approximated about 1 hour per day.

MOTION by Carlson, second by Lewis to continue full event bookings at Holbrook-Palmer Park through December 31, 2012. The motion failed.

Ayes: 2 Nays: 3 (Dobbie, McKeithen, Widmer) Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

20. LIBRARY EIR CLARIFICATION

Report: Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: It is recommended that the City Council adopt a motion providing clarification to Staff and the Environmental Consultant regarding:

1. Limits for the footprint of the preferred alternative for the new library in Holbrook Palmer Park.
2. Proposed amendments to the Holbrook-Palmer Park Master Plan.
3. Proposed reuse of the existing Atherton Library Building.

Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi said at its November 16, 2011 meeting the City Council approved a professional services agreement with LSA Associates to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the preferred alternative location for a new library on the Main House site in Holbrook-Palmer Park. At the October 19, 2011 City Council meeting the Council approved the following motion:

“MOTION by McKeithen, second by Dobbie to approve the Atherton Library Building Steering Committee’s (ALBSC) recommendation to approve Holbrook Palmer Park as the preferred site for the new library to replace the Main House pending meeting CEQA requirements as determined by City Council and staff, that staff move forward with a revised master plan for the park, and that specifications, particularly that the dimensions of the library will be the exact same size as the main house so that no green space is lost, are approved by Council.” The motion was subsequently clarified by Council Member Widmer who said what he meant by "the house" was the house and all of the hardscape (patios, walkways, etc.) around it so that no "green" was lost to construction.

Kashiwagi said staff and the LSA Associates would like clarification on the issues of new library footprint extent, the Park Master Plan and possible reuse of the existing Library Building. Kashiwagi concluded that this request is made in order to provide as much specificity as possible in the EIR so that the public has a clear understanding of the proposed project.

Council Member Carlson said he was confused by the photo depiction of the site plans because it appears some of the included area includes green space. Carlson said hardscape would be the main house and concrete patio and felt the photo is a mischaracterization of that.

Carlson asked if the Park & Recreation will have input into the size and scope. Kashiwagi said it will go to the Commission.

Council Member Dobbie said he used a personal measurement method of the current main house site to see if 10,000 square feet would impact any green space and he believes the library would fit fine without impacting any green area.

Vice Mayor Lewis asked where the 10,000 square foot figure came from and who determined the available site in the photo depiction.

Kashiwagi said 10,000 square feet is arbitrary, and the photo depiction is much larger.

Lewis said it is presumptive to assume the Town will reuse the existing library building for town offices, public purposes, records storage and/or art center; and if that is the case who will pay for seismic upgrades.

Kashiwagi said the Town would be responsible for seismic upgrades. Deputy Town Planner said there are several other uses it can be designated for and staff needs that direction from Council.

Council Member McKeithen said Council agreed to the 10,000 square foot figure at a previous meeting. She added that the reason staff said they will reuse the existing library building for town offices, public purposes, records storage and/or art center is so there can be as many uses and information as possible so it is exposed to the most difficult test possible. McKeithen concluded that the idea originally came from the Town Center Task Force.

Mayor Widmer said he measured the staked out 100 by 100 square foot facility and it was pretty accurate. Although it looks like it will affect one tree, the 10,000 square feet doesn't impact the green space or use of it. Widmer concluded that the JPA allows for renovations for the building and felt the seismic upgrades could be their responsibility.

Costa Sanders said the existing library building is eligible to be a historical artifact and for that reason it would be very difficult to tear it down.

Widmer asked if Council can designate that the library is no bigger than 10,000 square feet. Costa Sanders said yes, and the report typically analyzes the largest size possible to put it to the most stringent test.

Lewis asked what the footprint includes. Widmer said it includes any garden area or enclosed area that has walls around it that no one else can use except library users.

Dobbie said he had very serious concerns about the safety of the current library.

Carlson said if it is dangerous then Council ought to do something right away and put it on an agenda for final decision. Carlson said the proposed size of the library was based upon a needs assessment report that included the number of users outside the Town. Carlson said it is a policy decision for Council to decide whether or not to subsidize taxpayer money to the benefit of the County. Carlson concluded that a worst case scenario for the existing library would be to factor in new uses.

McKeithen said the Library JPA is currently looking at reassessing the size requirements for the proposed library. She said that the public will be involved in the reassessment.

Carlson felt the needs assessment had several inaccuracies. Lewis agreed and felt it should not be used as a benchmark for what residents want in their new library. Lewis concluded that the uses for the existing library should be expanded to a worst case scenario.

McKeithen felt that the focus on the needs assessment needs to stop because the committee is asking for detailed community input door to door.

MOTION by McKeithen, second by Widmer to accept staff recommendations with revisions to recommendation #1 to add "including enclosed walls" to end of the first sentence.

- 1. That the new library site is limited to the existing Main House footprint and its associated hardscape areas as shown on Attachment 1 and that the building footprint will not exceed 10,000 square feet. Although the available site is greater than 10,000 square feet as shown on Attachment 1, the library footprint will be less than the available site area and will not exceed 10,000 square feet.**
- 2. That the Holbrook-Palmer Park Master Plan Update is to include; a revision to the existing Park Master Plan drawing to show the proposed footprint of a new library in the Park, on the site described in #1. above, and a revision of the Holbrook-Palmer Park Master Plan document addressing the replacement of the existing Main House building with a library and the change in public use of the space.**
- 3. For purposes of environmental evaluation, it is the intention of the Town of Atherton to reuse the existing library building for town offices, public purposes, records storage**

and/or art center, subsequent to the Atherton Library moving to its proposed new building in Holbrook-Palmer Park.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

MOTION by Lewis, second by Carlson to amend the motion that the distance between the library and the water tower are to the maximum extent possible and to expand potential uses under recommendation #3 to include private schools and senior centers. The motion passed unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

21. CONSIDERATION AND ACTION ON DISBANDMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

City Manager Danielson said there are issues that have been raised about whether the EPC represents the City Council, their opinion and their stated direction. An opinion formed on the EPC website culminated into a request for examination. Danielson said some residents have questioned whether the EPC represents the views and opinions of the Town Council or, is an independent body creating opinion pieces on local governance issues.

Vice Mayor Lewis said she is puzzled as to why this item was brought forth and felt it was a personal attack. Lewis said she was opposed to the item being on the agenda and offended by the language of the resolution. She said false allegations were made only after an EPC committee member voiced concerns about environmental impacts associated with the library project. Lewis said the EPC has done a great job at community awareness about environmental impacts.

Council Member McKeithen said she became aware of the opinions formed on the EPC's website about the library through her husband, and that she has no personal vendetta. She added that it is clear in the Towns rules that no committee or commission or any of its members shall represent itself or themselves as speaking on behalf of the Town, City Council, and/or committee or commission without prior approval of the City Council. McKeithen concluded that she was very surprised to see articles on the EPC's website taking their own position on policy that had already been approved.

Council Member Carlson asked why the environmental concerns about the library were not raised at committee meetings.

McKeithen said as a new member to the EPC she only attended a few meetings and the issue was not raised.

Lewis said the EPC meetings in early 2011 focused on the Atherton 2020 program and its association to Acterra. Lewis added that by taking down the website the Town will have to refund the sponsorship money they recently received.

Council Member Dobbie felt the EPC was out of control and spends too much money. He added that the views put on the EPC website did not represent the views of the City Council. Dobbie concluded that he supports disbandment until a clear charter can be created.

Council discussed the monetary and fiscal impact associated with disbanding the committee. Danielson said the answer is not clear and staff is reviewing that now.

Lewis said a budget had been approved by Council and everything that was purchased has gone through Town staff.

Mayor Widmer said the Council representatives should take more responsibility and accountability for issues that arise at the Committee level.

Charles Marsala, Atherton resident, said he was appalled to see this item on the agenda. Marsala said this issue should have been resolved at the e Committee level.

Walter Sleeth, Atherton resident, supported environmentalism. He suggested putting this off until staff completes its investigation.

Valerie Gardner, EPC member, said there have been a lot of false accusations. She added that nobody has contacted her about any of these concerns and if they do she would be happy to respond.

MOTION by Widmer, second by Carlson to suspend the Environmental Programs Committee until staff meets with the Committee members and Council representatives to research whether any rules have been broken. The motion passed.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

22. COUNCIL REPORTS

Vice Mayor Lewis noted that the League of California Cities is holding their annual New Mayors and Vice Mayors conference and she encouraged others to attend.

Lewis suggested an ad-hoc committee to help with the search for permanent key staff members.

23. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS -

Mayor Widmer said there will be a goal and strategy setting meeting in the near future. Dobbie suggested making sure the goals and objectives are very clear so the Town will acquire results.

24. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Walter Sleeth, Atherton resident, suggested Council find out whether the opinion piece on the EPC website was legal or not.

Charles Marsala asked what happens to the Dames, Arts Committee storage and other similar items.

McKeithen said all of it is still being considered.

25. ADJOURN

MOTION by Dobbie, second by Carlson to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Widmer adjourned the meeting at 10:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa DellaSanta
Deputy City Clerk