



MINUTES
Town of Atherton
CITY COUNCIL
April 8, 2020
SPECIAL MEETING

Mayor DeGolia called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

4:00PM SPECIAL SESSION MEETING – *Convene as the City Council*

1. **ROLL CALL** - Wiest, Widmer, Lempres, Vice Mayor Lewis, Mayor DeGolia – Present
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Kimberly Wong asked about residential construction as non-essential and stated it should be halted.

Resident Yvonne Nomizu submitted a public comment supporting the Town in continuing construction activity on the Town Center project.

3. **GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE STANFORD RECREATION MITIGATION FUND**

Mayor DeGolia introduce item number 3 for the rest of the Council and he invited Robert Ovadia, Director of Public Works, to provide a presentation to the Council. Mr. Ovadia presented details related to the grant. He noted to support the application, a letter of support is needed from the Mayor and City Manager.

Council discussed the item inquiring about what other projects were considered, the total pool of funding available, and what other regional joint projects had been considered. Council also asked clarifying questions as to how projects and funding is approved.

Mr. Ovadia responded to Council inquires providing background information.

Motion to by Widmer, Second by Wiest to authorize the Mayor to execute a letter of support for the application to obtain funding from the Stanford Recreation Mitigation Fund.

AYES: Widmer, Wiest, Lempres, Lewis, DeGolia
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

4. **ATHERTON COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATES**

City Manager George Rodericks provided a brief update. Mr. Rodericks noted changes related to COVID-19 response measures and offered detail about how the Town and region are addressing challenges.

Motion to by Widmer, Second by DeGolia to certify the continuing emergency and ratify rules and regulations enacted by the Director of Emergency Services in response to COVID-19.

AYES: Widmer, Wiest, Lempres, Lewis, DeGolia

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

5. **DETERMINATION OF THE CONTINUATION OF CONSTRUCTION ON THE ADMINISTRATION AND POLICE DEPARTMENT FACILITY AS AN ESSENTIAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNCTION**

City Manager George Rodericks provided a presentation to the Council. Mr. Rodericks highlighted the history of the Shelter-in-Place orders issued by San Mateo County. He noted as part of the orders there are provisions allowing certain infrastructure and public works projects to continue if determined to be as an essential governmental function. Rodericks requested direction from Council on the continuance of construction activity for the Town Center project.

Mr. Rodericks highlighted plans from contractor SJ Amoroso that outlined how the worksite would be managed under COVID-19 social distancing rules.

Councilmember Widmer asked clarifying questions about the proposed plan and impacts of to the project timeline.

Bob Erskine, President of Amoroso, clarified that the presented plan is a fluid working document. He noted the document is still under review especially as it relates to what are suggested guidelines versus mandatory rules.

Council continued to discuss the proposed guidelines, practical oversight the Town and site Project Managers could put in place, what input local health officials had in the preparation of the plan, and potential enforcement or violation measures the Town could impose.

Jennifer Erskine, Amoroso Project Manager, commented that with the project shutdown they are still evaluating impacts on the timeline and schedule.

City Manager Rodericks further clarified, that if there are significant violations the procedures the project will be shut down. City Attorney Ebrahimi also clarified that County Health Officials is allowing law enforcement to cite and/or arrest.

Councilmember Wiest stated his support to move forward with the project as planned.

Councilmember Lempres noted his support to move forward with the guidelines discussed in place and requested Council be notified of any issues related to the project.

Mayor DeGolia noted his support to continue the project as an essential governmental function.

Motion by Lempres, Second by DeGolia for the approval of designating the administrative and police portions of the Town Center construction project as Essential Governmental Infrastructure and allowing construction in compliance with the guidelines approved herein, and authorizing staff to immediately enforce and stop activities if violations of guidelines occur.

AYES: Wiest, Lempres, Lewis, DeGolia

NOES: Widmer

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Councilmember Widmer noted for the record that he is in opposition for continuing construction activity at this time.

6. **COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS** - None
7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None
8. **ADJOURN**

Mayor DeGolia adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.



Anthony Suber
City Clerk