



Joint Meeting Minutes



Menlo Park Fire Protection District and the Town of Atherton City Council Special Meeting

January 22, 2019

5:00 PM

Holbrook-Palmer Park, Jennings Pavilion
150 Watkins Avenue, Atherton, CA 94027

Minutes

ROLL CALL

Mayor Widmer called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members: Virginia Chang Kiraly, Board President, Robert Jones, Vice President (arrived at 5:03 p.m.)
Chuck Bernstein, Director, Jim McLaughlin, Director, Robert J. Silano, Director

Council Members: Bill Widmer, Mayor, Rick DeGolia, Vice Mayor
Michael Lempres, Councilmember, Elizabeth Lewis, Councilmember, Cary Wiest, Councilmember

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance did not occur due to the absence of a flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT #1

Greg Conlon of Atherton expressed concern regarding school security in Atherton.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Discuss Matrix Report – Fire Services Review**

Town of Atherton City Manager George Rodericks provided background information regarding the report.

Robert Finn from Matrix Consulting Group provided an overview of his background and experience and that of the team that worked on the report. Mr. Finn reported that pension liability was not included in the scope of work however, that would be addressed along with other components if the Town chose to pursue detachment.

Vice Mayor DeGolia suggested forming a subcommittee with members from the Council and Board to discuss and explore options.

President Kiraly stated that the informal structure for discussion should be through the liaisons and if a more formal subcommittee were to be established it should include the other jurisdictions.

2. Discuss Emergency Response Routes

Chief Schapelhouman provided an overview including how traffic control devices and other challenges impact response times.

3. Discuss Alarm Notification System

Chief Schapelhouman provided an overview and discussed the District's purchase of a mass notification trailer which includes a Long-Range Acoustical Device (LRAD) system and he summarized its capabilities.

Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENT #2

Jim Lewis asked, in regards to the fire services fiscal review, why Atherton was focusing on the Fire District versus other government agencies. Regarding emergency response routes, he stated at one time Atherton was considering installing a lid on the Atherton Channel and suggests it be reconsidered. Lastly, regarding an alarm notification system, he suggested drones could be used as an additional tool.

Walter Sleeth stated, in regards to the fire services fiscal review, that he supports the idea of a subcommittee and suggests considering alternative ways of conducting a cost of services study.

Remona Murray, in regards to the fire services fiscal review, suggests the Town consider whether it's cost effective to use funds to purchase apparatus that the Fire District already has.

A member of the public commented on Senate Bill 50 and on Sam Trans service through Atherton.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.