



**MINUTES**  
**Town of Atherton**  
**City Council**  
**February 3, 2021**  
**CLOSED SESSION @ 3:30 P.M.**  
**STUDY SESSION @ 4:00 P.M.**

Mayor Lewis called the Closed Session to order at 3:30 p.m.

**3:30 PM CLOSED SESSION**

**CLOSED SESSION IN ZOOM MEETING SPACE**

**ROLL CALL** - Hawkins, DeGolia, Widmer, Vice Mayor Lempres, Mayor Lewis – Present

- A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)  
City Manager*

Mayor Lewis called the Study Session to order at 4:02 p.m.

**4:00 P.M. STUDY SESSION**

1. **ROLL CALL** - Manuelian, DeGolia, Widmer, Vice Mayor Lempres, Mayor Lewis – Present
2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – *None*
3. **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION** – **Report out by City Attorney**

City Attorney Ebrahimi reported that Council provided direction.

4. **FEEDBACK AND DIRECTION REGARDING POSSIBLE AGENDA TOPICS FOR A JOINT MEETING WITH THE MENLO PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

City Manager Rodericks introduced the item and Ad Hoc Subcommittee of Council Members DeGolia and Hawkins-Manuelian.

DeGolia and Hawkins-Manuelian lead a Council discussion on agenda topics for a joint meeting with the Menlo Park Fire Protection District (MPFPD).

Council discussed the priorities of the subcommittee, the possibility of including a member of the public on the subcommittee, and potential topics of discussion for a joint meeting with the MPFPD.

**Public Comments:**

- Bob Polito commented on the item.

- Virginia Chang Kiraly, MPFPD Board Member and Atherton Liaison shared district updates and announced she was available for Council questions. She also noted that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee and her would meet on February 9, 2021.

City Attorney Ebrahimi noted for Council that the establishment and assignment of members to an Ad Hoc Subcommittee is at the Mayor's discretion.

Council discussed subcommittee goals, historical context of the development of the committee, and the powers of the subcommittee being confined to recommendation for a Council decision.

Council Member Widmer commented that Emergency Operations Center should be in Atherton. He added that he would like to know the use of the properties that the Fire District Board had purchased in Atherton. DeGolia confirmed that those concerns will be included.

Council continued to discuss the potential joint meeting topics including assistance with Police Officer housing, collaboration with community group A.D.A.P.T. on community outreach and education, traffic related concerns, and possible dates for the joint meeting.

Council Member Lempres and Mayor Lewis expressed continued interest in obtaining data and analysis from MPFPD on services provided to the Town.

Virginia Chang Kiraly, MPFPD Board Member and Atherton Liaison noted that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee and her would meet on February 9, 2021. She clarified that the district has not created a subcommittee at this point and that she is set to serve as the point of contact.

Council collectively directed that the subcommittee present the agenda topics proposed in their presentation and include proposed topics during the Council discussion.

## **5. RECEIVE AND FILE THE MID-YEAR BUDGET REPORT FOR FY 2020/21**

City Manager Rodericks noted that the item is a receive and file item only and no formal action will be taken at this meeting.

Finance Director Barron III presented a brief overview of the mid-year budget report for fiscal year 2020/21.

## **6. REVIEW AND DISCUSS A MEMORANDUM FROM THE TOWN'S AUDIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REGARDING THE CALPERS ACTUARIAL VALUATION REPORTS AND FUNDING TOWARD PAYMENT OF THE TOWN'S PENSION OBLIGATIONS**

Finance Director Barron III, presented the item and a memo from the Town's Audit and Finance Committee regarding the CalPERS actuarial valuation reports and funding toward payment of the Town's pension obligation.

City Attorney Ebrahimi noted the Audit & Finance Committee members should limit the number of members providing input to avoid a Brown Act violation.

**Public Comments:**

- Anne Yvonne Walker, Chair of Audit and Finance Committee made herself available for Council questions.
- Bob Polito, Audit and Finance Committee member commented on the Town's historical payments made to the pension liabilities, the increase of the unfunded liability obligations and dissatisfaction with CalPERS.

Council thanked the Audit and Finance Committee and collectively expressed concerns about the increasing unfunded liability obligations, and concerns about CalPERS management. Council discussed challenges with CalPERS return on investments and suggested the Audit and Finance subcommittee continue to evaluate alternatives for Council's consideration.

**7. DISCUSSION FOR CONSIDERATION IN DEVELOPING A HISTORICAL EVALUATION/PRESERVATION PROGRAM FOR THE PURPOSES OF CONSIDERING MILLS ACT CONTRACTS IN TOWN**

Council discussed moving the item to a date certain and Mayor Lewis allowed public comment.

**Public Comments:**

- William Grindley, former Atherton Resident/Rail Committee, complimented the Council on their civility with handling Town business. He also shared his perspective on the importance of the establishment of Historical Preservation Program within Town.

**Council directed that the item would be moved to the next scheduled Study Session on March 3, 2021.**

**8. COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS - *None***

**9. ADJOURN**

**Mayor Lewis adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.**



**Anthony Suber**  
City Clerk