



**MINUTES**  
**Town of Atherton**  
**City Council**  
**October 6, 2021**  
**CLOSED SESSION &**  
**SPECIAL MEETING/STUDY SESSION**

Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

**3:15 PM CLOSED SESSION**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

**CLOSED SESSION IN ZOOM MEETING SPACE**

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

***A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION - (Gov. Code section 54956.9): City of Long Beach v. Monsanto Company, et al. (2:16-cv-03493-FMO-AS). Central District Court of California, Western Division, Los Angeles Courthouse. Initiation of litigation pursuant to Gov. Code section 54956.9(d): (one case)***

*City Attorney*

*Liability Claims (Gov. Code section 54956.95)*

*Claimant: (John Garcia)*

*Agency claimed against: (Town of Atherton)*

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

**4:00 PM REGULAR AGENDA**

- 1. ROLL CALL - Hawkins-Manuelian, DeGolia, Widmer, Vice Mayor Lempres, Mayor Lewis –  
All Present**

Mayor Lewis announced that Council Member and Vice Mayor Lempres submitted a letter of resignation from Council effective on October 15, 2021.

Vice Mayor Lempres addressed his resignation and noted that he is proud of the work he and his fellow Council colleagues and staff were able to accomplish during his tenure and he would miss serving the wonderful residents of the Town of Atherton.

Council Member DeGolia complimented Lempres indicating that he is sad to see him go and hopes he can return to Council in the future.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

3. **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION** by City Attorney, Mona Ebrahimi

City Attorney Ebrahimi indicated that Council met in Closed Session and provided direction to staff.

4. **ADOPT A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM (MARCH 4, 2020) AS APPLICABLE IN THE TOWN AND AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF THE TOWN PURSUANT TO THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT**

City Manager Rodericks introduced the item noting the newly adopted Assembly Bill 361.

Council discussed the options for continuing live streaming for meetings noting the increased public participation and transparency since option has been implemented.

Staff responded indicating the function and option will continue to be offered.

**MOTION by DeGolia, Second by Widmer to adopt Resolution No. 2021 – 15 authorizing teleconference meetings of legislative bodies of the Town pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act and Assembly Bill 361.**

**AYES: Hawkins, DeGolia, Widmer, Vice Mayor Lempres, Mayor Lewis**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**STUDY SESSION**

5. **FEEDBACK AND DIRECTION REGARDING A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SERVICES**

Public Works Director Ovadia presented the report to Council highlighting options for Council consideration.

**Public Comments:**

- Jeremy Isenberg, on behalf of the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation submitted written comments.
- Susan Moriconi submitted written comments.
- Walter Robinson submitted written comments.
- Matt Baker commented on the item

Council Member Widmer stated that he supports the idea of increasing the financial support for Holbrook-Palmer Park (Park) and that he supports having any request for proposal responses broken out to indicate costs for the Park versus costs associated with the Town Center separately.

Council collectively supported Widmer's comments indicating that the Town solicit proposals for landscaping services for the Town Center and the Park and that the vendor selected should specialize in the area of landscaping.

City Manager Rodericks clarified that there would be three separate areas to itemize on responsive bids noting services needed for the Library, Town Center, and Holbrook-Palmer Park.

**Council provided direction to staff that a request for proposal ask responders to itemize costs related to each area independently and that one vendor provide the services for each.**

**This will return to Council at a future meeting for approval.**

## **6. NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN**

Public Works Director Ovadia presented the item to Council noting results from the resident survey and input from residents related to mitigation measures

Riya Debnath, TJKM Consultant reviewed the presentation with Council providing overviews of the suggested mitigation measures.

Ruta Jariwala, TJKM Consultant added context to the conversation noting that intention of this phase of the project was to gather resident and neighbor input.

Council discussed the results from the surveys, suggested mitigation measures, and impacts on pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. Council directed that staff return to the Council with a priority list of measures to implement.

**This item will return to Council at a future meeting for further direction.**

## **7. COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Council Member DeGolia reported that Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) held an annual retreat and provided details about the goals of PCE related to providing 100% renewable energy to all of its customers 24/7 by 2025 and to contribute to the County in reaching the state's goal to be 100% greenhouse gas-free by 2045.

## **8. ADJOURN**

**Mayor Lewis adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.**

  
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**Anthony Suber**  
City Clerk