



MINUTES
Town of Atherton
CITY COUNCIL
ATHERTON CHANNEL DRAINAGE DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 20, 2008
7:00 p.m.
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
94 Ashfield Road
Atherton, California

REGULAR MEETING

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

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT Jerry Carlson
Charles E. Marsala
James R. Janz

ABSENT: Kathy McKeithen (Excused)

City Manager Jerry Gruber and City Attorney Marc Hynes were also present.

3. PRESENTATIONS

None

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. STAFF REPORTS

- City Attorney Marc Hynes reported out of Closed Session as follows:

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – Existing Litigation pursuant to Subsection (a) of Government Code Section 54956.9

Lamb vs. Town of Atherton, et al.
Superior Court of California, San Mateo County, CIV 461630

There was no reportable action.
John P. Johns Petitioner vs. Town of Atherton et. al. Respondent

There was no reportable action.

B. LIABILITY CLAIMS – pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.95

Claimant: Dorothy E. Saxe

Agency Claimed Against: Town of Atherton

There was no reportable action.

- **City Manager Jerry Gruber met with Menlo Park Fire Protection District (MPFPD) Chief, Harold Schapelhouman, on Tuesday, February 19, regarding fire flow, infrastructure, disaster preparedness, and an evacuation route for West Atherton. He met with Bob Jenkins and discussed CERT training and emergency preparedness plans. Vice Mayor Carlson asked the City Manager to follow up with MPFPD regarding possible funding for disaster preparedness. City Manager Gruber met with Peter Ingram, interim city manager for Redwood City regarding drainage issues from a regional perspective. A tour of the flood gates was cancelled due to rain. With respect to Watkins Avenue, City Manager Gruber and Public Works Director Duncan Jones would meet next week with the city manager of Menlo Park and other staff.**
- **Deputy Town Planner Lisa Costa Sanders said the first Zoning Code Update Workshop was held on February 6, attended by 59 people. The topics were height measured for buildings and dormers. The next meeting was scheduled for March 5, at Holbrook-Palmer Park Pavilion, for discussions regarding light wells, retaining walls, and floor area calculation.**
- **Public Works Director Duncan Jones said the developer of the 1906 El Camino project expressed an interest in proceeding. Public Works Director Jones informed him his next step was to come to the Transportation Sub-Committee to initiate the traffic program/traffic study. Since the project would connect to the Town's drainage system, the developer would need to follow the Town's drainage procedures as well.**
- **Acting City Clerk Kathi Hamilton confirmed that James Dobbie had qualified as a candidate for the upcoming Special Election on June 3, 2008. March 7, 2008, was the deadline for filing nomination papers.**

6. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION ROUNDTABLE REPORT

Environmental Programs Committee

Valerie Gardner, Chair, Environmental Programs Committee (EPC), said there was international recognition regarding global climate change. California had a long history of being in the forefront of progressing environmental protections and had passed AB32 regarding greenhouse gas emissions and led in many areas of climate change. She reported on what had been taking place throughout the United States, regionally, and locally. Atherton topped the charts in average residential electrical and

gas usage. The EPC's mission was to address these issues. She reported on the EPC's events and outreach efforts. She discussed what the EPC wanted to accomplish in 2008.

Council Member Marsala commended Ms. Gardner for her work on the EPC. He reported on several issues related to solar within the Town. Additionally, he commended Town Arborist Kathy Hughes Anderson for developing the first Earth Day and compliance in waste diversion.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 7- 21)

Council Member Marsala requested Item No. 13 be removed and placed at the end of the Regular Agenda for discussion. With regard to Item No. 8, Ms. Tsai was primarily working in the Building Department helping with the software conversion. Her contract would end in June.

MOTION – to approve the Consent Calendar as presented with the exception of Item No. 13 which was removed and placed at the end of the Regular Agenda for discussion.

M/S J.Carson/Marsala Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 (McKeithen) Abstain: 0

7. APPROVED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION MEETING JANUARY 2, 2008; THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL CLOSED SESSION AND REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OF JANUARY 16, 2008

8. APPROVED BILLS AND CLAIMS FOR JANUARY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 1,112,771

9. ACCEPTED MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY 2008

10. ACCEPTED THE QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2007

11. ADOPTED A RESOLUTION FOR SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR COMERICA BANK

Adopted the Resolution No. 08-04, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON APPROVING SIGNATURE AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS AFFILIATED WITH THE TOWN OF ATHERTON"

12. ADOPTED THREE RESOLUTIONS FIXING THE EMPLOYER'S CONTRIBUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL CARE ACT

Adopted Resolution No.08-05, 08-06, and 08-07 "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON FIXING THE EMPLOYER'S CONTRIBUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' MEDICAL AND

HOSPITAL CARE ACT,” for 1) Miscellaneous Employee Group; 2) Sworn Police Unit, and 3) the Management Group.

- ~~13. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM PMC FOR PUBLIC OUTREACH FOR THE HISTORICAL ARTIFACT ORDINANCE~~ *(Removed and placed on the regular agenda for discussion.)*

~~Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00 and approval of the proposal to provide consultant services for Public Outreach in connection with amendments to the Town’s Historic Preservation Ordinance.~~

14. 2006 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL ON THE ATHERTON GENERAL PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Accepted the Annual Report and authorized its transmittal to the California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research and the California Department of Housing and Community Development pursuant to Section 65400 of the California Government Code (CGC).

15. MENLO PARK RECOMMENDATION TO REMOVE PARKING IN FRONT OF 1850 EL CAMINO REAL (CELIA’S RESTAURANT) AND CONVERT THE SHOULDER TO A RIGHT TURN ONLY LANE AT THE INTERSECTION OF SPRUCE AVENUE AND EL CAMINO REAL

Approved the recommendation from the City of Menlo Park to remove parking and modify the intersection of Spruce Avenue at El Camino Real.

16. THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS REFERRING THE DRAFT ORDINANCE ADDING ATHERTON MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 8.56 PERTAINING TO WOOD-BURNING APPLIANCES TO THE GENERAL PLAN COMMITTEE

Directed the General Plan Committee to review and consider the proposed wood burning appliance ordinance.

17. APPROVED A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND MAYOR TO INITIATE TRANSACTIONS WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND

Adopted Resolution No. 08-08, “A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON AUTHORIZING INVESTMENT OF FUNDS WITH THE STATE TREASURER

18. INTRODUCTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 13.10.070 OF THE ATHERTON MUNICIPAL CODE FOR PUBLIC, EDUCATIONAL AND ACCESS SUPPORT FEES FROM VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDERS

Introduced ordinance amending Section 18.10.070(b)(1)(B) of the Atherton Municipal Code to set fee to be paid by video service providers for public, educational and access support.

19. APPROVED A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WILSEY HAM FOR MUNICIPAL STORM DRAINAGE SYSTEM DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE FLETCHER-RIDGEVIEW PROJECT

Accepted the proposal and authorized the City Manager to sign a Professional Services Agreement with Wilsey Ham to provide Drainage Design services for the Fletcher Ridgeview Project in an amount not exceed \$56,532, plus a 10% contingency, for a total authorization of \$62,185.20. In addition, authorized the Public Works Department to utilize Wilsey Ham as the on-call municipal storm drainage system design engineering consultant for future Town drainage projects.

20. AWARD OF CONTRACT TO TRU-GREEN LANDCARE FOR THE TREE MAINTENANCE PROJECT NUMBER 07-010

Awarded a contract for the 2008 Tree Maintenance Project, project number 07-010 to Tru-Green Landcare, the low bidder on the February 5, 2008, bids, for \$52,000, and to authorize the Mayor to sign the contract on behalf of the Town.

21. AWARD OF FOUR CONTRACTS FOR THE HOLBROOK-PALMER PARK TOWN HOME PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 7-011

Awarded four contracts for the Holbrook-Palmer Park Town Home Project, Project No. 07-011, for up to \$75,000, with a 10% construction contingency of \$7,500, for a total authorization of \$82,500; authorized the use of informal bidding; and authorized the Mayor to sign the contracts on behalf of the Town.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (Item 22)

22. APPEAL OF THE DECISION OF STAFF REGARDING 137 STOCKBRIDGE AVENUE – (APN 059-292-060)

Deputy Town Planner Lisa Costa Sanders presented the staff report. The existing single-story residence located at 137 Stockbridge was considered legally non-conforming as it encroached into the current side-yard setback. The existing residence was located 19' from the left side yard, while the current side-yard setback requirement of the lot was 36'-6". The existing residence was 3,724 square feet in area. The applicant proposed to demolish a majority of the residence, with the exception of the two nonconforming sections of the building (approximately 720 square feet in area). The newly completed residence would be 7,456 square feet in area (including the second floor). The appellants indicated their Architect met with the Building Department to review the preliminary plans and were assured that the nonconforming rooms could remain. Plans for the major renovation were submitted to the Building Department on June 22, 2007. After reviewing the plans, staff informed the appellants that the proposed renovation was not consistent with the recently adopted

nonconforming ordinance. Staff met with the appellants to further discuss options. As the appellants indicated their desire to proceed with the plans as submitted rather than redesign, staff prepared a letter dated December 7, 2007, denying the plans as submitted. An appeal of Staff's decision was filed with their letter dated December 13, 2007 (attached). Deputy Town Planner Costa Sanders responded to Council questions.

Mayor Janz opened the public hearing.

Mr. Larry Lowry, appellant, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding his home at 137 Stockbridge Avenue. He gave a timeline of the planning and research phase, as well as the decision to remodel in October 2005, which was based upon the former Building Official's assurances that the two nonconforming rooms could be retained. During the next two years, an architect was hired, the plans were developed, and various engineering and geotechnical surveys were completed, and the plans were formally submitted to the Town on June 22, 2007. It was not until September 2007 that he discovered the new ordinance had become effective on May 18, 2007, just 35 days before the plans were submitted. Mr. Lowry had spent over \$250,000 and a decade to develop the plans based on specific, repeated, and explicit assurances from the Town's senior staff that the nonconforming rooms could be retained. He compared two previous appeals granted by Council that he believed were analogous situations: one at 172 Austin, and the other at 84 Walnut. In both cases, the owners were given assurances that their plans would be approved and had spent substantial time, effort and money based on those assurances. In both cases, the appeal would not impinge on any neighbor. The one difference between 172 Austin and 137 Stockbridge was the plans were developed and entirely consistent with and based on both the former Building Official's assurances and the letter of the zoning codes in place throughout the entire design process and up until 35 days before the plans were formally submitted to the Town. He believed approving the appeal would ultimately benefit everyone by substantially upgrading the main structure, eliminating two accessory structures, completing the already started substantial upgrade of street-side landscaping, and screening of the two nonconforming rooms prevented them from being seen outside the property. He urged Council to do the right thing and approve the appeal.

Mayor Janz clarified the Austin and Walnut Avenue appeals were different. In one case, part of the wall that was to be retained in conformance with the code was accidentally knocked down. In the other case, they were told they could knock down the old existing wall and replace it with a new one on the theory that there was justification in having new construction and a new foundation, new materials, etc. He believed Mr. Lowry's situation was just the reverse; that is, keeping the old nonconforming portions in place when the new code did not allow it. He was amazed that the only part of the house being retained was the nonconforming rooms. He believed the house could be designed with the same square footage, with the same functions, in compliance with the current code.

Council Member Marsala queried whether the Building Department should implement some type of stamp indicating a certain amount of time that the approval was good, e.g., six months.

Deputy Town Planner Costa Sanders said staff informed people to check especially with the zoning code updates under way. Changes do happen, and people need to keep in touch.

Dr. David Burton, Atherton, next-door neighbor, submitted a letter regarding objections to the appeal. He thought the plan could be revised. If the appeal was granted, it would set a precedent.

Denise Kupperman, Atherton, there had been a number of issues arise since the former Building Official, Mike Hood, left. She recently built a home and believed Mr. Hood was being vilified. She thought he was very clear about how a nonconforming structure could be retained. She believed the home should meet the existing zoning ordinance.

Mayor Janz closed the public hearing.

Council Member Marsala clarified that had the appellant submitted his plans 40 days before he did, the plans would have been approved under the old regulations. He queried whether a precedent would be set if the appeal was approved.

City Attorney Marc Hynes said an argument was always presented that a precedent would be set. The key was to look at the unique facts of the case and make a determination on that basis. The Council had discretion to either approve or deny the appeal.

Council Member Marsala asked whether there was a plan for “getting the word out” regarding the zoning code updates so that everyone knew the rules had changed.

Deputy Town Planner Costa Sanders indicated she had met with the City Manager and would be proposing additional funds to be allocated in the budget for more advertising, etc.

Vice Mayor Carlson was concerned about the precedent aspect and had that concern with the previous appeals. He did not put too much emphasis on what conversations took place in the past. Time had past and the architect should have been keeping abreast of what happened in the Town. He believed the Town’s ordinances needed to be enforced.

Mayor Janz shared Vice Mayor Carlson’s feelings. Almost a year had passed when the last conversation with Mr. Hood took place and the next action was taken. He wanted to see codes that were properly enacted implemented. He sympathized with the appellant. The only way he could possibly approve what the appellant requested was to install a condition that said the accessory structures must stay removed, which also had issues.

Council Member Marsala said each case should be looked at uniquely. There were letters from neighbors in opposition and in support. He was in favor of approving the appeal based on needing to do a better job of communicating. The appellant missed deadline by 35 days. Given the length of time to build a house, he would decide in favor of the appellant.

Mr. Lowry said he was repeatedly assured by the Building Department that the nonconforming portions could be maintained. Subsequently, the ordinance was changed, and he missed the deadline by 35 days. He did not believe that set a dangerous precedent. Secondly, he believed he did everything possible to keep abreast of any changes.

MOTION – to deny the appeal of staff’s decision regarding 137 Stockbridge Avenue

M/S J.Carlson/Janz Ayes: 2 Noes: 1 (Marsala) Absent: 1 (McKeithen) Abstain: 0

REGULAR AGENDA (Items 23 & 24)

Mayor Janz moved Item No. 13 forward for discussion.

13. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM PMC FOR PUBLIC OUTREACH FOR THE HISTORICAL ARTIFACT ORDINANCE

Council Member Marsala asked for clarification of Council’s action from the last meeting.

City Attorney Marc Hynes said the Deputy Town Planner suggested that PMC had the expertise to conduct focused public meetings rather than send the item to the General Plan Committee. Council concurred and PMC provided the proposal suggesting a truly focused approach on the Historic Artifact Ordinance as opposed to including it with the Zoning Code Update Workshops. Since the Historic Artifact Ordinance was not part of the Zoning Code, having separate focused meetings would be preferable. PMC’s approach was a good one and designed to solicit public outreach.

Council Member Marsala believed there had been significant public participation in the past and queried what new information would be gathered.

Deputy Town Planner Lisa Costa Sanders said since the General Plan Committee was not able to reach consensus and was not able to recommend an ordinance to the City Council, she brought the ordinance to the City Council because the emergency ordinance was going to expire. PMC reviewed the newspaper articles and saw the strong emotions involved with the issue and believed holding smaller stakeholder meetings would help to find consensus.

Council Member Marsala believed a vote was necessary and the \$35,000 would be a great start for a fund to buy artifacts.

Vice Mayor Carlson thought the topic was important. People he spoke to supported the idea that the artifacts should be preserved. They also supported the idea that the Town should play a role. He thought the fact that the artifacts were considered important to preserve, finding a consensus within the entire Town was also important. Perhaps through the process, some ideas would gain broader support for an approach that was acceptable to everyone. He was in favor of the proposal.

Mayor Janz was surprised at the cost of the proposal. The subject was difficult with a lot of emotion involved. If PMC was able to facilitate some discussions that resulted in consensus, the expenditure would be worth it. He agreed a great deal of discussion had taken place; however, the results were not positive. He asked staff to pare down the proposal. He suggested a not-to-exceed amount of \$25,000.

Denise Kupperman, Atherton, asked how much the Town had spent in pursuing the Historic Artifact Ordinance in terms of studies and other professional fees.

Deputy Town Planner Costa Sanders said she and Consultant Laura Jones had spent two years with public outreaches and advertisement in newspapers; although, she did not have a tally.

City Attorney Hynes said if you began with the moratorium and counted legal fees, the amount was easily \$200,000.

William Grindley, Atherton, said to make clear to the residents how the PMC process was to work and invite everyone to be part of the discussion.

MOTION – to approve the expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 and to approve the proposal to provide consultant services for Public Outreach in connection with amendments to the Town’s Historic Artifact Ordinance

M/S Janz/J.Carlson Ayes: 2 Noes: 1 (Marsala) Absent: 1 (McKeithen) Abstain: 0

23. REPORT FROM KEVIN KIELTY, CONTRACT ARBORIST, REGARDING LANDSCAPING AT 12 SELBY LANE

Mayor Janz noted that a letter from the Tree Committee was not included in the packet. Since Mr. Kielty was not present, he suggested continuing the item to the next Council meeting.

John Thomas, Atherton, presented Council with a document he prepared. He said the neighbor’s plan called for several Coastal Redwoods to be planted, as many as the \$20,000 fine would allow. He said the arborist informed him that a large crop of 48” box, 30’ tall Coastal Redwoods was available with a performance guarantee. The Tree Committee plan proposed planting 24” box Ginkgo trees. Council gave direction last November from the parties to meet and confer. He indicated there was a failure to do so. He pointed out inconsistencies with suggested plantings.

Denise Kupperman, Atherton, said the Tree Committee wrote a letter to the Council in response to its request for the Tree Committee to recommend a tree for Selby Lane. She thought the discussion was not so much about the size of tree but the type of tree. The Tree Committee noted that the property owner paid the fine, and the property owner did plant replacement trees. They complied with the settlement agreement. The Tree Committee was concerned as to whether another resident had influence over what another individual would plant. The planting of an evergreen tree on the south side of the house would make the house dark and cold. The only thing the Tree Committee recommended was that a deciduous tree be planted rather than an evergreen because in the long term it would be environmentally beneficial to the residents. The property owner needed to be in agreement with what was planted.

Rachel Croft, Atherton, Chair of the Tree Committee, believed a Ginkgo tree was a good idea because it grew 30 to 40 feet tall and there was a variety that grew rapidly. She recommended evergreen shrubs, English Laurel, etc., that made hedge-type material that would make the wall appear more attractive.

MOTION – to continue the item to the City Council meeting of March 19, 2008.

M/S J.Carlson/Janz Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 (McKeithen) Abstain: 0

24. ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MID-YEAR BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Interim Finance Director Bill Yeomans presented the staff report with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. The mid-year budget process involved looking at the first half-year financial results and projecting future revenues and expenditures to the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2008. The process enabled the Town to determine how it was doing compared to the original budget and to make any mid-year adjustments as needed. The results from the last fiscal year were higher than anticipated and resulted in \$1.9 million more than projected. Revenues for the current fiscal year, with projections to the end of the fiscal year, looked to be ahead by \$406,000 from the original estimates and were due to higher property taxes. Expenditures were also running over budget by \$460,000. A list of adjustments would be presented to cover the additional expenditures. The adjustments were as follows: 1) Unanticipated litigation; 2) Planning/Building Projects, Zoning Code Update, Historic Artifacts Ordinance; 3) Management Recruitments; 4) Town Home Improvements; 5) Police Department power backup; 6) Disaster Preparedness, etc. He was recommending other smaller adjustments to be taken out of the Contingency fund. There were two amendments to the resolution: 1) reduce planning consulting by \$10,000; and 2) reduce the scale of the Sacred Heart Science Building to \$40,000 revenues and \$30,000 expenditures.

Vice Mayor Carlson said the Finance Committee had normally met regarding the mid-year budget adjustments went to Council. He believed the basic problem was not doing as good a job in budgeting as should have been done. Budget surpluses grew but Parcel Tax funds were allocated to General Fund expenses. He believed the Town should not have used Parcel Tax dollars for the General Fund but using those dollars

for infrastructure improvements. He would like to go through the methodology, assumptions, find out what had changed, and decide if he concurred with the processes.

Council Member Marsala queried whether the Town needed to use any Reserve funds for the current fiscal year as previously forecasted.

Interim Finance Director Yeomans said believed a surplus was possible and Reserve funds would not be needed.

Council Member Marsala said some of the surplus was due to property taxes exceeding what was forecasted and received a refund in ERAF money that was not expected.

Vice Mayor Carlson said the Council should be given another layer of knowledge than what was presented.

Mayor Janz said Council should direct that the Finance Committee to convene and review the mid-year budget with the Finance Director and address in detail Vice Mayor Carlson's questions.

Council Member Marsala noted the Facilities Committee recommended that the Town Home allocation be included in the current year budget in order to complete the Town Home before the City Manager was living there.

Vice Mayor Carlson suggested the recommendation needed to be effectively communicated to the Council.

Valerie Gardner, Atherton, queried whether any green building was included in the Town Home.

Council Member Marsala responded that the Facilities Committee recommended that the home be inspected for insulation before work was done. The home was inspected and found to be adequately insulated.

Public Works Director Duncan Jones said windows and appliances were being considered for energy efficient replacements. New light fixtures would be energy efficient.

Vice Mayor Carlson suggested that a discussion of goals and objectives at a workshop would be a driver for the next year's budget.

Mayor Janz clarified when the parcel tax was presented, a specific percentage was split between operations and capital improvements.

MOTION – to continue the item to the City Council meeting of March 19, 2008

M/S Marsala/J.Carlson Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 (McKeithen) Abstain: 0

25. COUNCIL REPORTS

- Vice Mayor Carlson attended HEART, DARE, the Menlo Park Transportation Committee, and Council of Cities meetings. He met with the Police Department and discussed with Chief Brennan and Lieutenant Nielson pie charts regarding utilization of police time. He attended a Redwood City Chamber-sponsored meeting regarding High-Speed Rail electrification. The High-Speed Rail Authority was preparing to vote on accepting the EIR that favored the Pacheco Pass Plan. The Governor and Senator Diane Feinstein would be co-chairing the committee for the High-Speed Rail. There was no organized opposition.
- Council Member Marsala had lunch with City Manager Jerry Gruber. He acknowledged Wendé Protzman for her service to the Town and for taking care of tough issues. The Facilities Committee met regarding completing the Town Home improvements. He attended the General Plan Committee meeting and queried how to put things on the agenda. He wanted to see some of the limitations of the Municipal Code relaxed for unique situations and lots that were several acres. He announced the Facilities Committee would hold a public meeting regarding fundraising for a new Town Hall.
- Mayor Janz clarified that the General Plan Committee meeting attended by Council Member Marsala was a workshop regarding the Zoning Code Update and was conducted by consultants. The intent was not to make drastic changes but to make it more understandable. Last November a meeting was held to discuss global issues to be addressed by the General Plan Committee. The Committee was working on the list and getting through the Zoning Code Update was a priority.

26. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Valerie Gardner, Atherton, said Attorney General Jerry Brown was looking at General Plan Updates and sending his critique in a directive that would indicate, for example, the need to add Green Building Guidelines.

William Grindley, Atherton, attended the Joint Meeting of Council with Menlo Park City Council. He thought the meeting was constructive. He thought the expenditure of \$30 billion for High-Speed Rail was a fantasy and would probably be double the amount.

27. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Jim Janz adjourned the meeting was at 10:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Hamilton
Acting City Clerk