



Draft Minutes
Town of Atherton
CITY COUNCIL
December 17, 2014

6:15 P.M. – SPECIAL MEETING - CLOSED SESSION

Conference Room; Town Administrative Offices

91 Ashfield Road, Atherton, California

7:00 P.M. - REGULAR MEETING

Council Chambers

94 Ashfield Road,

Atherton, California

6:15 PM CLOSED SESSION IN CONFERENCE ROOM

ROLL CALL Wiest, DeGolia, Widmer, Lewis, Lempres

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public Announcement of Closed Session Items

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subsection (b) of Government Code Section 54956.9):

Two (2) cases

7:00 PM RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

2. ROLL CALL Widmer, Lewis, DeGolia, Wiest, Lempres

3. PRESENTATIONS

COUNCIL REORGANIZATION

a) Message from Outgoing Mayor

Mayor Wiest noted that under his leadership the Town achieved the goal of increasing efficiency and accessibility to the community by fostering a respectful and collegial council that gets things done rather than hold meeting for extended hours with no public participation. Wiest noted that he accepts responsibility for controversial items such as the right-of-way issues on Parker, air traffic noise concerns, and the little league project.

Mayor Wiest said that as a Town there was a great deal of accomplishments which set the motion for the next year. He noted that it could not have been done without collaboration from the rest of Council, and the dedicated resident volunteers and the Town staff.

b) Selection of Mayor and Vice Mayor

MOTION by Lewis, second by Widmer to nominate Rick DeGolia for Mayor. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION by Wiest, second by Lempres to nominate Elizabeth Lewis for Vice Mayor. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Oath of Office -New Mayor and Vice Mayor

City Clerk DellaSanta administered the oath of office to Mayor DeGolia and Vice Mayor Lewis.

d) Message from Incoming Mayor

Mayor DeGolia noted that to increase public awareness and stay committed to listening to the town's residents that he will have lunch with all comers every Tuesday in the town's council chambers from noon to 2 p.m. Matters for discussion can include the town's police department, road safety, and high-speed rail and Caltrain electrification, master plan projects and how to prioritize those projects.

Mayor DeGolia wants to improve Internet and cellular services in Atherton through the newly formed technology subcommittee made up of residents and other technology specialists from each private and public school in town.

Mayor DeGolia concluded that he will bring a continued commitment to the town's fiscal health and investment in infrastructure; and he hopes the new civic center will be able to generate all the energy it consumes, making it the first net-zero civic center in California.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Walter Sleeth – urged the Council to halt all construction on the little league project because he believe it hadn't gone through the proper process for design and review.

Rosemary Maultbetsch – encouraged the CCAC members to get involved in electrification of the rail line and HSR.

5. REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION - Report out by City Attorney

City Attorney Conners reported that pursuant to the Eel River Case, Council has directed staff to file an Amicus Brief.

Conners noted that pursuant to the Environmental lawsuit for electrification that Council did not feel it appropriate to participate in a lawsuit at this time.

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Rodericks reported that staff sent out several newsflashes that kept the community informed of issues related to the recent storm. Since the start of the storm, the Town's Public Works crews and the Police Department have been patrolling town-wide and monitoring flood prone areas; and clearing storm drains and debris and fallen trees from roadways.

Council concurred that staff did a fabulous job given the limited resources they have.

7. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION ROUNDTABLE REPORT

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 8-13)

8. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 19 REGULAR AND DECEMBER 3 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Report: Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Theresa DellaSanta

Recommendation: Approve meeting minutes

9. APPROVAL OF BILLS AND CLAIMS FOR NOVEMBER, 2014 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$935,330

Report: Finance Director Robert Barron III

Recommendation: Approve Bills and Claims in the amount of \$935,330

10. ACCEPT FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT THE NEW OPEB VALUATION REPORT

Report: Finance Director Robert Barron III

Recommendation: Accept the Finance Committee recommendation to adopt the Town of Atherton refresh of the Actuarial Valuation of Postemployment Health Care Program as of July 1, 2014

11. AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) TO DEVELOP A NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Report: Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: Authorize issuing a Request for Proposal to develop a Neighborhood Traffic Management Program

12. STREET LIGHT ENGINEERING CONSULTING RFP

Report: Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: That City Council approve the Series Circuit Street Light Analyses and Replacement Program Request for Proposal (RFP) and authorize its distribution

13. APPROVAL OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR THE ATHERTON AVENUE/FAIR OAKS LANE/MIDDLEFIELD ROAD PROJECT

Report: Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: Approve the plans and specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for the Atherton Avenue/Fair Oaks Lane/Middlefield Road Rehabilitation Project, Federal Project No. STPL-5261(008)

PUBLIC HEARING – None

REGULAR AGENDA - (14-17)

14. EVENT GARDEN DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

Report: Community Services Director Mike Kashiwagi

Recommendation: Approve the development agreement between the Town of Atherton and the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation for a new Event Garden

The Council asked questions about tree removal, relocation, and replacement, pathways, use, and funding.

Frank Merrill, Holbrook Palmer Park Foundation, presented the Council with information about the event garden including the proposed location, existing conditions and the rose garden location.

Mayor DeGolia thanked Frank, Denise Kupperman and the friends of the park for the work they put into the events garden.

MOTION by Widmer, second by Lewis to approve the development agreement between the Town of Atherton and the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation for a new Event Garden. The motion passed 5-0.

15. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON AMENDING CHAPTER 15.36 OF THE ATHERTON MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO SIGNS

Report: City Manager George Rodericks

Recommendation: Adopt an Ordinance of the City Council of the Town of Atherton amending Chapter 15.36 of the Atherton Municipal Code relating to Signs

Staff presented the Report and the Council asked questions of staff related to the proposed ordinance. Amendments to the sign ordinance were presented to the Council.

Comments and discussion revolved around the size of the signs between 14 square feet and 16 square feet.

Staff provided information reflecting current conditions in the field. The Council advised that once the Town adopts the ordinance, enforcement would be important.

MOTION by Lewis, second by Wiest to adopt an Ordinance of the City Council of the Town of Atherton amending Chapter 15.36 of the Atherton Municipal Code relating to Signs. The motion passed unanimously.

16. INTRODUCTION AND 1ST READING OF THE WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY ORDINANCE

Report: City Manager George Rodericks

Recommendation: 1) That the City Council take public comment and discuss the proposed ordinance; 2) Motion to read the ordinance by title only. The City Clerk will read aloud the full title of the ordinance; and 3) Motion to approve first reading of the ordinance and to waive future reading of the ordinance

City Manager Rodericks reported. Council discussion revolved around design criteria, heights of towers, and concealment.

MOTION by Council to introduce the ordinance for 1st reading modifying the concealment section to tighten up the language. The title was read aloud by the City Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.

17. FLEET VEHICLE PURCHASE

Report: Police Chief Ed Flint

Recommendation: Authorize the purchase of two new unmarked 2015 Ford Taurus Police Interceptors at a total cost of \$58,497.71

The Council discussed the need for the vehicles, the rationale of rotating the vehicles from the Chief and Lieutenant to the Code Enforcement Officer and Arborist, and questioned why the cost of the vehicles was not added to the cost of hire when the two positions were created.

18. COUNCIL REPORTS/COMMENTS – Nothing further to add to written report.

19. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS –

Council Member Widmer noted that Recology is in the process of making adjustments in their investment policy and he would like to see an item on a future agenda after those discussions take place.

Mayor DeGolia requested a future agenda item to discuss library donor funds. Rodericks noted that discussion is already scheduled for a study session in April.

20. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

21. ADJOURN

MOTION by Lempres, second by Lewis to adjourn the meeting. Mayor DeGolia adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa DellaSanta
City Clerk