



## Item No. 12 Town of Atherton

### **CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT – CONSENT AGENDA**

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
GEORGE RODERICKS, CITY MANAGER**

**FROM: ANTHONY SUBER, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER / CITY CLERK**

**DATE: JULY 15, 2020**

**SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REQUIRING CANDIDATES TO BE CHARGED A DEPOSIT TO COVER THE COST OF PUBLICATION FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends adoption of a Resolution requiring candidates to pay the prorated cost of publication and distribution of the Statement of Qualifications and specifying the length of the Statement for the November 3, 2020 General Election.

#### **BACKGROUND | ANALYSIS**

The attached Resolution establishes a deposit requirement in the amount of \$400 for candidates wishing to file a Statement of Qualifications and sets the length of the statement at 200 words. The City Clerk has published a notice of election and the service agreement with the San Mateo County Elections Department has been executed. Election Code §§13307(a)(1), limits local candidates to a 200-word limit that can be increased to 400 words by Council Resolution.

#### **POLICY FOCUS**

Historically, Council has set the length at 200 words including in 2018. Council can make a change to 400 words. If Council chooses to set the length to 400 words, the item will need to be removed from the consent agenda.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The Fiscal Year 2020/21 Budget includes \$10,000 for the cost of the election.

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with this agenda item being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting in print and electronically. Information about the project is also

disseminated via the Town's electronic News Flash and Atherton Online. There are approximately 1,200 subscribers to the Town's electronic News Flash publications. Subscribers include residents as well as stakeholders – to include, but be not limited to, media outlets, school districts, Menlo Park Fire District, service provides (water, power, and sewer), and regional elected officials.

**COMMISSION/COMMITTEE FEEDBACK/REFERRAL**

This item \_\_\_\_ has or X has not been before a Town Committee or Commission.

- Audit/Finance Committee (meets every other month)
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee (meets as needed)
- Civic Center Advisory Committee (meets as needed)
- Environmental Programs Committee (meets every other month)
- Park and Recreation Committee (meets each month)
- Planning Commission (meets each month)
- Rail Committee (meets every other month)
- Transportation Committee (meets every other month)

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution requiring a deposit for candidate statement

RESOLUTION NO. 20- \_\_

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF ATHERTON REQUIRING CANDIDATES TO PAY THE COST OF PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS WITH THE SAMPLE BALLOT AND SPECIFYING THE LENGTH OF THE STATEMENT AT AN ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, Section 13307 of the Elections Code of the State of California provides that the governing body of any local agency adopt regulations pertaining to materials prepared by any candidate for municipal election, including costs of the candidate statement;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the Town of Atherton that each candidate who requests that a Statement of Qualifications be published and distributed with the sample ballot for the General Election, to be held November 3, 2020, shall be charged a deposit of \$400.00 to cover the cost of publication of such Statement of Qualifications, including the cost of translation of such statement into Spanish and Chinese, if requested by the candidate.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such Statement of Qualifications may not exceed two hundred (200) words in length.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that such statement will be the only material sent with the sample ballots and no other material will be included for distribution.

\* \* \* \* \*

*I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the Town of Atherton at a Regular meeting thereof held on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2020, by the following vote:*

*AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:  
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:  
ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBERS:*

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick DeGolia, MAYOR  
TOWN OF ATHERTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony Suber, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Mona G. Ebrahimi, City Attorney