



# CITY COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY MINUTES

Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, April 16, 2002  
7:30 p.m.  
Menlo Park Council Chamber  
801 Laurel Street, Menlo Park

**ROLL CALL** – Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Kinney and Councilmembers Borak, Collacchi, and Jellins were present. City staff included City Manager Boesch, City Attorney McClure, Assistant City Manager Seymour, City Clerk Ramos and other department heads.

## A. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS - None

## B. ANNOUNCEMENTS, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

1. Transportation Commission (one vacancy), Planning Commission (three vacancies) with a deadline for applications April 16, 2002 and the Arts Commission (one vacancy) with the deadline for applications April 30, 2002.

Mayor Schmidt announced the current vacancies and application deadlines. He noted a memo from staff providing Council with options about the interview schedule with the applicants for the Planning Commission vacancies.

**There was consensus to direct staff to schedule 20-minute interviews with the Planning Commission applicants on Tuesday, April 23, starting at 4:30 p.m. at City Hall.**

Mayor Schmidt also noted a memo from staff providing Council with options about the Library Commission appointment due to Helen Cheng's letter declining her recent appointment of April 9, for personal reasons.

**There was consensus to direct staff to bring back the same pool of applicants to the Council meeting of April 23, 2002, for Council consideration and appointment.**

2. Councilmember Reports: Schmidt, Kinney, Borak, Collacchi, Jellins

Councilmember Jellins commented about the League's Peninsula Division meeting recently in which topics of discussion included SB 910 and AB 680. He announced the upcoming Legislative Days program in Sacramento on May 15 and 16 that is being coordinated by the League's legislative advocacy representative for the Peninsula region, Rebecca Elliot.

Councilmember Kinney reported on the dedication of the San Francisquito Creek watershed plaques that are displayed on each side of the creek and noted that the dedication was in honor of Ward Winslow, who was the editor of the Palo Alto Times, which is no longer in existence.

Mayor Schmidt commented about the presence of marine life in the creek beneath the creek's pedestrian bridge. He also reported on a bay cruise by the Marine Science Institute that he and Councilmember Borak took and noted the abundance of marine life and the improved cleanliness of the bay.

Mayor Schmidt also reported on an upcoming SAMCEDA meeting on April 12 regarding the airport expansion and Kite Day at Bayfront Park on April 21, 2002.

## C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

Kelly Fergusson, Menlo Park, expressed concern about the neighborhood issues at Oak Court such as a deteriorating quality of life and an increase in traffic and parking resulting from recent retail changes on Menalto Avenue. She asked the City to help provide the infrastructure necessary to meet the current zoning in that area. She provided copies of a neighborhood petition to the Council and staff.

City Manager Boesch said that staff would be happy to meet with Ms. Fergusson, other neighborhood residents, and the retail business owners to discuss these issues.

Rebecca Wang, Menlo Park, supported the concerns expressed by Ms. Fergusson and noted other concerns about safety.

Mayor Schmidt said he would be available to participate in these discussions and commented about the need for sidewalk repairs in the area.

Alex Cannara, Menlo Park, commented about the unnecessary procedure that is being implemented by the City's park staff (particularly in Sharon Heights Park) regarding animal waste disposal and spraying of herbicide along the park perimeter to control grass growth. He asked that the procedure be stopped until further investigation is made about its necessity and effectiveness. He provided some photos to the Council illustrating this activity and article about the effects of herbicide.

Mayor Schmidt noted that the City is making an effort to address the concerns and will continue to work towards resolving it.

Alaina Sloo, Menlo Park, expressed similar concerns on Woodland Avenue as in the Oak Court neighborhood and stated that she would like to participate in the discussions if appropriate.

Questions and discussion ensued about the commercial development on University Circle in East Palo Alto.

City Manager Boesch said he would ask staff to bring back a status report for the Council.

Councilmember Collacchi requested that staff include in its report the status of building occupancy.

#### **D. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mayor Schmidt read the consent calendar. Councilmember Collacchi pulled item D2. Councilmember Jellins pulled item D3.

#### **M/S Borak/Schmidt to approve item 1 as presented. Motion passed 5-0.**

1. Approval of audited bills for period 41 ending April 5, 2002.

#### **PULLED ITEM**

2. Award of contract for street sweeping services for the remainder of the fiscal year 2001-2002 and for fiscal year 2002-03 in the amount of \$135,389 to Universal Sweeping Services, including options for two one-year extensions (2003-04 and 2004-05).

Questions and discussion ensued regarding the noise ordinance provisions, providing this service in-house versus through a contract, quality control, the life and resale value of the machinery, other cities' street sweeping services, and the termination provisions of the contract.

#### **M/S Borak/Collacchi to award the contract as presented. Motion passed 4-1, with Councilmember Jellins dissenting.**

3. Approval of City Council Minutes for the meeting of March 19, 2002

Councilmember Jellins requested corrections to his statements listed on pages 5 and 7 of the minutes. He suggested providing the City Clerk with his proposed revisions to bring back to the Council for consideration at its next regular meeting.

**There was consensus to bring back a revised set of minutes for Council consideration.**

#### **E. PUBLIC HEARING - None**

#### **F. REGULAR BUSINESS**

1. Approval of Phase I Park and Recreation Facility Improvements (Continued from the City Council Meeting of April 9, 2002).

Curtis Brown, Community Services Director and Bob Roessler, Community Services Manager, presented the staff report.

Questions and discussion ensued regarding field maintenance and its related cost, borrowing from and reimbursing the General Fund account, the design and construction phase, pool specifications, joint use agreements, identifying playfields for improvements, and the timeline for the second issuance of bond proceeds.

Steven Allen, AYSO, commented about field maintenance and suggested looking at the maintenance document that was developed for the La Entrada project, as a guide. He urged the City to look at other options like artificial turf and joint use agreements.

Bob Frankle, AYSO, announced that Regional 109 AYSO's contribution for the proposed playfield improvements will be in excess of \$100,000. He requested the opportunity to work with City staff to see how these funds can be used effectively. He thanked staff, the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Council for its support and efforts.

Tom Harrison, Park and Recreation Commission, commented about the construction timelines for the proposed improvements. He asked Council to reconsider Bayfront Park for playfields.

Dave Denier, Menlo Park, expressed concern about the poor condition of the playfields and urged the Council not to postpone the proposed improvements.

Lee Duboc, Parks and Recreation Commission, responded to questions regarding the pool and playfields.

**M/S Borak/Kinney to approve Phase 1 of the Park and Recreation Facility Improvements as follows:**

- **Design of Burgess pool, gymnasium and gymnastics center at a cost of \$1,080,000**
- **Construction of the Burgess pool and locker rooms at a cost of \$5,000,000**
- **Design and construction of parks and playfields at a cost of \$8,344,00**
- **Construction of the Menlo Children's Center (MCC), funding the remaining \$1,600,000 of the \$6.6 million cost.**

**Motion passed 5-0.**

2. Adoption of a Resolution (1) authorizing the City Manager to enter into master agreements with Callander Associates, DES Architects and Engineers and Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc. and their sub-consultants; and (2) appropriating up to \$1,250,000 from the Measure "T" Bond proceeds to fund the study, design and staff administration of selected Measure "T" Park and Field Projects.

Art Morimoto, Supervising Engineer, presented the staff report and responded to Council questions regarding architecture and landscape design.

**M/S Jellins/Collacchi to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion passed 5-0.**

3. Consideration of legislative items listed in the League of California Cities Bulletin(s), or items referred to in Written Communications or Information Items, including decisions to support or oppose any such legislative, communication or information item.

(a) Direction to staff on Council's position regarding AB 680 (Land Use: Sales Tax and Property Tax Revenue Allocation in the greater Sacramento region).

Mayor Schmidt provided some background.

City Manager Boesch presented a staff report.

Questions and discussion ensued regarding revenue sharing across county lines and the provisions of AB 680.

Councilmember Jellins felt that this bill could open up a dialogue to address some of the problems of the structure of local government financing and land use policies. He believes that the City should oppose AB 680 and send a message to the state legislators and representatives that Menlo Park believes that the goals of smart growth and the goal of re-evaluating the structure of local government financing are important issues and should be heard in Sacramento because it is a problem that AB 680 fails to address.

Councilmember Kinney concurred with Councilmember Jellins and said that he is concerned about the uncertainties and ambiguities of AB 680. He said that he would second Councilmember Jellins.

Councilmember Collacchi concurred with Councilmember Jellins and commented that his objections to the bill is that it is a fiscalized approach to a planning problem and it adds fiscal constraints to local government. He also noted that the proposed bill does not clearly state or analyze what the problem is.

Councilmember Borak and Mayor Schmidt concurred with Councilmember Collacchi.

**There was consensus to oppose AB 680 and direct staff to prepare a letter of opposition to forward to all parties concerned including C/CAG.**

**G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS - None**

Councilmember Jellins summarized comments from Chuck Bernstein's letter to the Council dated April 16, 2002 regarding the proposed parks and recreation improvements.

**H. INFORMATION ITEMS - None**

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT #2** – None.

**J. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan A. Ramos, CMC  
City Clerk