



CITY COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY MINUTES

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 3, 2002
7:30 p.m.
Menlo Park Council Chamber
801 Laurel Street, Menlo Park

A. ROLL CALL – Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. in the Menlo Park Council Chamber. Mayor Pro Tem Kinney and Councilmembers Collacchi, Jellins, and Borak were present. Also present was City Manager Boesch, City Attorney McClure, Assistant City Manager Seymour, Acting City Clerk Carson and other department managers and City staff.

B. COMMISSION VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

Mayor Schmidt announced the current vacancies on the Planning, Parks and Recreation, Housing and Arts Commissions, noting their application deadlines.

Councilmember Kinney reported that he has been contacted by Assembly Member Joseph Simitian's office regarding the El Camino Real Tree Planting Project in Menlo Park, Redwood City and Palo Alto. Several meetings have occurred with Caltrans regarding the placement of trees in the center medians. Assembly Member Simitian had considered introducing legislation to finish the landscaping project in the manner that all three cities have requested. Today, they reported on a very good, constructive meeting with Jeff Morales, Director of Transportation for Caltrans and of potential good news on the project moving forward.

1. Mayor Schmidt expressed remarks regarding the eight years he has served on the Menlo Park City Council. In 1992, his interest was sparked initially with the proposal to develop Saint Patrick's Seminary open space. In 1994, he started his first term. Steve talked about various projects such as 1600 El Camino Real, Classic Communities Development, and his service on two transportation boards SamTrans and as a member of the Joint Powers Board of CalTrain.

Mayor Schmidt stated that his voting record has been diverse, how the Council listens to hours of public comment and to staff, every proposal is taken under advisement, the General Plan is a guide and today's economic situation is also taken into consideration. He suggested that faith and support be given to the new City Council.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

Nineteen members of the public spoke. Speakers wanted to thank Mayor Schmidt and Councilmember Borak for their service on the Menlo Park City Council, and welcome new Councilmembers Duboc and Winkler.

Councilmember Borak thanked the Menlo Park community for the opportunity to serve as Mayor and serve on the City Council. Some of the accomplishments she remarked during her tenure include: the City Hall remodel project and seismic retrofit, establishment of the JPA for the San Francisquito Creek, rebuilding of the Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge between Palo Alto and Menlo Park, a racial profiling policy, Measure T for a Facilities Master Plan, annual solid waste recycling increases, adoption of Wood-burning Appliances and Heritage Tree Ordinances, approval of 400 new trees to be planted along El Camino Real, a new facility building for the Belle Haven Child Development Center, purchase of the Fremont School site, development of a senior day care facility, the Jack Lyle Memorial Park, and many more were mentioned.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Adopt a Resolution declaring canvass of returns and results of the General Municipal Election, consolidated with the Statewide General Municipal Election, held on November 5, 2002
2. Approval of Minutes for the City Council Meetings of October 29, 2002, November 12, 2002 and November 19, 2002.

M/S Schmidt/Kinney to adopt the Consent Calendar Items as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

E. PUBLIC HEARING – None.

F. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Presentation of Proclamations honoring Mayor Steve Schmidt and Councilmember Mary Jo Borak.

Mayor Pro Tem Kinney had a few words for Mayor Schmidt and Councilmember Borak: Mayor Schmidt was the first Mayor in the new millennium. Borak was in charge of the recruitment and hire of the current City Manager David Boesch. She secured the first pay raise for the City Council since 1989 and instituted a two- week break in Council Meetings during the month of August. He thanked Mayor Schmidt for his courage, conviction and for always speaking his mind. Mayor Pro Tem Personally thanked Mary Jo and stated she will be missed. He also listed a host of other projects seen to completion during their terms.

Councilmember Collacchi thanked Mayor Schmidt and Councilmember Borak for their many years of contribution to the City of Menlo Park in their prior roles as commissioners as well as their most current role as City Councilmember. He elaborated on their accomplishments, stating that the list is lengthy and impressive.

Mayor Pro Tem Kinney presented Mayor Schmidt and Councilmember Borak with Proclamations from the City of Menlo Park and the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors.

2. Administration of Oath of Office to Elected Councilmembers.

Acting City Clerk Carson administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected City Councilmembers Lee Duboc, Nicholas Jellins and Mickie Winkler.

The new members took seats at the dais.

3. Selection of Mayor.

M/S Duboc/Winkler nominating Councilmember Nicholas Jellins as Mayor.

Prior to the vote, Mayor Pro Tem Kinney addressed the Council regarding the current policy to select the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem. He asked to hear why the Council wanted to change the policy and not stay the course. After more discussion, Councilmember Kinney nominated himself.

M/S Kinney/Collacchi nominating Councilmember Kinney as Mayor. The Motion failed 2-3 with Duboc, Jellins and Winkler dissenting.

M/S Duboc/Winkler nominated Councilmember Nicholas Jellins as Mayor. Motion passed 3-2 with Kinney and Collacchi dissenting.

Mayor Jellins welcomed those in attendance, bid farewell to the outgoing Councilmembers, and he thanked Steve Schmidt and Mary Jo Borak and stated they will be missed.

Mayor Jellins expressed thanks to his family (some of whom were present in the audience), staff, City Council, and the community for their support and outlined areas he plans to address during his term as mayor.

Mayor Jellins stated that he sees the role of the Council and Redevelopment Agency during the next four years as addressing five substantive projects: (1) revision of the residential review process; (2) revision of the commercial development process; (3) development of a downtown revitalization plan; (4) creation of a citywide transportation and circulation plan; (5) reorient the City Council regarding how it interacts with the public and revitalizes the commissions and committees; and (6) outreach to the Belle Haven neighborhood, continued partnering with the School Districts on projects, organization of neighborhood associations and expansion of services to seniors. The mandate is for change.

4. Selection of Mayor Pro Tem.

M/S Winkler/Kinney nominated Councilmember Duboc as Mayor Pro Tem. Motion passed 5-0.

5. Councilmember Reports.

Councilmember Winkler requested that the Council decision regarding the adoption of Ordinance 915, Single-Family Residential Zoning, be agendaized for the next upcoming City Council meeting.

Councilmember Kinney requested discussion regarding Council representatives on various outside agencies. This item is scheduled for the City Council meeting next week.

6. 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. – None.

G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – None.

H. INFORMATION ITEMS – None.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT #2 – There were two speakers.

1. Bernie Valencia congratulated the new Councilmembers and spoke about how she had been Mayor Pro Tem, but had been denied a term as mayor.
2. Mike Alexander, the Treasurer for Mid-Peninsula Action for Tomorrow (MPACT) spoke regarding the 2002 Election.

J. ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Jellins adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m. and invited the public to join the Council in an informal reception to be held at the City Hall/Administration Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Carson
Acting City Clerk