



CITY COUNCIL and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY MINUTES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004
7:00 p.m.
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025
Menlo Park City Council Chambers

6:55 p.m. SPECIAL MEETING (Menlo Park City Council Chambers)

1. Adoption of Resolution 5573 declaring the canvass of returns and results of the General Municipal Election, consolidated with the Presidential General Election, held November 2, 2004.

Mayor Duboc called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

Silvia Vonderlinden, City Clerk, requested that Council certify the results of the Election. She stated that effective January 1, 2003 Government Code Section 36801 stipulates that the Council must certify the election results at a meeting prior to the one in which the selection of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem occurs. Consequently, this Special Meeting complies with that requirement.

M/S Kinney/Duboc to adopt the resolution certifying the results of the November 2, 2004 election. Motion carries unanimously.

7:00 p.m. REGULAR MEETING (Menlo Park City Council Chambers)

ROLL CALL – Duboc, Winkler, Collacchi, Jellins, Kinney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Duboc acknowledged the following dignitaries present: San Mateo County Supervisor Richard Gordon, Palo Alto Mayor Bern Beecham, Palo Alto Council woman Yoriko Kishimoto, Fire Chief Paul Wilson and Ollie Brown from the Fire Protection Board.

STAFF PRESENT - David Boesch, City Manager; William McClure, City Attorney; Audrey Seymour, Assistant City Manager; Silvia Vonderlinden, City Clerk.
Various department heads and other City staff were present.

A. COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES AND REPORTS

1. One vacancy on the Parks and Recreation Commission to fill an un-expired term that ends in September 2005. Applications will be received until December 27, 2004 at 5:30 p.m.
2. One vacancy on the Planning Commission to fill an un-expired term that ends in April 2006. Applications will be received until December 27, 2004 at 5:30 p.m.
3. Commission Reports.

B. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS - None

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1 (*Limited to 30 minutes*)

Rick Ciardella, chairman of the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce, thanked Mayor Duboc for working with the Chamber during the last year. He also recognized Council Members Collacchi and Kinney for their years of dedication and hard work.

Steve Schmidt stated that having served with the outgoing Council Members gives him a greater appreciation for who they are. He referred to the various projects that these Council Members championed in the city, such as Trees for Menlo and a tight fiscal approach.

Irene Searles said that she became involved in City matters over traffic issues and the Children's Center. She appreciated Council Members Collacchi and Kinney listening to the voters on issues such as Measure T.

Mary Jo Borak thanked the outgoing Council Members for contributions to the City of Menlo Park and especially for their accomplishments with the Trees for Menlo, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency and the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority. She thanked Council Member Collacchi and Kinney on behalf of the community.

Yoriko Kishimoto paid tribute to Council Members Collacchi and Kinney for working with Palo Alto on San Francisquito Creek matters. Ms. Kishimoto thanked Mayor Duboc for her role, and outgoing members for their service to the community and neighboring municipalities.

D. CONSENT CALENDAR - None

E. PUBLIC HEARING - None

F. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Recognition of outgoing City Council Members and Mayor.

Mayor Duboc presented a proclamation to Council Member Kinney highlighting years of service and accomplishments. The Mayor personally thanked Mr. Kinney for being her colleague and offered him an aerial photo of the City of Menlo Park.

Council Member Kinney thanked both the voters who voted for him and those who did not because free choice is part of the democratic process. He welcomed Council Members Cohen and Fergusson to the Council. Mr. Kinney acknowledged various members of his family in the audience, and invited his daughter Ursula Ringham to start a video presentation depicting his eight years on the Council.

Mayor Duboc thanked Council Member Collacchi for his service to the City and offered him a proclamation recognizing his successes as Council Member and presented him with an aerial photo.

Council Member Collacchi thanked all those present, and in particular staff members Ruben Nino, Director of Engineering Services, and Arlinda Heineck, Director of Community Development Services. Mr. Collacchi praised staff's dedication and professionalism. Mr. Collacchi thanked City Manager Boesch and City Attorney McClure for their respective roles in the meeting process. Mr. Collacchi thanked Council Member Kinney and the residents of Menlo Park for being actively engaged.

Mayor Duboc acknowledged two additional dignitaries: James Janz Atherton Town Council Member, and Memo Morantes who is a member of the San Mateo County Board of Education.

Mayor Duboc stated that she enjoyed serving with the two outgoing Council Members. She gave a speech thanking staff for its support and assistance. Ms. Duboc stated that the biggest challenge has been the economic situation and dealing with the budget. Mayor Duboc touched on various economic development efforts to improve revenues. She thanked her colleagues and City residents for their support.

2. Swearing in of new City Council Members.

Mayor Duboc invited Council Members Cohen and Fergusson to be sworn in by City Clerk Vonderlinden.

Mayor Duboc welcomed her colleagues and offered the floor for speeches. Council Member Fergusson expressed her gratitude to the residents of Menlo Park for their trust. She asked that the residents remain involved and keep the Council on track. Council Member Fergusson is looking forward to working with Commissioners, residents and staff. One of her focuses will be in promoting an open and participatory process. Ms. Fergusson thanked her family for their support.

Council Member Cohen shared that while he has given the oath for 14 years, and has taken it for the same length of time it has never meant so much to him. He thanked those who voted for him because his margin of victory was small. Mr. Cohen will be more of a listener than a talker, and he vowed to be ready to learn and put forth his best effort to not disappoint the voters.

3. Selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Duboc turned the meeting over to the City Clerk to conduct the selection of the new Mayor of the City of Menlo Park.

Ms. Vonderlinden opened the floor for nominations:

Council Member Jellins nominated Mayor Pro Tem Winkler for the position of Mayor of Menlo Park.

M/S Cohen/Jellins to close the nominations period. Motion carries unanimously.

City Clerk Vonderlinden asks Council to vote on the nomination of Miriam Winkler for Mayor of Menlo Park. The vote is unanimous.

Mayor Winkler thanked the Council for the honor of serving as Mayor. She thanked Mr. Collacchi and Kinney for their hard work and outgoing Mayor Duboc for her leadership during the last year. Mayor Winkler recognized Lorie Sinnott and Mike Lambert for their dedication to Menlo Park.

Mayor Winkler focused on her future plans mentioning the merits of the General Plan. Mayor Winkler expressed the need for revenues as well as the need to address on the deterioration of City infrastructure. She believes that maintaining infrastructure is a primary commitment of a City to its residents. Ms. Winkler touched on the subject of budgeting, and she knows that Council will be faced with numerous choices as Mr. Boesch embarks on a Zero-Base Budgeting process. Revenue enhancements were mentioned as future items on the table.

Mayor Winkler announced that the floor was open for nominations for Mayor Pro Tem.

Council Member Duboc stated that she would like to nominate Council Member Jellins for the position of Mayor Pro Tem. Council Member Duboc added that she would agree to nominate Council Member Fergusson for this position next December, once she has served on the Council for one year.

M/S Duboc/Winkler to close the nomination period. Motion carries unanimously.

City Clerk Vonderlinden asks Council to vote on the nomination of Nicholas Jellins for Mayor Pro Tem of Menlo Park. The vote is unanimous.

Council Member Jellins is appointed to Mayor Pro Tem of Menlo Park by a unanimous vote. Mayor Pro Tem Jellins thanked Mr. Collacchi for his work and friendship. He also thanked Mr. Kinney for his knowledge and commitment. Mayor Pro Tem Jellins thanked outgoing Mayor Duboc for her job in welcoming citizen participation. Mr. Jellins said he looked to the new Mayor for leadership.

4. Consideration of state and federal legislative items including decisions to support or oppose any such legislation and items listed under Written Communication or Information Items.

None.

G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION - None

H. INFORMATION ITEMS - None

I. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Council Member Duboc asked City Manager Boesch to summarize a Memo he had sent Council on the Transportation Services Manager (TSM) position. Mr. Boesch explained that the Memo includes a recommendation to reinstate the TSM coordinator position and freeze the Transportation Planner position.

Mayor Winkler announced that a public meeting would take place to review the design concepts for a parking structure on downtown parking plaza three. The meeting will be held on December 9, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers.

J. PUBLIC COMMENT #2 (Limited to 30 minutes)

Bern Beecham, Mayor of Palo Alto, thanked the outgoing Mayor and Council Members for their work. Mayor Beecham believes that neighboring cities need to work together to benefit each other. He welcomed Council Members Cohen and Fergusson and offered his support.

Mayor Winkler presented outgoing Mayor Duboc with a token of appreciation from the City of Menlo Park.

K. ADJOURNMENT – the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Silvia M. Vonderlinden, CMC

Approved at the City Council Meeting of February 8, 2005.