



CITY COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Special City Council Meeting/Closed Sessions

5:30 p.m. and

State of the City Address and Recognition Event

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Menlo Park City Council Chambers

701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025

MINUTES

A. ROLL CALL – Fergusson, Cohen, Boyle, Cline, Robinson

B. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

C. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSIONS- (Administration Building First Floor Conference Room)

Parties present William McClure, City Attorney, Kent Steffens, Interim City Manager, Bruce Goitia, Police Chief (or his designee).

1. Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9 Menlo Business Park LLC v. the City of Menlo Park, et al. (Casa dei Bambini), San Mateo County Superior Court case number CIV 462235.
2. Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9 Butler v. the City of Menlo Park, et al. San Mateo County Superior Court case number CIV 458119.
3. Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9 Town of Atherton v. Sequoia Union High School District, San Mateo County Superior Court case number CIV 458899.

D. ADJOURNMENT TO THE REGULAR SESSION

7:00 p.m. MENLO PARK CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Fergusson called the meeting to order.

A1. ROLL CALL - Fergusson, Cohen, Boyle, Cline, Robinson

Mayor Fergusson announced there was nothing to report from the Closed Sessions. She stated that public comment would be taken at the beginning of the meeting.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT – *Item taken out of sequence.*

Joe Webb addressed the Council on issues related to the Police Department. He spoke about his right to speak at a community meeting and he felt there was an attempt to silence him.

Henry Riggs, with time donated by Dick Poe, spoke about a survey sent out by residents regarding the UUT. He read the various questions on the survey and via slides shared the responses provided by 4,000 respondents. He asked Council to reconsider the UUT.

Shirley Chiu said she was not part of the survey because she feared retaliation. In her opinion the Council should have rescinded the tax a long time ago. Ms. Chiu shared her views on the budget surplus.

Manfred Kopish thanked Council for financing a study for Safe Routes to School and more specifically for the fact that Laurel School is included. He expressed his gratitude for this study.

A2. RECOGNITION OF CITY COMMISSIONERS AND FORMER COUNCIL MEMBERS

Former Mayor Chuck Kinney, the master of ceremonies for the event, addressed the audience and welcomed the Menlo Park Choir, which performed two songs for those present. Mr. Kinney explained the meaning of the State of the City address and how this is the first time such an event has occurred in

Menlo Park. He noted that the event tonight was the Mayor's vision for bringing together different ideologies and trying to instill respect for each other's views. Mr. Kinney introduced former Council Members present and current City Commissioners and thanked them for their years of service. Former Mayor Cal Jones addressed the audience remembering facts from the past. He spoke about Camp Fremont and he reminisced on his time in the Navy. He thanked the Commission Members, staff and the public for making Menlo Park what it is. Former Mayor Kinney introduced Mayor Fergusson for her State of the City Address. He provided biographical data on the Mayor.

B. STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Fergusson extended a warm welcome to those present especially her Council colleagues, City Commissioners and staff. Former Mayors presents included: Chuck Kinney, Paul Collacchi, Cal Jones, Jerry Andeen, Jack Morris and Billy Ray White. Mayor Fergusson thanked the Menlo Park Chorus for its performance. Mayor Fergusson expressed much gratitude and appreciation to her family for their love and the sacrifices they make as she undertook public service and its demands. She clarified that the purpose of tonight's address was to provide an overview of the State of the City and highlight what is coming in the future. She enumerated the various projects that have been in the works and how previous Councils were instrumental in getting many of these accomplished. She acknowledged that life is good in Menlo Park because of the legacy of prior Councils, residents and staff. The Mayor listed numerous projects that will come to fruition in the near future or are in the pipeline. She expressed a desire to continue using a positive tone in all public debate..

The Mayor commented on the Council's priority of hiring a City Manager and how important this is. She appreciated Interim City Manager Kent Steffens and Acting Assistant City Manager Arlinda Heineck for their interim roles. She discussed progress on several other goals of the Council. Mayor Fergusson gave examples of what we can accomplish when we work together, and expressed faith in the community's ability to face and conquer its greatest challenges.

D. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m. The Commissioners, former Council Members, Council, the public and staff enjoyed a reception in the patio area outside the Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Silvia M. Vonderlinden, Certified Municipal Clerk

Submitted for approval at the Council meeting of July 17, 2007. Resubmitted and approved at the Council Meeting of September 11, 2007.