



**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
SPECIAL & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.
701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025
City Council Chambers

SPECIAL MEETING: CLOSED SESSION

The Council convened at 6:00 p.m. with Council Member Cohen absent and all other members present.

1. Closed Session pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6 to conference with labor negotiators regarding labor negotiations with the Service Employees International Union Local 521 (SEIU) and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 829 (AFSCME). Attendees: Glen Rojas, City Manager, Bill McClure, City Attorney, Starla Jerome-Robinson, Assistant City Manager and Glen Kramer, Personnel and Information Services Director

Action: No reportable action; however the Council will meet in closed session on this item on Friday at a special meeting.

2. Closed Session pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(c): Potential initiation of Litigation – 1 Case. Attendees: Glen Rojas, City Manager, Bill McClure, City Attorney, Starla Jerome-Robinson, Assistant City Manager and Engineering Services Manager Lisa Ekers

Action: The City Council in a 4-0-1 (Cohen absent) to join C/CAG in the Petition for Review of the Municipal Regional Permit (MRP). The City will be listed as a Co-Petitioner in the petition.

REGULAR MEETING

The Council convened in regular session at 7:08 p.m. with Council Member Cohen absent and all other members present. Also present were City Manager, Glen Rojas; Assistant City Manager, Starla Jerome-Robinson; City Attorney, Bill McClure; City Clerk, Margaret Roberts

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Mayor Robinson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The City of Menlo Park is continuing its partnership with the Green at Home program. Green at Home is a free service available to City residents who are interested in saving energy and water, lowering utility bills and reducing their climate footprint. Green at Home volunteers will visit your home, give you free CFL light bulbs, adjust water heater and refrigerator temperatures, install low flow showerheads and create a customized energy savings plan for your home. Call Liz at 962-9876 to schedule an appointment or visit www.acterra.org/greenathome for more information.
- City is accepting applications for the Housing Commission and the Finance & Audit Committee – Deadline December 4th

A. COMMISSION/COMMITTEE VACANCIES, APPOINTMENTS AND REPORTS

Honor Huntington of the Finance & Audit Committee spoke regarding the revenues and expenditures reported at last week's Council meeting.

B. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Environmental Quality Awards

Lawrence "Butch" Byers of the Environmental Quality Commission presented the following awards:

Conservation: Fleet Feet Sports/The Runner's High – 859 Santa Cruz Avenue

Architecture – Residential: Schena-Ricke Residence – Pope Street

Conservation – City-Wide: Menlo Park Green Ribbon Citizens' Committee

Landscaping – Residential: Van Hoff Family – San Mateo Drive

Conservation: Menlo Park Senior Center – 110 Terminal

Architecture – Commercial: Foundation Capital – 250 Middlefield

Conservation – Lighting: Tyco Thermal Controls – 307 Constitution

C. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. First quarter update on the Menlo Children's Center preschool program revenue and expenses for fiscal year 2009-10 ([Staff report # 09-160](#))

2. Acceptance of Council minutes for the meetings of October 13, 2009 and October 27, 2009 ([Attachment](#))

Action: Motion and second (Boyle/Fergusson) and passed unanimously approval of the Consent Calendar.

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Community Development Agency Board adoption of the proposed Redevelopment Implementation Plan for the Las Pulgas Community Development Project Area, FY 2009/2010 - FY 2013/2014 ([Staff report #09-148](#)) (Continued from November 3, 2009)

Staff presentation by Community Engagement Manager Cherise Brandell and Housing Manager Doug Frederick

Mayor Robinson opened the Public Hearing, which was continued from November 3, 2009

Matt Henry – Give the Council insight into how the community is thinking

Action: Motion and second (Fergusson/Cline) and passed unanimously to close the Public Hearing.

Council discussion ensued.

Action: Motion and second (Cline/Fergusson) and passed unanimously to adopt the proposed Redevelopment Implementation Plan for the Las Pulgas Community Development Project Area, FY 2009/2010 - FY 2013/2014 and to include an appendix with future potential projects.

F. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Provide direction to staff concerning preferred development parameters for the Hamilton Avenue East project site ([Staff report # 09-159](#))

Staff presentation by Housing Manager Doug Frederick

Public comment on the item:

- Anne Moser (Housing Commission Chair) – the timing of the appointment to fill the current vacancy on the Housing Commission; very strong opinion that any decision made prior to hearing from the Belle Haven community is premature; various non-housing options were discussed including a branch library, police sub-station and pharmacy.
- Natalie Petrini – Pending details on the Hamilton East property – Habitat for Humanity would be interested in developing the housing
- Jim Calhoun – He handed the Council an inclusive proposal at the meeting
- Paul Angelo – Adjacent property (owner occupied); nobody from the City has contacted him

Questions for the Council:

Should the affordability requirement for the project presented to the community for consideration reflect the ABAG targets? If not, should the project be more or less accommodating of very low and low income households?

Consensus of Council was to use the ABAG targets

What minimum and maximum acceptable densities should be presented to the community for consideration?

Should a mix of densities along the potential project site be considered during the community input? Should retail be included?

Consensus of Council was to look at a mix of densities, including retail

Should other “public service uses” be considered?

Consensus of Council was to consider public service uses

2. Authorize the City Manager to revise the 2009-10 operating budget to reflect appropriate changes in General Fund personnel costs ([Staff report #09-157](#))

Staff presentation by City Manager Glen Rojas

Action: Motion and second (Boyle/Cline) and passed unanimously authorizing the City Manager to revise the 2009-10 operating budget to reflect appropriate changes in General Fund personnel costs with strong emphasis that these are one time changes.

3. Adoption of a Resolution approving the City Council subcommittee recommendations regarding the allocation of 2009-10 community funding in the amount of \$80,000 ([Staff report #09-158](#))

Staff presentation by Finance Director Carol Augustine

Motion and second (Fergusson/Cline) which passed unanimously approving **Resolution No. 5894** reflecting the City Council subcommittee recommendations regarding the allocation of 2009-10 community funding in the amount of \$80,000 and directing staff to work with the

subcommittee and consider returning at goal setting or mid-year budget review with the possibility of additional funding.

4. Approval of a High Speed Rail Project Community Outreach Plan for Menlo Park to be administered by the California High Speed Rail Authority ([Staff report # 09-149](#))
Community Engagement Manager Cherise Brandell introduced Mike Garvey, consultant with HNTB, the firm selected to design the Peninsula segment.

Action: Motion and second (Cline/Boyle) which passed unanimously approving a High Speed Rail Project Community Outreach Plan for Menlo Park to be administered by the California High Speed Rail Authority.

5. Approval of a letter to the California High Speed Rail Authority commenting on the Draft Alternatives Analysis for the San Francisco to San Jose segment
([Staff report # 09-161](#))

Staff presentation by Public Works Director Kent Steffens

Public comments on the item:

- Russ Peterson – Spoke in support of the letter and wished it had more teeth to it
- Martin Engel – Spoke in support of the letter but thought it should be stronger and clearer, leave Union Pacific alone and put CalTrain and HSR below ground

Action: Motion and second (Robinson/Fergusson) which passed 3-1 (Boyle dissenting) approving the letter to the California High Speed Rail Authority commenting on the Draft Alternatives Analysis for the San Francisco to San Jose segment with the removal of the sentence in the third to the last paragraph beginning with “Essentially this...”.

G. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT – None

H. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION – None

I. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – None

J. COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

1. Report from the City Council Subcommittee on High Speed Rail

K. PUBLIC COMMENT #2 - None

L. ADJOURNMENT – 11:07 p.m.

Margaret S. Roberts, MMC
City Clerk

The minutes were accepted at the Council meeting of December 15, 2009