



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: 12/21/2022
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Locations: Teleconference and
City Council Chambers
751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

Special Session

A. Call To Order

Vice Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Combs, Mueller, Nash, Taylor, Wolosin
Absent: None
Staff: City Manager Justin I. C. Murphy, City Attorney Nira F. Doherty, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Agenda Review

None.

D. Regular Business

D1. Recognition of outgoing City Councilmember

- Charles Stone recognized City Councilmember Mueller.
- Henry Riggs recognized City Councilmember Mueller.
- Mickie Winkler recognized City Councilmember Mueller.
- Adina Levin recognized City Councilmember Mueller.
- Pam Jones recognized City Councilmember Mueller.

City Councilmember Combs read the proclamation (Attachment).

City Councilmember Mueller accepted the proclamation.

D2. Consider and interview candidates and adopt a resolution appointing a member to the office of Menlo Park City Council for District 5 for the unexpired term of City Councilmember Mueller (Staff Report #22-247-CC)

City Clerk Judi Herren made the presentation (Attachment).

The City Council interviewed the following candidates:

- Mark Noble
- Thom Phan – unable to participate in interview process.

- Edward Schor
- Maria Doerr
- Robin Glass

The City Council took a recess at 7:56 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 8:14 p.m.

The City Council interviewed the following candidates:

- Paul Studemeister
- Catherine Carlton
- Diana No – unable to participate in the interview process.
- Noria Zasslow
- Nicole Kemeny
- Sally Cole

The City Council took a recess at 9:19 p.m.

The City Council reconvened at 9:29

- Jenny Michel spoke in support of appointing Maria Doerr.
- Caitlin Darke spoke in support of appointing Catherine Carlton.

The City Council discussed continuing the item to a future meeting, providing the applicants with more information on serving on the City Council through a candidate information session, and impacts of postponement to the Housing Element timeline.

ACTION: Motion and second Combs/ Nash, to continue this item to January 9, 2023 at 5 p.m., passed 4-0 (Mueller abstain)

D3. Swearing in of new City Councilmember

This item was continued to January 9, 2023.

E. Adjournment

Vice Mayor Taylor adjourned the meeting at 10:14 p.m.

Judi A. Herren, Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of January 24, 2023.

Proclamation

Honoring Menlo Park City Councilmember Ray Mueller

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller was first elected at-large to the City Council in 2012 and 2016, and elected to represent District 5 in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller was selected as Vice Mayor in 2013 and 2018, and served as Mayor in 2014 and 2019; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller has championed local causes that benefit members of the community, including: personally recruiting a business group to take over the Guild Theatre, which was renovated into a live entertainment venue, construction of miles of bike lanes and sidewalks on routes to Hillview and La Entrada Middle Schools including on Santa Cruz Avenue and Sharon Road; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller initiated the outdoor dining parklet program to the City as Mayor, in 2014, advocated for outdoor dining space during the pandemic, and supported the adoption of an urgency ordinance to help support and reactivate local businesses by temporarily allowing expanded dining and retail options on the sidewalk, in on-street parking spaces, public parking plazas and/or privately-owned shopping areas and parking lots; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller, in 2019, created a youth advisory committee to engage youth in local government, has taught leadership classes at the Menlo Park Boys and Girls Club, and hosted numerous school groups at City Hall for civics teaching days; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller approved transformative transit oriented developments along the El Camino Real corridor finally eliminating the blight from abandoned empty car lots that plagued the City for over a decade; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller is an advocate for affordable housing and served on the board of LifeMoves, one of the largest homeless services providers in Silicon Valley, and worked with Meta (formally Facebook) to add housing units on its proposed campus expansion, to construct a new community center and library while Mayor in 2019, and created the Neighborhood Service Center/ police substation in Belle Haven in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller, in addition to his City Council services, has served as liaison for a variety of boards, including, the County of Santa Clara Stanford Community Resources Group, where he negotiated contributions to the Menlo Park City School District related to student increase created by Stanford housing development, and the Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART) Board Member Agency Committee (MAC), assisting to engage with cities that are not on the HEART Board and to provide them with the opportunity to comment on HEART's financial and program activities; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller adopted the City's first CO₂ reduction target in 2013, served on the Peninsula Clean Energy board, and in 2016 voted to enroll all City facilities in ECO 100 (100% renewable electricity) including City buildings, street lights and electric vehicle charging stations, and in 2020 adopted the City's Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller, as Mayor in 2014, was instrumental in the formation of Menlo Spark, a nonprofit working regionally to promote Climate Action Policy; and

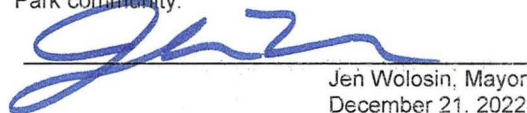
WHEREAS, Ray Mueller approved solar power installations for City Hall, the Arrillaga Family Gymnastic Center and Gymnasium, Onetta Harris Community Center and the Corporation Yard, funded energy retrofits in City facilities, which generated cost savings and benefits to the environment, and funded the transition to LED streetlights in Menlo Park; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller always brought creative, outside the box solutions, seeking to maximize benefits to all stakeholders and reduce impacts to residents and businesses affected by changes; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller has been a leader in the community demonstrating passionate direction over the past years, exemplifying a commitment to the individual idea as well as the neighborhood concern; protection of privacy rights, and promotion of transparency; and

WHEREAS, Ray Mueller is the first Menlo Park City Councilmember and former Mayor elected to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, and the City knows how fortunate the County is to have gained such an engaged, thoughtful, and passionate member; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City Council recognizes and honors Ray Mueller for his dedication and service to the Menlo Park community.


Jen Wolosin, Mayor
December 21, 2022





**CONSIDER AND INTERVIEW CANDIDATES AND ADOPT A RESOLUTION
APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE OFFICE OF MENLO PARK CITY COUNCIL FOR
DISTRICT 5 FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF CITY COUNCILMEMBER MUELLER
Judi A. Herren, City Clerk**





STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- The City Council consider and interview candidates
- Adopt a resolution appointing a member to the District 5 term expiring December 2024



BACKGROUND



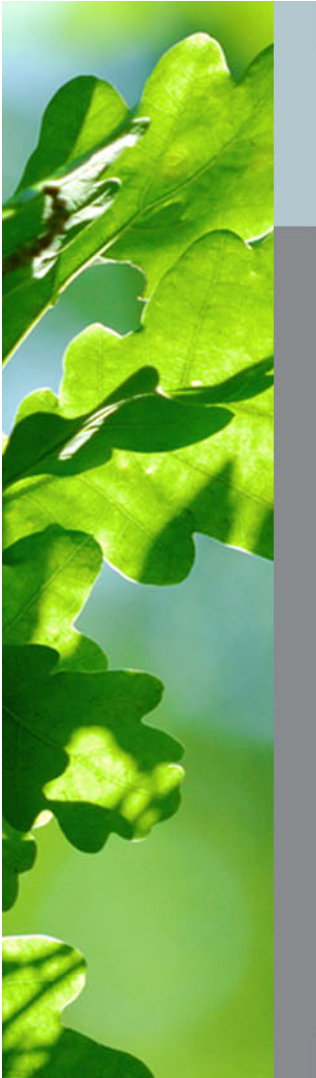
- November 17, 2022 – Received City Councilmember Mueller notice of resignation
- November 30, 2022 – City Council directed staff to pursue the appointment process
- December 3-20, 2022 – Published and advertised notice of vacancy
- December 1 – 20, 2022 at 5 p.m.: Accepted applications
- December 18, 2022 – Published received applications



INTERVIEW PROCESS



- Established by Resolution No. 6775
- Before beginning the interviews, the city clerk will randomly selected the order of candidates
- Each candidate is allotted up to five minutes to introduce themselves to the City Council
 - Time limits shall be strictly enforced
- Each City Councilmember will have an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates from the list of questions in the questionnaire and follow-up questions to responses that the candidate provided to the questionnaire
- Public comment will be taken after the City Council has asked all questions of all the candidates
- The City Council will discuss and deliberate the candidates.



APPOINTMENT PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION NO. 6775

1. The city clerk provide ballots to each City Councilmember
2. Each City Councilmember will circle one candidate they wish to nominate
3. The candidate with the most nominations will be brought up for a motion
A motion to appoint must be supported by a majority of the City Council in order for an appointment to be made
4. If no candidate receives more nominations than any other candidate, any City Councilmember may move to appoint one of the candidates
5. If that motion to appoint fails, return to Step 1.



OPTION



- Defer the appointment of a District 5 City Councilmember
 - Requires a vote of the City Council, to continue this agenda to a time and date certain.
 - Potential meeting dates are:
 - Thursday, December 22 at 6 p.m. (hybrid)
 - Friday, December 23 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)
 - Monday, December 26 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)
 - Tuesday, December 27 at 6 p.m. (virtual only)



THANK YOU