City Council



SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 12/12/2023 Time: Special City Council Meeting 5:00 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Locations: Teleconference and City Council Chambers 751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

A. Call To Order

Mayor Wolosin called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

B. Roll Call

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

C. Agenda Review

None.

D. Public Comment

• Director of Menlo Spark Brian Schmidt introduced themselves.

E. Presentations and Proclamations

E1. Mayor's Report

Mayor Wolosin provided a reflection on the past year and citywide accomplishments.

F. Consent Calendar

F1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for November 7 and 14, 2023 (Attachment)

ACTION: Motion and second (Taylor/ Doerr), to accept consent calendar, passed unanimously.

G. Regular Business

G1. Adopt a resolution approving the 2024 City Council regular meeting schedule (Staff Report #23-269-CC)

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi Herren introduced the item (Attachment).

The City Council discussed the January 2024 meetings.

ACTION: Motion and second (Taylor/ Wolosin), to adopt a resolution approving the 2024 City Council regular meeting schedule, passed unanimously.

- G2. Recognition of outgoing Mayor
 - Mitch Slomiak spoke in support of Mayor Wolosin's mayoral term.
 - Pam Jones spoke in support of Mayor Wolosin's mayoral term.
 - Jenny Michel spoke in support of Mayor Wolosin's mayoral term.
 - Adina Levin spoke in support of Mayor Wolosin's mayoral term.
 - Sally Cole spoke in support of Mayor Wolosin's mayoral term.

Vice Mayor Taylor read the proclamation (Attachment).

Mayor Wolosin accepted the proclamation.

G3. Selection of Mayor and Vice Mayor (Staff Report #23-277-CC)

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi Herren introduced the item.

- Maya Perkins spoke in support of the Mayor and Vice Mayor service and leadership.
- Sally Cole requested clarification on the Vice Mayor appointment procedure.
- Ray Mueller provided a certificate of recognition from San Mateo County Board of Supervisor and spoke in support of Mayor Wolosin's mayoral term.
- Jenny Michel spoke in support of the Mayor and Vice Mayor service.
- Kathleen Daly spoke in support of the Mayor and Vice Mayor service.

The City Council received clarification on the Vice Mayor appointment procedure.

ACTION: By acclamation, the City Council appointed Cecilia Taylor as Mayor (Attachment).

ACTION: By acclamation, the City Council appointed Drew Combs as Vice Mayor (Attachment).

G4. Appoint City Council representatives and alternates to various local and regional agencies and as liaisons and members to City Council advisory bodies (Staff Report #23-280-CC)

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi Herren introduced the item.

ACTION: Motion and second (Wolosin/ Nash), to appoint representatives and alternates to various local and regional agencies and liaisons to advisory bodies, passed unanimously (Attachment).

G5. Appoint City Councilmembers to standing and ad hoc subcommittees and disband inactive ad hoc subcommittees (Staff Report #23-282-CC)

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi Herren introduced the item.

The City Council discussed disbanding completed ad hoc subcommittees and creating a Belle Haven Community Campus ad hoc subcommittee.

The City Council directed staff to return with an item in January 2024 identifying purpose statements for reaming subcommittees and establish, appoint and purpose statement for a Belle Haven Community Campus ad hoc subcommittee.

ACTION: Motion and second (Doerr/ Nash), to disband inactive City Council ad hoc subcommittees:

- Aquatics Operator Agreement Negotiations Subcommittee; and
- Climate Action Plan Subcommittee Nos. 1-5 Subcommittee; and
- Climate Action Plan Subcommittee No. 6 Subcommittee; and
- ConnectMenIo Community Amenities Subcommittee; and
- Menlo Park Community Campus Subcommittee,

passed unanimously.

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Taylor), to appoint representatives City Councilmembers to standing and ad hoc subcommittees, passed unanimously (Attachment).

G6. Provide direction to the City's voting delegate regarding regional vacancies for the next City Selection Committee meeting Dec. 15 (Staff Report #23-278-CC)

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi Herren introduced the item.

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Taylor), to select Mayor Taylor as the City's voting delegate regarding regional vacancies for the next City Selection Committee meeting Dec. 15, 2023, passed unanimously.

Mayor Taylor reopened item D. Public Comment.

- Edward Schlesinger spoke in support of smoke-free multi housing and tobacco retailer ordinances.
- Miyko Harris-Parker spoke in support of the work performed by City Council and staff.

H. Informational Items

- H1. City Council agenda topics: January 2024 (Staff Report #23-281-CC)
- H2. Transmittal of city attorney billing (Staff Report #23-279-CC)

I. City Manager Report

None.

J. City Councilmember Reports

City Councilmember Nash reported out on Planning Commission and Park and Recreation Commission vacancies.

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K. Adjournment

Mayor Wolosin adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

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

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of January 9, 2024.

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PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE 2024



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City Council meetings Note: meeting dates are subject to change

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*March 5 election

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G2-PRESENTATION



Honoring Menlo Park Mayor Jen Wolosin

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin was first elected to the City Council in 2020, selected as Vice Mayor for 2022, and served as Mayor in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin led the City through multiple, unprecedented emergencies including winter storms, flooding, and extended, widespread power outages, demonstrating a dedication to providing timely public information, coordinating with and advocating for resources from other agencies, and promoting effective emergency response; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin presided over the annual City Council priority setting workshop that focused the City organization around five top goals including housing, activating downtown, climate action, emergency preparedness, and safe streets, and has worked tirelessly to further enhance the quality of life for all Menlo Park residents; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin has advanced housing opportunities for all residents especially through the creation of the Housing Element and the development of below market rate (BMR) housing through the approval of BMR housing agreements for the provision of 56 BMR rental apartment units and 18 for-sale BMR townhome units at 123 Independence Dr.; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin engaged with the public to advance constructive and practical solutions, including amending the Specific Plan to allow street closures on Santa Cruz Avenue and a portion of Ryans Lane for the new streetary outdoor dining program with enhanced public space and bicycle infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin continued to build the City's reputation as a leader in climate action through a commitment to electrification communitywide through both grant funded programs and zoning updates for existing homes, in municipal operations by expanding use of electric vehicles and electrifying operations, and by requiring zero emission landscape equipment; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin has tirelessly championed safe streets improvements and supported the development of the City's Vision Zero Action Plan and projects to improve safety for all roadway users on El Camino Real, Middle Avenue, Middlefield Road, and more; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin has elevated the influence and brand of the City of Menlo Park by graciously representing the City to a variety of organizations and groups, at community events, and hosting students at City Hall to learn about public service; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin continued to impact Menlo Park through serving on the Climate Action Plan No. 1-5 Subcommittee, Parkline Development Agreement Negotiations Subcommittee, and supported the Library Commission as the City Council liaison; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin amplified her role on City Council by serving on the Association of Bay Area Governments, League of California Cities (Peninsula Division), Palo Alto Community Fund Advisory Board, San Mateo County Council of Cities – City Selection Committee, Caltrain Modernization Local Policy Group, and Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance (Commute.org), further demonstrating her commitment to making streets and sidewalks functional, safe, and comfortable for all users; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wolosin is dedicated to fostering meaningful dialogue and actively encouraging public participation, has exemplified her dedication to Menlo Park by addressing policy issues with insightful independent analysis, making herself available to residents focusing on the best outcome for the Menlo Park community; and



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City Council recognizes and honors Jen Wolosin for her dedication and service to the Menlo Park community.

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Cecilia Taylor, Vice Mayor December 12, 2023

EACH CITY COUNCILMEMBER CAN VOTE FOR 1 CANDIDATE - ONCE A CANDIDATE HAS A MAJORITY, THE VOTING IS COMPLETE

ONE (1) REGULAR TERMS ENDING 12/2024

MAYOR

VOTE #1		BN	DC	MD	СТ	JW	Total
Terms expire December 2024 - 1 APPOINTMENT							
Drew Combs							0
Maria Doerr							0
Betsy Nash							0
Cecilia Taylor		1	1	1	1	1	5
Jen Wolosin							0

1 CANDIDATE - ONCE A CANDIDATE HAS A								
ONE (1) REGULAR TERMS ENDING 12/2024								
VICE MAYOR								
VOTE #1		BN	DC	MD	СТ	JW	Total	
Terms expire December 2024 - 1 APPOINTMENT								
Drew Combs		1	1		1		3	
Maria Doerr				1		1	2	
Betsy Nash							0	
Cecilia Taylor							0	
Jen Wolosin							0	

MAYOR ASSIGNMENTS	2024 Primary	2024 Alternate			
Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)	Cecilia Taylor	Drew Combs			
League of California Cities (Peninsula Division)	Cecilia Taylor	Drew Combs			
Palo Alto Community Fund Advisory Board	Cecilia Taylor	Cecilia Taylor			
San Mateo County Council of Cities and City Selection Committee	Cecilia Taylor	Cecilia Taylor Drew Combs			
REGIONAL BOARD MEMBERS	2024 Member	2024 Member			
Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) - through June 25, 2025 and San Francisco Bay Area Regional Water System Financing Authority	Maria Doerr				
REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS	2024 Primary	2024 Alternate			
Caltrain Modernization Local Policy Group	Jen Wolosin	Drew Combs			
City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (C/CAG)	Jen Wolosin	Maria Doerr			
HEART Board Member Agency Committee (MAC)	Maria Doerr	Drew Combs			
Home for All	Cecilia Taylor				
Meta Local Community Fund	Betsy Nash	Cecilia Taylor			
Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) Community Choice Energy	Betsy Nash	Maria Doerr			
Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance (Commute.org)	Jen Wolosin	Drew Combs			
San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority	Drew Combs	Cecilia Taylor			
San Mateo County Mosquito and Vector Control District	Catherine Carlton*				
San Mateo Operational Area Emergency Services Organization (Emergency Services Council)	Betsy Nash	Jen Wolosin			
SFO Airport/Community Roundtable	Drew Combs	Cecilia Taylor			
South Bayside Waste Management Authority (SBWMA)	Betsy Nash	Cecilia Taylor			
Stanford Community Resources Group	Betsy Nash	Maria Doerr			
ADVISORY BODY LIAISONS	2024 Member				
Complete Streets Commission	Cecilia Taylor				
Environmental Quality Commission	Betsy Nash	Betsy Nash			
Finance and Audit Committee	Maria Doerr	Maria Doerr			
Housing Commission	Maria Doerr	Maria Doerr			
Library Commission	Jen Wolosin	Jen Wolosin			
Parks and Recreation Commission	Drew Combs	Drew Combs			
Planning Commission	Maria Doerr				
OUTSIDE AGENCY LIAISONS	2024 Member 1	2024 Member 2			
Searsville Advisory Group	Betsy Nash	Maria Doerr			
San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise District (FSLR, OneShoreline)	Cecilia Taylor	Betsy Nash			

*appointed on Dec. 12, 2023 to serve through Dec. 31, 2025

CITY COUNCIL STANDING SUBCOMMITTEE	2024 Primary	2024 Alternate	Notes
Community Grant Funding Committee	Cecilia Taylor	Drew Combs	Meets annually, typically in Nov. or Dec.
ACTIVE CITY COUNCIL AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES	2024 Member	2024 Member	Notes
Commonwealth 3 Development Agreement Negotiations Subcommittee (ad hoc committee)	Cecilia Taylor	Betsy Nash	Established on Mar. 28, 2023
Parkline Development Agreement Negotiations Subcommittee (ad hoc committee)	Jen Wolosin	Maria Doerr	Established on Mar. 28, 2023