SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: 3/10/2020
Time: 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

According to City Council policy, all regular meetings of the City Council are to end by midnight unless there is a super majority vote taken by 11:00 p.m. to extend the meeting and identify the items to be considered after 11:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Special Session

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

A. Presentations and Proclamations

A1. "My Community" youth poster exhibition

Mayor Taylor announced the item was held in the Main Library.

A2. Facebook community benefits update

This item was continued to a future meeting.

B. Study Session

B1. Discuss City Council policies and procedures

Assistant City Manager Nick Pegueros made the presentation.

The City Council directed staff to include language to the following procedures:

• Speaking for the City: When a City Councilmember is called upon as an alternate to serve as a voting member on an outside agency body, the primary member is responsible for providing meeting materials to the alternate.
• City Council communication with staff: Include “through the city manager or their designee”.
• Conducting business at a late hour: Change to 10:30 p.m. from 11 p.m.
• Other guidelines direction: Limited public comment duration to two minutes and add language to the agenda. Review City Council procedure annually at the first meeting in January.
• Remove procedural language: defer to source such as Robert's Rules of order or Rosenbergs.

The City Council requested that staff return with a report on policy modifications. The City Council disbanded the ad hoc subcommittee on procedures. The City Council received clarification on a sunshine policy.

7:00 p.m. Regular Session

C. Call To Order
Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**D. Roll Call**

Present: Carlton, Nash, Mueller, Taylor  
Absent: Combs  
Staff: City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson, Interim City Attorney Cara Silver, City Clerk Judi A. Herren

**E. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**F. Public Comment**

- Bill Kirsch spoke on the safety of pedestrians on El Camino Real at Ravenswood Avenue, Oak Grove Avenue, and Santa Cruz Avenue (Attachment).

Mayor Taylor reordered the agenda.

**K. City Councilmember Reports**

City Councilmember Carlton reported out on the National League of Cities conference.

City Councilmember Mueller reported out on the Board of Supervisors meeting.

City Councilmember Nash reported on the community meeting by Home for All, Caltrain Local Policymakers group, Black History month at Senior Center, training on how to be an effective peninsula clean energy board member, and Housing Commission meeting.

Mayor Taylor announced the annual advisory body recruitment through April 3.

**G. Consent Calendar**

City Councilmember Carlton pulled item G5.

**G1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for January 14 and February 11, 2020 (Attachment)**

**G2. Authorize the city manager to execute a second amendment to the renewable lease agreement at 871A and 871B Hamilton Avenue (Neighborhood Service Center) (Staff Report #20-060-CC)**

Mayor Taylor requested at the end of the amendment term to revisit the usage of the facilities.

**G3. Adopt Resolution No. 6548 proposing to abandon public right-of-way adjacent to 100-110 Terminal Avenue**

Adopt Resolution No. 6548 proposing to abandon public right-of-way and public utility easements adjacent to and within 100-110 Terminal Avenue (Staff Report #20-058-CC)
G4. Award a construction contract to Saviano Company Inc. for the reconstruction of Nealon Park tennis courts project (Staff Report #20-057-CC)

G5. Designate the Environmental Quality Commission as appeal board for nonresidential kitchens requesting use of gas-fueled appliances (Staff Report #20-054-CC)

The City Council discussed the workloads of the Environmental Quality Commission and Planning Commission and directed staff to return with a review of the process after 18-months.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Mueller/ Carlton) to designate the Environmental Quality Commission as appeal board for nonresidential kitchens requesting use of gas-fueled appliances, passed 4-0-1 (Combs absent).

G6. Adopt Resolution No. 6547 approving to enter into San Mateo County operational area building safety inspection program mutual aid agreement (Staff Report #20-050-CC)

G7. Approve the permanent neighborhood traffic plan measures for Baywood Avenue, Clover Lane, Blackburn Avenue, McKendry Drive and Marmona Drive (Staff Report #20-056-CC)

- Susan Ribaudo spoke on concerns of the speed of the transportation master plan process and in support of the proposed traffic plan measures.
- Mary Ratner spoke in support of the proposed traffic plan measures.

G8. Authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support and the city manager to submit an application with the county of San Mateo for the Stanford recreation mitigation fund (Staff Report #20-059-CC)

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Mueller/ Carlton) to approve the consent calendar, except item G5., passed 4-0-1 (Combs absent).

H. Regular Business

H1. Receive a progress report on Menlo Park’s tenant relocation assistance program administered by Samaritan House and provide direction on the next steps (Staff Report #20-055-CC)

Deputy Community Development Director - Housing Rhonda Coffman made the presentation.

Assistant Director of Programs and Services with Samaritan House C. LaTrice Taylor made a presentation.

The City Council directed staff to repurpose the fund to expand it to include emergency rental assistance including to those impacted by COVID-19.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Mueller/ Carlton) to amend Resolution No. 6496 by retaining $112,000 in the fund, include COVID-19 declarations, and incorporate guidelines as directed by City Council, passed 4-0-1 (Combs absent).

H2. Introduction and first reading of Ordinance No. 1067 requiring safe storage of firearms in residences (Staff Report #20-052-CC)
Interim City Attorney Cara Silver made the presentation (Attachment).

- Leah Elkins, representing Moms Demand Action, spoke on concerns regarding the penalties.
- Michael Palmer spoke in opposition of the ordinance.
- Paige Viotti spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.
- Virginia Chaug Kiraly spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

The City Council discussed and received clarification on fines and penalties. The City Council expressed a need to communicate with residents before the ordinance goes into effect.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Mueller/ Nash) to introduction Ordinance No. 1067 requiring safe storage of firearms in residences, with amendment to replace misdemeanor violation with a civil penalty as contained in presentation slide passed 4-0-1 (Combs absent).

I. **Informational Items**

1. City Council agenda topics: March 2020 to May 2020 (**Staff Report #20-049-CC**)

City Council discussed adding a column to the attachment to identify the agenda item’s relationship to the City Council work plan.

J. **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Jerome-Robinson announced the City Council meeting on March 11.

L. **Adjournment**

Mayor Taylor adjourned the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of April 21, 2020.
Turn lanes are underutilized. Read lane volumes as (AM peak hour cars, PM peak hour cars)
Pedestrians crossing ECR have refuges with signal buttons.
Expand sidewalks into underutilized turn lanes
Create bike lanes on Santa Cruz from Merrill to Doyle using existing road space more efficiently.
Parking removal not required.
May allow shorter signal countdowns
Intersection LOS is A
ORDINANCE NO. 1067: SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS
AGENDA

- Summary of Proposed Ordinance
- Alternatives Penalties
California State law: Requires all firearms sold in California to be sold with a gun safe or trigger lock.

Loophole: California law does not require the purchaser to use the safety device.
• Council directed City Attorney to draft ordinance modeled after San Mateo County ordinance closing loophole.

• Operative provision: Except when carried on the person, no person shall keep a Firearm in any residence unless the firearm is stored in a locked container or is disabled with a Trigger Lock.

• Trigger Lock defined as lock approved by DOJ for particular weapon.
STREAMLINING REQUIREMENTS
PENALTIES

- Criminal – misdemeanor
- Civil Penalties - $100/day
• Criminal – misdemeanor (6 months in county jail or $1,000 fine or both)

• Infraction (within one year)
  o First offense $50
  o Second offense $200
  o Third offense $500
  o Fourth offense = misdemeanor

• Criminal – misdemeanor or infraction

• Civil Penalties - $100/day
RECOMMENDATION

• Provide input on penalty structure.
• Introduce and waive reading of Ordinance No.1066.