



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: 5/19/2020

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Special Meeting Location: Joinwebinar.com – ID# 371-154-995

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, COVID-19, EMERGENCY ADVISORY NOTICE

On March 19, 2020, the Governor ordered a statewide stay-at-home order calling on all individuals living in the State of California to stay at home or at their place of residence to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Additionally, the Governor has temporarily suspended certain requirements of the Brown Act. For the duration of the shelter in place order, the following public meeting protocols will apply.

Teleconference meeting: All members of the City Council, city staff, applicants, and members of the public will be participating by teleconference. To promote social distancing while allowing essential governmental functions to continue, the Governor has temporarily waived portions of the open meetings act and rules pertaining to teleconference meetings. This meeting is conducted in compliance with the Governor Executive Order N-25-20 issued March 12, 2020, and supplemental Executive Order N-29-20 issued March 17, 2020.

- How to participate in the meeting
 - Submit a written comment online:
menlopark.org/publiccommentMay19*
 - Record a comment or request a call-back when an agenda topic is under consideration:
Dial 650-474-5071*
 - Access the special meeting real-time online at:
joinwebinar.com – Special Meeting ID 371-154-995
*Written and recorded public comments and call-back requests are accepted up to 1 hour before the meeting start time. Written and recorded messages are provided to the City Council at the appropriate time in their meeting. Recorded messages may be transcribed using a voice-to-text tool.
- Watch special meeting:
 - Cable television subscriber in Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Atherton, and Palo Alto:
Channel 26
 - Online:
menlopark.org/streaming

Note: City Council closed sessions are not broadcast online or on television and public participation is limited to the beginning of closed session.

Subject to Change: Given the current public health emergency and the rapidly evolving federal, state, county and local orders, the format of this meeting may be altered or the meeting may be canceled. You may check on the status of the meeting by visiting the City's website www.menlopark.org. The instructions for logging on to the webinar and/or the access code is subject to change. If you have difficulty accessing the webinar, please check the latest online edition of the posted agenda for updated information (menlopark.org/agenda).

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.

Special Session ([Joinwebinar.com](https://www.joinwebinar.com) – ID# 371-154-995)

A. Call To Order

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order.

B. Roll Call

Present: Carlton, Combs, Nash, Mueller, Taylor

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson, Interim City Attorney Cara Silver, City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Regular Business

- C1. Provide direction on budget balancing measures including program and service reductions for the city manager's proposed fiscal year 2020-21 budget and authorize issuance of notice of intent to layoff affected positions ([Staff Report #20-106-CC](#))

[Web form public comment for item C1.](#) (Attachment).

Assistant City Manager Nick Pegueros and Assistant Administrative Services Director Dan Jacobson made the presentation (Attachment).

- Roy Thiele-Sardiña commented on the effects of budget reduction to the community.
- Carmen Lo spoke in support of retaining childcare services.
- Lynne Bramlett spoke in support of the consideration of employee pay cuts.
- Angela Evans spoke in support of the continuation of the herbicide-free agreement.
- Cynthia Guerra spoke in opposition of service reduction in the Belle Haven neighborhood.
- Reverend Teirrah McNair spoke in opposition of service reduction in the Belle Haven neighborhood.
- Adina Levin commented on the needs of the most impacted and vulnerable to this recession.
- Andrey Konchenko spoke in support of retaining childcare services.
- Kim Morris spoke in support of protecting services to members of the community.
- Mayrin Bunyagidj spoke in support of retaining childcare services.
- Osnat Loewenthal spoke in support of retaining childcare services.
- Karen Grove spoke in support of the use of reserves to assist in balancing the budget.
- Avideh Samardar spoke in support of retaining the services in Belle Haven.

The City Council reached consensus to cut the items listed on Table 2a "Baseline budget changes, department summary" on the staff report (Administrative services summary, City Council/city attorney/city manager/city clerk/sustainability summary, Community development summary, Community services summary, Library summary, Police summary, and Public works summary) and Table 3 "Unrepresented management personnel cost reductions" (Freeze community development

director position, Freeze administrative services director position, Suspend unrepresented pay increases for 2020-21, Suspend unrepresented bonuses for 2020-21, Additional reductions to reach 25% reduction goal).

The City Council requested more discussion on the remaining budget reduction items.

D. Adjournment

Mayor Taylor adjourned the meeting.

Judi A. Herren, City Clerk

These minutes were approved at the City Council meeting of June 9, 2020.