



**SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT**

**Date:** 2/12/2019  
**Time:** 5:00 p.m.  
**City Council Chambers**  
**701 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025**

**City Councilmember Catherine Carlton participated by phone from:**  
**Jumeirah Beach Hotel, RM. 940**  
**Jumeirah Street, Dubai, UAE.**

**5:00 p.m. Closed Session (City Hall – “Downtown” Conference Room, 1st Floor)**

- Whitney Loy spoke on behalf of AFSCME commenting on a letter sent to City Council to open a dialogue about general wages and compensation comparisons with other cities in the area.

**CL1.** Closed session pursuant to Government Code Section §54957.6 to confer with labor negotiators regarding current labor negotiations with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and American Federation of State, and County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

Attendees: Interim City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson, Assistant City Manager Nick Pegueros, Administrative Services Director Lenka Diaz, City Attorney Bill McClure

City Councilmember Carlton was absent.

**6:00 p.m. Study Session and Regular Session (City Council Chambers)**

**A. Call to Order**

Mayor Mueller called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**B. Roll Call**

Present: Carlton, Combs, Nash, Taylor, Mueller

Absent: None

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

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Mueller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Report from Closed Session**

None.

**D. Study Session**

**D1.** Provide feedback and direction to staff on the Housing Commission’s recommendation for an

urgency interim tenant relocation assistance Ordinance No. 1053 (Staff Report #19-025-CC)

Interim City Manager Starla Jerome-Robinson was recused on this item and exited the City Council chambers.

Interim Housing and Economic Development Manager Clay Curtin and Assistant City Attorney Cara Silver made the presentation.

- Ed Supplee described the history of rent in the area and commented renters are better off than buying.
- Angie Evans spoke in support of affordable housing and an urgency ordinance.
- Dawson Coblum spoke of concerns with the ordinance due to the natural expiration of the lease for smaller scale landlords.
- Neville Batliwalla spoke in support of small landlords and requested information pertaining to the number of complaints that have been received from tenants regarding rent costs over last three years.
- Mike Haddock commented that high prices market affects both landlords and tenants. Haddock was not in support of the ordinance.
- Maya Sawal spoke against a tenant relocation ordinance.
- Len Robinson spoke against the ordinance and suggested that it not apply to single family homes.
- Rachel Horst spoke in support of the ordinance.
- Tom Thompson spoke on a census reports and median rents in Menlo Park.
- Curt Conroy spoke against the ordinance.
- Vanessa Honey believes that this is a rent control ordinance.
- Paula Macchello spoke against the ordinance.
- Joanne Wong-Lam spoke against the ordinance and the costs associated with being an owner/landlord.
- Susan Lewis spoke about the costs of providing housing and the increases from the ordinance.
- Jordan Grimes spoke in support of the ordinance.
- Samra Adeni spoke in support of the ordinance.
- Wendy McPherson spoke against this version of ordinance and the negative impacts to the small landlords.
- Heather Serk spoke against the proposed ordinance.
- Karen Grove spoke in support of ordinance.
- Evan Collins spoke against the proposed ordinance.
- Pam Jones spoke in support of the urgency ordinance.
- Munir Voba spoke against the ordinance and compared it to the Berkeley rent control program.
- John Inks spoke against rent control and spoke on the Mountain View rent control policy.
- Meg McGraw-Scherer spoke in support of the ordinance.
- Robert Ko spoke about his current property and costs associated with it.
- Jennifer Mazzon spoke support of ordinance.
- Adina Levin spoke in support of the ordinance.
- Chris Isaacson spoke against the ordinance as it is written.
- Shirley Gibson spoke about the legal positions of the ordinance and provided a map.
- Keith Ogden spoke on the landlord cause termination section of the ordinance.

- Nazanin Salehi stated that a relocation ordinance does not require City staff to enforce the provisions.
- Juliet Brodie spoke in support of ordinance policy and commented that the hardship provision is unique.
- Nevada Meriman spoke in support of the ordinance.
- Kris Doherty spoke against the ordinance but would support a tax to share the cost burden.
- Helen Chen spoke against the ordinance and rent control.
- Phillip Bahr spoke against the proposed ordinance and suggested it not be an urgency ordinance.
- Micheal Johnson spoke against rent control.
- Bill Lamkin suggested that staff and City Council to focus on other issues and not landlord issues.
- Jeff Deng spoke against the ordinance and asked who is responsible for rent if the tenants are unable to afford it.
- Sonia Chawla explained that she has been both a property owner and a renter.
- Katie Behroozi spoke in support of the ordinance.
- Nik Noomen spoke against the ordinance.
- Richard Li spoke about the lack of housing as a zoning issue.
- Joshua Howard spoke against the ordinance.
- Ryan Carrigan spoke against the ordinance as written and suggest to revisit and focus on relocation only.
- Joyce Liu spoke against the ordinance and requested that City Council focus on the housing crisis.
- Julie Shanson spoke in support of the ordinances intentions.
- Jennifer Liu spoke against the ordinance and the costs of ownership.

The City Council took a brief 10-minute break.

City Council received clarification on the differences between rent control and tenant relocation assistance and directed staff to answer any questions they could that arose from public comment. Staff received direction from City Council to use the City of Redwood City's ordinance as a baseline and to return with an ordinance focused on tenant relocation assistance.

## **E. Presentations and Proclamations**

### **E1. Proclamation: Recognizing Barbara Wood**

Mayor Mueller read the proclamation and presented is to Barbara Wood.

## **F. Public Comment**

None.

## **G. Consent Calendar**

### **G1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for January 29 and February 2, 2019 (Attachment)**

### **G2. Adopt Resolution No. 6484 to approve the amended water supply agreement with the City and County of San Francisco (Staff Report #19-021-CC)**

- G3. Authorize the City Manager to amend an agreement with W-Trans for the transportation master plan and transportation impact fee program and appropriate \$120,000 from the undesignated fund balance of the general fund (Staff Report #19-022-CC)
- G4. Adopt Resolution No. 6479 rescinding City Council Procedure No. CC-92-004 and adopting updated City Council Procedure establishing award authority and bid requirements (Staff Report #19-014-CC)
- G5. Authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with LSA Associates to prepare an environmental impact report for a proposed project at 111 Independence Drive in the amount of \$164,810 plus change orders not exceed to the City Manager's award authority (Staff Report #19-020-CC)

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Combs/Taylor) to approve the consent calendar, passed unanimously.

#### **H. Public Hearing**

- H1. Consider an appeal of the Planning Commission approval of a use permit and architectural control for a new single-story, 3,681 square-foot nonmedical office building at 40 Middlefield Road, and consider a parking reduction to provide a parking ratio of one space per 230 square feet of gross floor area (Staff Report #19-019-CC)

Senior Planner Tom Smith and Assistant Community Development Director Deanna Chow made the presentation.

The applicant Ken Hayes made a presentation.

The appellants Joe Zott and Lauri Hart made a presentation.

City Council received clarification on the procedure of this public hearing. There was discussion round parking, occupancy levels, and traffic impacts.

**ACTION:** Motion and second (Carlton/Nash) to deny the appeal and uphold the Planning Commission's use permit and architectural control approval to construct a new single-story, 3,681 square-foot nonmedical office building on a vacant parcel located at 40 Middlefield Road in the C-4 (general commercial) zoning district, cap the number of employees at 10, and requiring a mesh gate, passed unanimously.

#### **I. Regular Business**

Regular business items were continued to a future meeting.

- I1. Discuss and provide direction on the City's travel policy and/or adopt a Resolution rescinding Council Procedure No. CC-18-001 and adopting City Council Procedure No. CC-19-002 titled "City of Menlo Park Travel, Meal, and Lodging Policy" (Staff Report #19-023-CC)

#### **J. Informational Items**

J1. Update on the Santa Cruz and Middle Avenues resurfacing project funded through a One Bay Area Grant 2 program (Staff Report #19-024-CC)

**K. City Manager's Report**

None.

**L. Councilmember Reports**

None.

**M. Adjournment**

Mayor Muller adjourned the meeting at 10:54 p.m.

Judi A. Herren, City Clerk