



SPECIAL AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

Date: 4/14/2026
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Locations: Teleconference and
City Council Chambers
751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

Special Session

A. Call To Order

Mayor Nash called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Combs (remote – Brown Act, arrived at 5:42 p.m., exited at 6:42 p.m., arrived at 7 p.m.), Nash, Schmidt, Taylor, Wise

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Justin Murphy, Assistant City Manager Stephen Stolte (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), City Attorney Nira Doherty, Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Closed Session

- C1. Conference with labor negotiators
Government Code Section 54957.6
Labor negotiations with American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 829, Service Employees International Local 521, and Service Employees International Union Local 521 – Temporary Employees Unit

Agency designated representatives: City Manager Justin I.C. Murphy, Assistant City Manager Stephen Stolte, City Attorney Nira Doherty, Administrative Services Director Brittany Mello, Extra Help Retired Annuitant – Human Resources Director Sue Rush, Legal Counsel Charles Sakai

Regular Session

D. Call To Order

Mayor Nash re-called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

E. Report from Closed Session

No reportable actions.

F. Agenda Review

None.

G. Public Comment

- Marjory Ruiz Hidalgo spoke on a non-emergency safety reporting application for PG&E.
- Joaquin Jimenez spoke on their candidacy for San Mateo County Supervisor of District 3.
- Mukta Dhanuka spoke on the need for habitability compliance for renters (Attachment).
- Gerald Moreno spoke on safety concerns from bushes encroaching on sidewalks.

H. Presentations and Proclamations

H1. Proclamation: Arbor Day (Attachment)

Mayor Nash introduced the proclamation.

Senior Patrol Leader, Scouting America Troop 109 Evan Chamness accepted the proclamation (Attachment).

H2. Proclamation: Earth Day (Attachment)

Mayor Nash introduced the proclamation.

Founder and Director of Carbon Cutout Nicole Angiel accepted the proclamation (Attachment).

H3. Proclamation: National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (Attachment)

Mayor Nash introduced the proclamation.

Police Chief David Norris accepted the proclamation (Attachment).

I. Special Business

I1. Planning Commission applicant introductions (Applications)

City Clerk Herren introduced the item.

- Miyko Harris-Parker spoke in support of appointing Meridith Rohr to the Planning Commission.
- Pam D Jones spoke in support of appointing Meridith Rohr to the Planning Commission.

Planning Commission applicants Jeff Berkes, Nancy LaRocca Hedley, Ron Renwick, Meredith Rohr and Jennifer Shindler introduced themselves to the City Council.

The City Council discussed the role of Planning Commission.

J. Consent Calendar

J1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for March 10, 2026 (Attachment)

J2. Consider and adopt a resolution to reduce the Utility Users Tax (continuation at 0%) (Staff Report #26-054-CC)

- J3. Award a construction contract to Radius Earthwork, Inc. for the Bay and Pierce Road Improvement project (Staff Report #26-051-CC)

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

K. Regular Business

- K1. Introduce and waive the first reading of an ordinance adding Chapter 5.80 (Massage Businesses) of Title 5 (Business Licenses and Regulations) of the City of Menlo Park Municipal Code, relating to the regulation of massage businesses (Staff Report #26-052-CC)

Police Commander Tony Dixon made the presentation (Attachment).

The City Council received clarification on the California Massage Therapy Council (CAMTC) fingerprinting and Department of Justice (DOJ) impacts to certification.

ACTION: Motion and second (Taylor/ Wise), to introduce and waive the first reading of an ordinance (Attachment A) adding Chapter 5.80 (Massage Businesses) of Title 5 (Business Licenses and Regulations) of the Menlo Park Municipal Code, relating to the regulation of massage businesses, passed unanimously.

- K2. Receive and file report on labor relations and receive public input on upcoming labor negotiations with Service Employees International Union Local 521, Service Employees International Union Local 521 – Temporary Employees Unit, and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 829 (Staff Report #26-049-CC)

Administrative Services Director Brittany Mello made the presentation (Attachment).

- Brandon Palominos Mancilla spoke in support of market-rate wages for city employees.
- Juan Quinonez spoke in support of market-rate wages for city employees.
- Alyssa Allen spoke in support of permanent full-time opportunities for Menlo Children's Center employees.

ACTION: Motion and second (Schmidt/ Nash), to receive and file report on employee compensation and receive public input on upcoming labor negotiations with Service Employees International Union Local 521 (SEIU), SEIU – Temporary Employees Unit, and American Federal of State, County, and Municipal Employees Local 829 (AFSCME), passed unanimously.

- K3. Approve fiscal year 2026-27 budget principles (Staff Report #26-055-CC)

Assistant Administrative Services Director Fenny Lei made the presentation (Attachment).

The City Council received clarification on two-tier options for the principles.

The City Council discussed additional guardrails for the principles, re-ranking tiers of the principles, visibility of City Council funding allocations, additional reporting for financial ties to City Council priorities, reordering the principles and whether or not to prioritize the principles (Attachment).

The City Council directed staff to provide more frequent informational staff reports focused on

budget updates (not more than quarterly), defining the rationale for the ordering of the principles and listing principles with the use of bullets as opposed to letters to help indicate that there is not a priority order.

ACTION: Motion and second (Wise/ Taylor), to approve budget principles for fiscal year 2026-27, passed unanimously.

L. Informational Items

- L1. City Council agenda topics: April – May 2026 (Staff Report #26-056-CC)
- L2. Update on the City’s fiscal year 2025-26 Capital Improvement Plan (Staff Report #26-053-CC)

M. City Manager Report

City Manager Murphy reported out on the May 7 community open house for downtown parking plazas proposals and the release of the project bid for the Willow/101 interchange landscaping project.

N. City Councilmember Reports

Mayor Nash reported out on the Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) meeting, the San Mateo County Sustainability awards, Sister City Galway luncheon and the vehicle licenses fee (VLF) backfill rally.

City Councilmember Schmidt reported out on the April 14 Planning Commission meeting.

O. Adjournment

Mayor Nash adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

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