



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

Date: 6/9/2026
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Locations: Teleconference and
City Council Chambers
751 Laurel St., Menlo Park, CA 94025

Regular Session

A. Call To Order

Mayor Nash called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Combs, Nash, Schmidt (remote), Taylor, Wise
Absent: None
Staff: City Manager Justin Murphy, Assistant City Manager Stephen Stolte, City Attorney Nira Doherty, Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi A. Herren

C. Agenda Review

Staff to provide an update on item F1.

The City Council to provide a comment on items F3. and H2.

D. Public Comment

- Gerald Wluka spoke on concerns about the traffic during pickup time at La Entrada Middle School.

E. Presentations and Proclamations

E1. Proclamation: Cal Water 100-year anniversary (Attachment)

Mayor Nash introduced the proclamation.

Bear Gulch District Manager Dawn Smithson accepted the proclamation (Attachment).

E2. Proclamation: Pride Month (Attachment)

Mayor Nash introduced the proclamation.

Lead Training and Peer Group Coordinator for the San Mateo County Pride Center Ishani Dugar accepted the proclamation (Attachment).

E3. Proclamation: Juneteenth (Attachment)

Mayor Nash introduced the proclamation.

Program Assistant Anasia Juniel-Rufus accepted the proclamation (Attachment).

F. Consent Calendar

- F1. Accept the City Council meeting minutes for May 12, 2026 (Attachment)

City staff provided amendments to the May 12 minutes, item G2.

- F2. Waive the second reading and adopt an ordinance to repeal and replace Chapter 16.79 (Accessory Dwelling Units) of Title 16 (Zoning) of the Menlo Park Municipal Code for consistency with State law and incorporating local objective standards (Staff Report #26-092-CC)
- F3. Award a construction contract to Bortolussi & Watkin, Inc. and authorize the city manager to execute an amended memorandum of understanding with the San Mateo County Transportation Authority for the Willow Road and Highway 101 Interchange Landscaping Project (Staff Report #26-093-CC)

The City Council discussed increasing the number of trees proposed in the project, delays resulting from plan modifications and funding.

The City Council directed staff to consider additional trees without impacting the project with the use of Bay Front Mitigation Funds.

- F4. Authorize the city manager to execute an agreement for fiscal year 2026-27 with Tripepi Smith for communications support services (Staff Report #26-101-CC)
- F5. Authorize the city manager to execute a maintenance agreement with Priority 1 Public Safety Equipment Installation, Inc. for on-call vehicle upfitting services (Staff Report #26-102-CC)

ACTION: Motion and second (Taylor/ Combs), to approve the consent calendar with the amendments to the May 12 minutes, passed unanimously.

G. Public Hearing

- G1. Consider and adopt a resolution to approve a vesting tentative subdivision map to subdivide a property into 50 condominium parcels and one common area parcel in the C-1 (Administrative and Professional, Restrictive) zoning district, at 68 Willow Rd. (Staff Report #26-096-CC)

Senior Planner Chris Turner made the presentation (Attachment).

Mayor Nash opened the public hearing.

- Will Oursler spoke in support of the vesting tentative subdivision map and additional housing.

Mayor Nash closed the public hearing.

The City Council received clarification on replacement of heritage trees and construction timing.

The City Council discussed housing density in the neighborhood.

ACTION: Motion and second (Combs/ Wise), to adopt a resolution approving a tentative subdivision map to subdivide the parcel located at 68 Willow Rd. into 50 condominium parcels and one common area parcel, passed unanimously.

- G2. Hold public hearing on the proposed fiscal year 2026-27 budget and capital improvement plan; hold public hearing on vacancies, recruitment and retention; and consider and adopt a resolution to amend the fiscal year 2025-26 budget (Staff Report #26-103-CC)

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

Mayor Nash opened the public hearing.

- Ken Kershner spoke in support of funding the El Camino Real protected bike lanes project.
- Adrian Silva spoke in support of funding the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) consultant services.
- Adina Levin spoke in support of funding the El Camino Real protected bike lanes project.
- Marcy Abramowitz spoke in support of funding the quiet zone and concerns of the matching funds method to secure funding.
- Katie Behroozi spoke in support for the SRTS program and using non-public resources for holiday tree lighting.

Mayor Nash closed the public hearing.

The City Council received clarification on historic data on reserve funds for neighboring cities, vacancy rates and full-time equivalents (FTEs), deficit numbers, expenditure reductions, library and community services (LCS) reductions, SRTS contract reduction, tree lights in Santa Cruz Avenue medians, holiday tree lighting and event, reduced/suspended discretionary programs/projects and revenue increase with newly adopted master fee schedule.

The City Council discussed pool maintenance cost responsibility, utilizing the Friends of Library and Library Foundation, weed removal and maintenance, reduction in pool hours and funding, personnel and non-personnel reductions, reserve comparison with other/similar cities, the city's bond rating and individual restrictive funds.

The City Council directed staff to proceed with:

- Reducing the SRTS (safe routes to school) consultant services provided by Alta
- Continuing with the proposed LCS reductions while prioritizing staff
- Reducing tree lights in Santa Cruz Avenue medians between University Drive and Doyle Drive
- Reviewing whether holiday tree lighting event funds could cover the cost of tree lighting
- Reducing general non-herbicide weed removal
- Reviewing post-summer pool hour reduction and gymnastics and child care fees
- Reviewing personnel and non-personnel reductions to bridge the \$1.8 million gap
- Reviewing the freezing of vacant positions outside of core services
- Reducing temporary employee hours
- Reducing overtime wherever possible
- Reviewing the Bayfront Mitigation Grant Fund restrictions and uses.

ACTION: Motion and second (Nash/ Combs), to adopt a resolution approving budget amendments for fiscal year 2025-26, passed unanimously.

- G3. Consider and adopt a resolution overruling protests, ordering the improvements, confirming the diagram/area of assessment and ordering the levy and collection of assessments for Landscaping Assessment District for fiscal year 2026-27 (Staff Report #26-094-CC)

Management Analyst II Joanna Chen made the presentation (Attachment).

Mayor Nash opened the public hearing.

Mayor Nash closed the public hearing.

ACTION: Motion and second (Wise/ Schmidt), to adopt a resolution overruling protests, ordering improvements, confirming the diagram/area of assessment, and ordering the levy and collection of assessments for the Landscaping Assessment District, passed unanimously.

- G4. Conduct a public hearing, rate protest hearing, and consider adoption of a resolution approving maximum increases in rates for the collection, processing, and disposal of waste, recycling, and compost materials for commercial, multi-family, and single-family customers (Staff Report #26-098-CC) – **Continued from May 12, 2026**

Public Works Internal Services Manager Eren Romero made the presentation (Attachment).

Mayor Nash opened the public hearing.

- Ezio Alviti spoke in opposition of the rate increase.

Mayor Nash closed the public hearing.

ACTION: Motion and second (Wise/ Nash), to adopt a resolution approving maximum increases in rates for the collection, processing, and disposal of waste, recycling, and compost materials for commercial, multi-family, and single-family customers effective July 1, 2026, with annual adjustments each July 1 for 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030, passed 4-1 (Taylor dissenting).

- G5. Conduct a public hearing, rate protest hearing, and consider adoption of a resolution approving maximum rate increases for Menlo Park Municipal Water, including pass-throughs of any increases in the costs of wholesale water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and establishing and setting water capacity charges (Staff Report #26-099-CC) – **Continued from May 12, 2026**

Public Works Internal Services Manager Eren Romero made the presentation (Attachment).

Mayor Nash opened the public hearing.

- Arlene Navaro spoke in opposition of the rate increase.

Mayor Nash closed the public hearing.

ACTION: Motion and second (Combs/ Nash), to adopt a resolution approving maximum increases in rate increases for Menlo Park Municipal Water services effective July 1, 2026, with annual adjustments July 1, 2027 and 2028, including pass through of any increases in costs of the wholesale water from San

Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and establishing and setting water capacity charges, passed 4-1 (Taylor dissenting).

H. Informational Items

H1. City Council agenda topics: June – July 2026 (Staff Report #26-100-CC)

H2. Update on implementation of the zero emission landscape equipment ordinance (Staff Report #26-095-CC)

The City Council discussed police enforcement and compliance and hate crimes.

The City Council received clarification on enforcement methods.

The City Council directed staff to reduce staff workload through leading with an educational approach and to return to the City Council if approach is ineffective.

H3. Police department quarterly update / Q1 January – March 2026 (Staff Report #26-097-CC) (Informe de Personal #26-097-CC)

I. City Manager Report

None.

J. City Councilmember Reports

J1. Vice Mayor Wise report (Attachment)

Mayor Nash reported out on Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) and Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) meetings and the police department swearing in ceremony.

K. Adjournment

Mayor Nash adjourned the meeting at 10:11 p.m.

Assistant to the City Manager/ City Clerk Judi Herren