



ATHERTON'S... THAT'S A WRAP!



City Council Meeting

April 20, 2016

Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/TownOfAtherton/featured>

On April 20 the City Council met for their regular City Council meeting in the Town's Council Chambers. First up on the Agenda was the Pledge of Allegiance. After the Pledge, the Council moved to Presentations. The Council presented proclamations for National Police Week and Public Safety Communications Week. Following the presentation of proclamation, the Town Arborist presented the 2016 Tree Awards.

After presentations, the Council moved on to the first Public Comment period. During public comment, the Council heard a report on the issues and status of the High Speed Rail Business Plan and announced the May 22 Earth Action Fair.

Following the Public Comment period, the Council moved to **Item No. 6, City Manager's Report**. The City Manager's Report is prepared monthly as part of the City Council's Regular Agenda. In addition to current reports from the City Manager it includes departmental updates on the various happenings around Town such as reports from Administration, Community Services, Planning, Police, and Public Works. A copy of the Report can be found here:

<http://ca-atherton.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/2959>

After the City Manager's Report, the Council moved on to the **Consent Agenda** consisting of Items 8 through 17. Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine in nature and are generally considered in one motion and adopted by a single vote of the Council. Included in this month's Consent Agenda were minutes, bills and claim, Treasurer's Report for March 31, 2016, adoption of an Amendment to the Municipal Code relating to Animals and Fowl, the 2015 Annual Report on the Town's General Plan Implementation, acceptance of work for the Class III Bike Route Project, approval of additional work for the El Camino Real and Selby Lane intersection, acceptance of work for the 2016 Spring Patching Project, approval of a 1-year lease extension for Knox Preschool, and approval of a professional services agreement for engineering services related to the Marsh Road Project. Following comments related to the Town's General Plan Noise Element and a request for an update on recent community noise issues and comments regarding the completion of work for the Class III bike sharrows, the Council adopted the Consent Agenda.

After the Consent Agenda, the Council moved on to Public Hearings. **Item No. 18, Adoption of a Fee Resolution Amending Fees and Charges Related to Rental Fees at Holbrook Palmer Park** was up next. After a staff report, the Council opened the Public Hearing to take comments from the public. After closing the Public Hearing, the Council discussed the issues presented in

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the proposed fee amendment. The Council discussed changes to rental fees at the Carriage House, Main House, and Day Use generally noting that there needs to be a balance between the fees charged and impact of the use(s) at the Park such that the Park is not overly fiscalized and is protected for use by Atherton residents. Concerns expressed related to overuse of the facilities, parking impacts, requirements for off-site parking or shuttling, oversight and overall management of the Park events and venues. The Council directed that staff reduce the threshold for parking shuttle or valet requirements when evaluating and approving events at the Park and keep a close watch on the impacts. The Council directed that permits for commercial photographers be established, well-defined and set to a base daily and monthly permit schedule. Following general discussion, the Council adopted the Fee Resolution with a request that staff return in 6 months with an analysis of the overall Park rental operations and fee structure. A copy of the staff report can be found here:

<http://ca-atherton.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/2954>

Next up was the Regular Agenda with **Item No. 19, Civic Center Status Update**. Following a brief staff report, the Council heard a presentation from representatives of Atherton Now. The representatives outlined the progress of the fundraising efforts, next steps, and fundraising targets. The Council expressed continued support for the fundraising efforts and commitment to the project. The Council asked that the final naming rights schedule be presented to the Council as quickly as possible in order to provide Atherton Now with some surety in their fundraising. A copy of the staff report can be found here:

<http://ca-atherton.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/2955>

Item No. 20 – Approval of a Construction Management Agreement with Ghirardelli Associates for the Marsh Road Retaining Wall Project. Following a brief staff report, the Council discussed the role of the Construction Management Firm and how the various consultants and contractors worked together for the project. Following discussion and public comment, the Council approved the Agreement. A copy of the staff report can be found here:

<http://ca-atherton.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/2956>

Next up was **Item No. 21 – Award of Construction Contract for the Marsh Road Retaining Wall Project**. Staff presented the staff report and the Council discussed various issues related the project. Issues discussed included project timing, public outreach efforts both in and around the project, coordination with emergency services agencies and local hospitals, and the project detour plans. Following discussion and public comment, the Council awarded the Construction Contract to Granite Construction Company. A copy of the staff report can be found here:

<http://ca-atherton.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/2957>

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Item No. 22 – Discussion of an amendment to the Municipal Code to Allow Bicycles along a Section of the Park was last up on the agenda. Following a brief staff report outlining the proposal from the Park and Recreation Committee, the Council directed staff to move forward with an ordinance amendment to allow bicycles on a portion of the Park path from the pedestrian bridge to the Felton Gables Gate. The Council also directed that staff include a modification to the pathway as part of an upcoming capital project to widen and stripe the path and Park areas, as appropriate. A copy of the staff report can be found here:

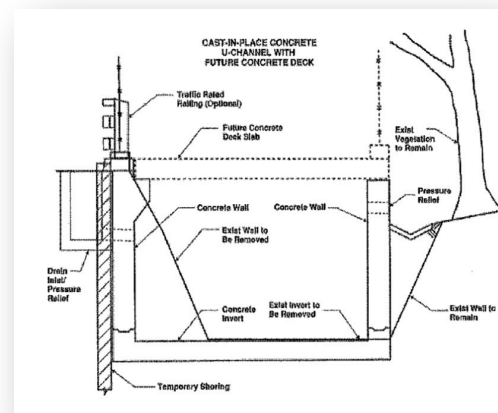
<http://ca-atherton.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/2958>

Following Council Reports, Future Agenda Items and a final Public Comment period and having cleared the entire Agenda, at 9:27 pm, that, as they say – was a wrap!

The next meeting of the City Council is the Study Session on May 4 to begin continue FY 2016/17 budget discussions focusing on the Town's Operational Budget and possible changes to the Town's Business License Ordinance. The next Regular City Council Meeting is May 18 which at this time tentatively includes items such as a presentation on historic designation for the Carriage House and Water Tower in the Park, renewal of a couple public contracts, resolutions calling the November 2016 election, award of a couple of minor contracts, and budget review of the FY 2016/17 Capital Improvement Budget.

Marsh Road Retaining Wall Project

The Marsh Road Retaining Wall Project is one of the largest capital improvement projects the Town has undertaken in a long time. While the project is relatively straightforward - merely replacing a small portion of the Atherton Channel along Marsh Road – the logistics and resultant impacts of the project will be significant. With the award of contract on April 20, we expect the contractor, Granite Construction, to begin work at the end of May. Atherton staff and staff from the agencies of San Mateo County, Menlo Park, Redwood City, Caltrans, California Highway Patrol, Menlo Park Fire District, Sam Trans, and many, many others have worked hard to create a project that balances the immediate public safety needs of the project itself (i.e. it must be done) with the impacts related to noise, project timing, local school traffic, commute traffic, local business traffic, neighborhood needs, and direct neighborhood impacts. That said – there will be impacts and some of those impacts cannot be mitigated.



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With the award of contract to a contractor, staff will work with the contractor to fine-tune the planned construction schedule to address the multitude of issues involved. The Town has established a project webpage that has general project information and as the project moves along, will have project status updates: <http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/marshroad>. From the award of bid on April 20th, the project will last approximately 20-25 weeks. The contractor is authorized to work Monday through Saturday from 8 am to 8 pm. Some days will be a shorter construction scheduled depending on project needs. The first 4 weeks of the project will involve procurement of materials, project submittals, establishment of detours and other work. Marsh Road will be open for most of this time period. The next 20 weeks (beginning about the end of May) – Marsh Road will be CLOSED to through traffic and it is time frame that most of the heavy work will be done. ***Marsh Road, as well as the adjacent neighboring streets – Fair Oaks, 17th/Holbrook Lane, Palmer Lane, San Benito Avenue, and 15th Avenue. All of these roadways will be restricted to LOCAL TRAFFIC ONLY – no through traffic. There will be enforcement officers present to help mitigate impact periodically through the project.*** The last 4 weeks of the project will be project material and site clean-up. We anticipate that the project will be complete by mid-/late-August. However – there may be issues that evolve during the project that are not anticipated and schedules will be adjusted.

Over the next few weeks there will be several public meetings. Two of these meetings will be directly sponsored by the Town of Atherton. The first will be May 3rd. The May 3rd meeting will be a targeted meeting for those residents directly along the project. The focus of the meeting will be on issues such as getting in/out of driveways, hours of construction, mail delivery, trash collection, etc. A broader, community meeting will be held on May 4th and will focus on the overall project, detour routes, and other issues. The May 4th meeting will be held at the Jennings Pavilion in Holbrook Palmer Park at 7 pm.

Remember, as the project moves along, watch the project website for more details (<http://www.ci.atherton.ca.us/marshroad>).

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