

**From:** [Robinson, Walter J.](#)  
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**Subject:** Landscape Maintenance  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 5, 2021 11:50:46 AM

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Dear Council Members,

I write to provide my views on Item 5 on your agenda for tomorrow's Special Meeting. That item deals with three possible options for landscape maintenance at the new Civic Center and the Holbrook Palmer Park. I wish to express my strong recommendation and preference that you adopt Option 3, which would solicit proposals for professional maintenance services for the Park as well as the Town Center.

As a long-time resident of Atherton, I have served on the Holbrook-Palmer Park Foundation Board for many years and most recently joined the Town's Park and Rec Committee. From my membership in both organizations I have become aware of various landscaping issues at the Park.

As I believe you're aware, for many years the Foundation and its affiliate through volunteer efforts raised substantial sums which it then invested in the Park. These efforts have included funding extensive improvements in the Park that included plants, shrubs and trees, most recently in the Event Garden, a project undertaken and completed by the Foundation. Unfortunately a portion of that effort has gone to waste given maintenance problems at the Park.

One very important improvement would be to have a professional garden maintenance firm take over landscaping maintenance. Option 3 on your agenda would accomplish that. It would seem even more important now given the substantial investment the Town is about to make improving the Park's landscaping. Just as the landscaping at the new Civic Center will require professional maintenance, so does the Park.

I hope that the Council will see fit to provide for much-needed landscape maintenance services at the Park and thus preserve the improvements so many volunteers contributed to it as well as the health and beauty of the Town's asset that provides so much benefit to its residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Walt Robinson