

Regular Meeting
January 4, 2010

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The City Council of the City of Palo Alto met on this date in the Council Chambers at 7:16 p.m.

Present: Barton Burt, Drekmeier, Espinosa, Kishimoto, Klein, Morton, Schmid, Yeh

Absent:

Mayor Peter Drekmeier welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the process for the evening.

AT THIS POINT IN THE MEETING THE SWEARING IN OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS KAREN HOLMAN, LARRY KLEIN, GAIL A. PRICE, GREGORY SCHARFF AND NANCY SHEPHERD WILL OCCUR

City Clerk, Donna Grider gave the Oath of Office to the five new Council Members.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

City Clerk, Donna Grider called for the election of the Mayor.

1. Election of Mayor and Vice Mayor

MOTION: Council Member Klein nominated Council Member Burt for Mayor.

Council Member Klein spoke regarding his nomination of Council Member Burt for Mayor for 2010. He spoke about his accomplishments that include being a star athlete at University of California-Santa Barbara, Founder/President of Acteron which has won numerous awards for clean technology. He spoke about his years as a Commissioner on the Planning and Transportation Commission.

At this point a paper ballot was conducted.

Council Member Holman stated her support of the nomination. She stated she has experienced his expertise, knowledge and dedication to public process while serving with him on the Planning & Transportation Commission. She expects the new Mayor to lead the Council with further transparency, open government and a proactive approach when having to deal with project evaluation process.

Council Member Scharff stated his support of the nomination. He stated that he believed Council Member Burt as Mayor would be thoughtful, insightful, and listen to all sides on every issue.

Council Member Burt spoke regarding his nomination. He stated the primary purpose of the Mayor is to help enable the Council and the community to move forward on its many challenges and help the Council serve as an effective body; efficient and able to focus on their priorities. He wants to create an environment that has constructive dialogue where everyone is treated fairly. Transparency to government for all those that live and work here was vital. We need to build government trust and good governance. He stated he felt there were great challenges ahead.

City Clerk, Donna Grider announced that Council Member Burt by unanimous vote was appointed Mayor.

MOTION: Council Member Shepherd nominated Council Member Espinosa for Vice Mayor.

Council Member Yeh spoke regarding the nomination of Council Member Espinosa as Vice Mayor and his support of the nomination. He stated his approach to issues is thorough and well thought out. Additionally, his collaborating with organizations within the community has been positive.

At this point a paper ballot was conducted.

City Clerk, Donna Grider announced Council Member Espinosa by unanimous vote was appointed Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Espinosa spoke about the year to come and that the Council will need clear eyes and great thought to move forward with the budget. This will be a difficult budget year of cut backs and decisions. The community will have to come together to help make these decisions. He is looking forward to working with the community on the many issues that will come before us. He thanked everyone for electing him Vice Mayor.

Mayor Burt thanked everyone for coming this evening and the devotion of the community. He also thanked the outgoing four Council Members and the work that they have done while on the Council. At this time he recognized many of the dignitaries present this evening.

2. Adoption of a Resolution Commending the Outstanding Public Service of Peter Drekmeier as Mayor and Council Member.

Council Member Klein spoke regarding former Mayor Drekmeier and read the Resolution commending the outstanding public service of Peter Drekmeier as Mayor and Council Member.

MOTION: Council Member Klein moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Espinosa to adopt the Resolution commending the outstanding public service of Peter Drekmeier as Mayor and Council Member.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0

Brock Winstead, Senator Simitian's Office and Richelle Noroyan, Assemblyman Ruskin's Office presented a Resolution to former Mayor Drekmeier.

Liz Kniss, President, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors spoke regarding her praise of Mayor Peter Drekmeier.

Peter Drekmeier spoke regarding his term on the Palo Alto City Council and as Mayor this past year.

Gary Fazzino, 126 Kellogg Avenue spoke regarding the dedication of all outgoing Palo Alto City Council members.

3. Adoption of a Resolution Commending the Outstanding Public Service of Council Member John Barton.

Vice Mayor Espinosa spoke regarding former Council Member Barton and read the Resolution commending the outstanding public service of John Barton as Council Member.

MOTION: Council Member Espinosa moved, seconded by Council Member Klein to adopt the Resolution commending the outstanding public service of former Council Member John Barton.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0

Brock Winstead, Senator Simitian's Office and Richelle Noroyan, Assemblyman Ruskin's Office presented a Resolution to former Council Member Barton.

Liz Kniss, President, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors spoke in praise of Council Member John Barton.

John Barton spoke regarding his time on the Palo Alto City Council.

4. Adoption of a Resolution Commending the Outstanding Public Service of Council Member Yoriko Kishimoto.

Council Member Yeh spoke regarding former Council Member Kishimoto and read the Resolution commending the outstanding public service of Yoriko Kishimoto as Council Member.

MOTION: Council Member Yeh moved, seconded by Council Member Holman to adopt the Resolution commending the outstanding public service of Council Member Yoriko Kishimoto.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0

Brock Winstead, Senator Simitian's Office and Richelle Noroyan, Assemblyman Ruskins Office presented a Resolution to former Council Member Kishimoto.

Liz Kniss, President, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors spoke in praise of Yoriko Kishimoto and her accomplishments while on the City Council.

Yoriko Kishimoto spoke regarding her eight years on the Palo Alto City Council.

5. Adoption of a Resolution Commending the Outstanding Public Service of Council Member Jack Morton.

Council Member Schmid spoke regarding former Vice Mayor Morton and read the Resolution commending the outstanding public service of Jack Morton as Council Member.

MOTION: Council Member Schmid moved, seconded by Council Member Shepherd to adopt the Resolution commending the outstanding public service of Vice Mayor Jack Morton.

MOTION PASSED: 9-0

Richelle Noroyan, Assemblyman Ruskin's Office and Brock Winstead, Senator Simitian's Office presented a Resolution to former Vice Mayor Jack Morton.

Liz Kniss, President, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors spoke of Vice Mayor Jack Morton and his work while on the City Council.

Jack Morton spoke regarding his eight years as a Palo Alto City Council member.

Mike Cobb spoke regarding the accomplishments that Vice Mayor Jack Morton has made while on the Palo Alto City Council.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

John Morris, 395 Leland Ave, spoke regarding Stanford Avenue/EI Camino Real Improvement Plan and the future impact of Evergreen Park.

Marilyn Mayo, 404 Oxford, spoke regarding the propose Evergreen Park and the Stanford Avenue/EI Camino Real Improvement Plan.

Brock Winstead spoke regarding the High Speed Rail hearing to be held on January 21, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk

Mayor

NOTE: Sense minutes (synopsis) are prepared in accordance with Palo Alto Municipal Code Sections 2.04.180(a) and (b). The City Council and Standing Committee meeting tapes are made solely for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of the minutes of the meetings. City Council and Standing Committee meeting tapes are recycled 90 days from the date of the meeting. The tapes are available for members of the public to listen to during regular office hours.