

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF MILPITAS**

Minutes of: **Special Meeting of the Milpitas City Council in Joint session with the Milpitas Unified School District School Board**
Date: **Thursday, February 9, 2012**
Time: **6:00 PM**
Location: **Milpitas City Hall Council Chambers
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.**

CALL TO ORDER School Board President Bobay and Mayor Esteves called the joint meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL **ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Esteves, Vice Mayor McHugh, Councilmembers Giordano, Gomez and Polanski, Milpitas Unified School Board President Daniel Bobay and members Marsha Grilli, Gunawan Alisantosa, William Foulk, and Danny Lau

ABSENT: None

Staff present included City Manager Thomas C. Williams, School Superintendent Cary Matsuoka, City Attorney Mike Ogaz, School District Secretary Charito Cabantac and City Clerk Mary Lavelle.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Esteves led all in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA By consensus of both bodies, the agenda as submitted was approved. A staff request to start with agenda item No. 5 first was approved.

PUBLIC FORUM None.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1. District Enrollment Projections School Superintendent Cary Matsuoka introduced Mr. Tom Williams, a Bay Area demographer, who gave a presentation to the City Council describing the anticipated make-up of the school population in coming years, based on anticipated growth in the City of Milpitas. Board members and Councilmembers responded to the presentation with comments on school needs, land use issues, possibility of a new school, moratorium on land use conversion, and developer fees.
2. Options for new school site City Manager Tom Williams identified the 11 acres south of McCandless on the east side of the Transit Area Specific Plan, where a possible park and school could be located. Staff looked at urban schools, specifically visiting the Horace Mann School in San Jose as an example of an urban, dense school. A way to have joint use of an elementary school and park land was sought. Shared use and land swapping should be considered, several Councilmembers said. While some school officials stated they would wish to own the land under any new building for a school, Councilmember Polanski expressed her strong desire not to sell any of the land owned by the City, while a lease could be possible.
3. MUSD General Obligation Bond Superintendent Matsuoka reviewed the status of plans by the School Board to place a measure on the June 5 ballot for a general obligation bond. The purpose was to raise funds primarily for improving technology at all Milpitas schools. It would require 55% of

the voters to approve the ballot measure, to raise a \$95 million bond to be paid over 25 years. The last bond measure for MUSD was approved in 1996. Mayor Esteves asked the School Board President Bobay if he would like the opportunity to seek support from the community this evening for the bond measure, which he then did.

4. Nonprofit Use of fields

City Manager Williams identified the issue discussed previously at the City/Schools communication meeting, due to a request from one resident affiliated with a soccer club in Milpitas. Shared use and availability of playing fields for soccer and other sports was the concern. Councilmember Gomez asked staff questions about the policy for field use, rates charged, how priority of users was determined, and about specific user groups.

School Board member Grilli stated, from the school side, no fees were charged to sports teams to use fields, besides the Milpitas High School field.

City Councilmember Polanski mentioned that the City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Commission was given the task to discuss field allocation and this issue was on a future agenda for the citizen group. She believed that to be an issue more than fees.

School Board President Bobay had spoken at length with the parties involved, and he believed the soccer team leader was now satisfied.

5. Cost sharing for services

This topic was discussed first.

City Manager Williams provided explanation of the City's financial status, following the dissolution of the Redevelopment Agency due to state actions. With a significant, large deficit anticipated in the coming new fiscal year, the City would no longer have the resources to fund School Crossing Guards nor the two School Resource Police Officers. City Manager would recommend eliminating those costs, about \$700,000 in total.

Councilmember Gomez inquired about other partnerships with the School District, such as "After the Bell" on school sites. He also asked the Superintendent about possible parent involvement as volunteer crossing guards. He asked about crosswalk and sidewalk enhancements throughout the City, and inquired if the Superintendent had a "Plan B" if the City cannot fund the crossing guards and Character Counts.

In response to Vice Mayor McHugh, Mr. Matsuoka said crossing guards were one of the highest priorities. The City Manager commented that if that was so, then he would ask the City Council to fund school crossing guards over other services.

School Board Vice President Grilli remarked on the difficult financial bind the City was in, which the School District was familiar with over the last nine years, so an expense item such as the cost for the School Resource Officers were "a luxury" that the community would have to do without.

School President Bobay remarked on the greatly reduced overall budget of the School District, presently at \$72 million. He wondered if student volunteer valets might be helpful to fill in for some safety roles.

School Board Member Foulk stated his priority was for the safety of students, so the crossing guards would be the one to keep, while School Resource Officers and Character Counts (DARE last year) were somewhat valuable extra items. He urged cost sharing based on the size of respective budgets, not a 50-50 split.

Further discussion was held on the value of the School Resource Officers, DARE in the past and the current Character Counts program, which was reviewed by Police Chief Dennis Graham. Councilmembers Giordano and Gomez felt the costs for these two items should be shared between the School District and the City.

Mayor Esteves referred to the dollars in total of developer fees collected and was interested in approximately when a new school needed to be built. He appreciated the good dialogue on these services and cost between the district and the city, and hoped both could find a way to continue working together for the important programs for students.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Esteves adjourned the joint City Council and Milpitas Unified School District Board meeting at 8:56 PM.

Draft meeting minutes prepared and submitted by:

Mary Lavelle, Milpitas City Clerk