

MEETING MINUTES CITY OF MILPITAS

Minutes of: Special Meeting of Milpitas City Council – budget study session continued (No. 2)
Date: Tuesday, May 2, 2017
Time: 5:00 PM
Location: Council Chambers, Milpitas City Hall, 455 East Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tran called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. City Clerk Mary Lavelle called the roll.

PRESENT: Mayor Tran, Vice Mayor Grilli, Councilmembers Nuñez and Phan

ABSENT: Councilmember Barbadillo was absent at roll call and arrived later.

PRESENTATION

City Manager Tom Williams reminded the City Council that this meeting was a continuation of the Budget Study Session that began the previous Wednesday evening, April 26. There were several departments remaining to present their budgets to the City Council. First up was the Building Department.

Chief Building Official Keyvan Irannejad presented the proposed FY 2017-18 budget for the Building & Safety Department. He displayed nine work plan highlights and noted past accomplishments.

Mayor Tran thanked Mr. Irannejad for his report.

Councilmember Phan asked about streamlining processes in Building. The Building Official responded regarding technology improvements for inspections and scheduling those for homeowners, commercial builders, and companies performing tenant improvements. Mr. Phan asked about the new employee position requested, for one Senior Plan Check Engineer. He also described a new apprenticeship program for training potential new Building Inspectors. The benefit of this new way to approach hiring and trying to keep home-grown inspectors to fill the many vacancies in Building Department was explained.

Councilmember Phan would like to see this program (apprenticeship) expanded to other departments as it would be unique in the City. It could allow for raising funds privately to fund the program (as the City of San Jose did). Councilmember Nuñez spoke of high schools with opportunities for students and graduates with more training and entering an apprenticeship program.

Vice Mayor Grilli complimented the Building Department and how the staff worked with residents, providing resources and information for them, especially when re-modeling. It was really “thinking out of the box” about the new concept of apprenticeship for future Building Inspectors.

Councilmember Phan said on streamlining, he wanted to confirm customers could obtain applications and submit for building permits online, and Mr. Irannejad said yes.

Councilmember Barbadillo thanked the Building Official, and he had received good feedback about Building Department service. He wondered if more revenue generating businesses had come to the City, knowing the quick turnaround offered. Mr. Barbadillo additionally asked about compliance and having staff who would do that task. The City Manager responded that was done in the Public Works Department.

Mayor Tran said he wanted to make sure the Department got the best and brightest to hire. He wanted to be sure whoever would get in the apprenticeship program, that there was an effort made reaching out to Milpitas High and Cal Hills High to give a chance to local students. He asked for the city staff's commitment on this.

Councilmember Nuñez appreciated that thought, and suggested the Human Resources Director could give her idea on the recruitment effort, including considering adults. Ms. Murphy commented about the way interns and employees were recruited and hired, and that efforts were made without discrimination.

City Attorney Chris Diaz remarked that the Council could place this topic on a future agenda, if the Council wanted to get more information on the Building Department apprenticeship program and provide more feedback to staff. He reminded Councilmembers that the agenda was for comments on the next fiscal year's budget.

City Manager Williams noted that the Council was only a few minutes away from the scheduled regular meeting. The City Attorney recommended a motion to return to the study session, after the time that the regular meeting was concluded later on this evening. He suggested the motion could be to come back at 9:00 p.m. or when ready to continue the Budget Study Session.

Motion: to stop the study session meeting, and in a few minutes, open the regular City Council meeting as scheduled, and then consider returning to the budget study session when all business of the regular meeting was finished

Motion/Second: Councilmember Phan/Councilmember Nuñez

Motion carried by a vote of: AYES: 5
NOES: 0

ADJOURNMENT

The special City Council meeting was adjourned at 5:57 PM.

The foregoing minutes were approved by Milpitas City Council on May 16, 2017.

Mary Lavelle
Milpitas City Clerk