



**TOWN OF MORAGA TOWN COUNCIL
and
MORAGA SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING**



**August 30, 2016
MINUTES**

6:30 P.M. Special Joint Meeting

Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School - Library
1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga, California 94556

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Joint Moraga Town Council and Moraga School District (MSD) Governing Board was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by MSD President Shari Simon.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present: Mayor Michael Metcalf, Vice Mayor Dave Trotter, and Councilmembers Teresa Onoda and Roger Wykle

Councilmembers absent: Councilmember Phil Arth

Boardmembers present: President Shari Simon, Vice-President Jon Nickens, and Boardmembers Heather O'Donnell, Jim Obsitnik and Richard Severy

Boardmembers absent: None

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MSD President Shari Simon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. OPENING REMARKS

MSD President Simon acknowledged the second joint meeting between the Town Council and the MSD Governing Board over the past year and was pleased everyone was working together to put the best interests of the community in the forefront, particularly given that both groups were committed volunteers. She expressed a desire that joint meetings be held twice a year to further the interests of the community.

Mayor Metcalf concurred with MSD President Simon's comments.

IV. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENTS OPENED

There were no comments from the public.

**ACTION: It was M/S (Trotter/Onoda) to adopt the meeting agenda, as shown. Vote: 9-0.
Absent: Arth.**

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

VI. DISCUSSIONS ITEMS

A. Status Report on District Bond Measure

MSD Superintendent Bruce Burns provided a PowerPoint presentation on the review and analysis of the MSD Bond, Measure V, with a continued focus on the success and safety of all MSD students. MSD schools had continually been recognized as one of the best in the State, and although students continued to excel, MSD schools were 50 years old and in need of renovation. The MSD had recently completed a Facilities Master Plan, which had identified and assessed repairs to develop a plan to provide a safe and modern learning environment for all MSD students. The MSD Governing Board had unanimously voted to place a \$33 million bond measure on the November 2016 ballot, which if passed, would allow MSD to execute identified school repairs. Measure V included several fiscal accountability provisions, with all funds to be controlled locally, no funding could be taken away. A Citizens Oversight Committee would be established along with independent audits and no funds could be used for administrative salaries.

The cost of the measure had been estimated at \$30 per \$100,000 in assessed value, not market value. Pursuant to State law, the MSD had 60 days from the passage of the bond measure to establish a Citizens Oversight Committee consisting of at least seven volunteer members, each serving two terms. Mr. Burns identified the required make-up of the Committee. No MSD employee or vendor of the MSD may be a member of the Citizens Oversight Committee.

Mr. Burns reported that over two decades ago, voters of the MSD had approved local school funding to repair MSD schools and all funds from the previous bond measure had been spent as promised, with improvements as outlined in the presentation. The MSD had also received funding from the State for operational costs to support instructional programs and teachers, but had received inadequate funding for capital improvements for MSD facilities. State funding could be available to the MSD through matching funds and a successful bond measure would increase the MSD's eligibility for those funds. He clarified that by law, no public school district seeking a bond measure could offer a senior exemption; however, the assessed value would be based on the original purchase price of the home.

Mr. Burns also clarified that the MSD bond measure would provide funding needed to make repairs and updates to the MSD facilities, but by law the bond funds could not be used to support programs or teachers. Measure V would appear on the November ballot, all registered voters in the MSD would be eligible to vote on the measure, and the bond measure would require support by 55 percent of those voting to pass. He stated that should the measure pass, the MSD would form a committee to review the Facility Assessment Plan and go through a second round of prioritization, updating estimated costs, with the group to be comprised of stakeholders in the community who would recommend actual projects to the MSD Governing Board, which would approve those projects.

In response to **Vice Mayor Trotter**, Mr. Burns read into the record the specific language for Measure V as it would appear on the November 2016 ballot.

Vice Mayor Trotter noted that the MSD Governing Board had not approached the Town Council to request an endorsement or support of Measure V. At this time, the Town Council consensus was to place the matter on a future Town Council agenda.

Mayor Metcalf agreed that the matter should be agendaized for a future Town Council agenda, although he sought a genuine endorsement of Measure V based on a resolution that was easily understood allowing the Town Council the opportunity to have a robust discussion.

MSD Boardmember Severy commented that the Measure V Campaign Committee had recently been formed and would be communicating with the Town Council for that very purpose. He understood the MSD Governing Board was not precluded from requesting an endorsement from the Town Council.

MSD President Simon affirmed that the MSD Governing Board would like an endorsement from the Moraga Town Council on Measure V. From a procedural standpoint, she asked whether the Town Council wanted a resolution, or a request from the Measure V Campaign Committee, or another alternative.

MSD Boardmember Severy understood the voter pamphlets would be mailed out around September 29, and the vote-by-mail ballots would be sent by the County to voters around October 8. During the Pear and Wine Festival on September 24, the Measure V Campaign Committee would have a booth with informative literature to be distributed. The Measure V Campaign Committee would meet on August 31 and he hoped that information could be provided to the Town shortly thereafter.

On the discussion of scheduling the matter with the Town Council, **Vice Mayor Trotter** recommended a draft resolution for the endorsement of Measure V be provided to the Interim Town Manager and the Town Clerk to allow the matter to be agendaized for the September 14, 2016 Town Council meeting.

Interim Town Manager Robert Priebe advised that the agenda item would involve a staff recommendation based upon collaboration.

Vice Mayor Trotter cautioned that the Measure V Campaign Committee, not the MSD Governing Board, was to provide draft language for Town Council review.

In response to Mayor Metcalf, it was noted that the facility repair estimates would have to be updated to determine whether or not roofs would be lifted up and tied back down, which would require the removal of everything on the roof, or whether it would be most cost effective in the long term to demolish a classroom building and build anew, which would require further architectural engineering guidance.

Mayor Metcalf commented on a situation where the Piedmont Unified School District (PUSD) had bussed children to the Emeryville School facilities, allowing a seamless rebuild of the PUSD schools with no interruption of the students' education.

MSD Boardmember Severy noted that the plans were at the 30 percent stage and would have to be accelerated to be able to make a final determination as to whether to repair existing facilities or replace them. If replacing, there were provisions in the Facility Assessment Plan to house students on the existing MSD campuses during that process through the use of portables.

PUBLIC COMMENTS OPENED

Sam Sperry, a resident of the MSD but not a resident of the Town of Moraga, spoke to his involvement with the Town of Moraga Measure K Oversight Committee, commented on the differences between the definitions for an annual and an independent audit, and urged caution in terms of conversations about Measure V given that independent audits meant something more expensive and time intensive than annual audits, which could be folded into what an outside auditor could do for the MSD.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CLOSED

Mayor Metcalf spoke to the Town's efforts related to Measure K and the challenge by citizens that the Town clearly identify the program, the process, and ensure voters how the revenue generated would be used. Given that Measure V involved a \$33 million bond, he asked how that would be addressed with the community.

Mr. Burns suggested it would start with voter information that had been distributed with additional information through pamphlets and flyers to educate people during community events and through different organizations.

MSD Boardmember O'Donnell commented that the MSD Governing Board had held open public meetings to discuss the bond measure and the MSD Master Plan, although there had been little interest in those meetings.

MSD Boardmember Severy added that the MSD Governing Board had conducted a survey of likely voters and had identified potential repairs and dollar impacts. The results represented over 61 percent approval of the sample, which had encouraged the MSD Governing Board and its consultant to move forward. The voter pamphlet to be distributed to all voters in September included an opportunity for potential opponents to provide a counter argument, although at this time no group had come forward with an opposing argument.

B. Status Report on Shared Facilities Memorandum of Understanding

Town of Moraga Parks and Recreation Director Jay Ingram presented the staff report, provided a status report on the Shared Facilities Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and asked that the Town Council and MSD Governing Board receive the report and provide feedback.

PUBLIC COMMENTS OPENED

There were no comments from the public.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CLOSED

MSD Boardmember Obsitnik liked the shared facilities use, particularly during the summertime, but asked why Campolindo High School was not interested in a Shared Use Agreement.

Mr. Ingram acknowledged that a Shared Use Agreement had been discussed with Campolindo High School in the past although it was a district level discussion, with concern that if Campolindo High School opened up its facilities for the Town of Moraga, it would involve a larger discussion with Acalanes Union School District and all four of their high schools and associated cities.

Mayor Metcalf added that Los Lomas High School in the City of Walnut Creek was also not interested in such a discussion. The Principal of Campolindo High School had made it clear to the Town that Campolindo High School had every intention of making the facility available on reasonable terms.

MSD President Simon was pleased with the increase in shared use of facilities, with the MOU, and to see that it worked and was in use. On behalf of the MSD, she commended Parks and Recreation Director Ingram for his role in moving the MOU forward.

C. Additional Partnership Opportunities

Parks and Recreation Director Ingram presented the staff report and identified the additional partnership opportunities that were available. He asked the Town Council and MSD Governing Board to receive the report and provide feedback.

MSD President Simon referenced the After School Enrichment Program (ASEP) and commented that the MSD Governing Board had no oversight since it was run by the site Parent Teacher Association (PTA), which had taken on the culture of each site. She asked whether that had been discussed during the Central Organizing Reporting and Exchange (CORE) meeting.

Mr. Burns explained there had been interest from the PTA although there had been no consensus. There had also been significant interest to learn that the Town might be interested in administering the ASEP. Logistics and staffing would need to be discussed.

Vice Mayor Trotter understood that if the Town were to take over the ASEP administration, ASEP would still be staffed primarily by non-Town employees for the four school locations and the programs would be carried out by volunteers.

Mr. Ingram clarified that it would conceptually involve a half or three-quarter part-time person, to be paid by revenue from the program, one Town person to administer four different sites, with the programs to be run on certain days. In terms of the Town budget for that staff person, he would have to provide that information to the Town Council at a later date but suggested the cost should be less than \$100,000.

MSD Boardmember Obsitnik inquired whether the ASEPs were fundraisers for the PTAs.

Mr. Burns stated the ASEP was not a fundraiser but a volunteer program with one parent coordinating with each school. That parent worked with 10 to 16 different vendors who provided the personnel to come into the school site. The ASEP Coordinator also worked with the vendors to ensure that fingerprinting requirements were met and insurance certificates and the like were filed, with coordination at the school in terms of classroom needs. The cost passed onto the parent paying for the child to attend ASEP would be the cost of the vendor, with no additional administrative overhead involved.

Responding to **Councilmember Onoda**, Mr. Burns estimated that there were 175 children over an entire year for each school participating in one program or another, although they were divided into trimesters and changed a couple of times during the year. He emphasized the ASEPs were very popular.

MSD President Simon suggested there was tremendous synergy and value to the ASEPs which allowed the exploration of relationships with new vendors to see how the children responded to the offerings.

Responding to **Vice Mayor Trotter**, Mr. Ingram explained that the next step was to determine whether CORE wished to discuss the ASEP matter further and, if so, staff could then look at the hard numbers prior to making a presentation to the Town Council.

Mayor Metcalf agreed that more work needed to be done, although he understood there was a desire to keep the matter of the ASEP moving over the next fiscal year.

Mr. Ingram also understood that CORE had already been scheduled through the Christmas period and it would likely come to the Town Council as a mid-year budget adjustment or be built into the budget for the March/April time frame for the next fiscal year.

Vice Mayor Trotter stated, as a member of the Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee, the Subcommittee was still in existence but had taken a break to allow the MSD to complete its Master Plan effort. He suggested it would be good to reactivate the Subcommittee effort. Noting that one of the MSD Governing Board representatives to the Subcommittee [Parker Colvin] was no longer an active member of the MSD Governing Board, he advised that a new committee member would have to be appointed. As part of the reactivation of the Subcommittee, he requested a presentation from Mr. Burns or another representative from the MSD on the recreational elements of the MSD Facilities Master Plan.

Mayor Metcalf commented that the Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee meetings had been well attended. He agreed with the Vice Mayor that it made sense to have that effort dovetail with the efforts to pass Measure V given the recreational element.

As a parent, **MSD Boardmember O'Donnell** appreciated the efforts related to the Camino Pablo Sports Field, but noted the purpose of Measure V was that funds be used for MSD facilities, not sports fields. If the Town wanted to contribute to improve sports fields that would be an additional benefit, although she wanted assurance that the conversation would be about the MSD facilities themselves and not sports fields.

Vice Mayor Trotter noted that the MSD Facilities Master Plan had called for some sports fields, which was part of the effort he had identified. He also commented on the potential funding opportunities to enhance recreational opportunities on campus, and suggested the Subcommittee could help to direct that dialogue.

Councilmember Onoda referenced a recent presentation to the Town Council of a community preferences survey where sports facilities had registered very low in terms of importance to the community. She noted that the survey results were available online on the Town's website.

Responding to **Vice Mayor Trotter's** suggestion to reinstate the Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee prior to the potential passage of Measure V, **MSD President Simon** suggested that could be confusing considering the fact that Measure V was specific to MSD schools, with a focus on seismic retrofitting needs and substantive needs that the MSD needed to address in order to provide an optimal environment for learning. If Measure V passed, the new MSD Governing Board would then decide whether to continue with joint meetings with the Town Council.

MSD Boardmember Severy agreed with President Simon's comments and explained that the Citizens Oversight Committee would help prioritize with the Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee.

MSD President Simon suggested if Measure V passed, the Oversight Bond Prioritization Committee could assist the MSD Governing Board as to whether or not it made sense to

continue to have the Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee and allow the Town Council to establish its priorities as they moved forward.

Vice Mayor Trotter suggested the Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee should continue to exist and meet regardless of whether Measure V passed. He added that the recommendations from the Subcommittee to date had involved two significant projects at JM, and suggested that the Subcommittee continue after the November election, that the MSD Governing Board consider making a new appointment to the Subcommittee, and that action be considered at this time since it had been agendized.

MSD Boardmember O'Donnell clarified with the Vice Mayor that the projects he had referenced with the Joint Facilities Planning Subcommittee had shown a consensus for a field project at JM. The Subcommittee had also discussed a gymnasium project at JM. As the staff report had detailed, the residents of Pleasant Hill had approved a revenue measure which allowed that community to fund local recreational facilities. He suggested all of those efforts could work well with funding through Measure V, if approved, and again urged the MSD Governing Board to consider his recommendations.

MSD President Simon suggested the Vice Mayor's recommendations could be agendized for consideration at the December MSD Governing Board meeting, and suggested it could be considered as a future agenda item for the new MSD Governing Board to allow community attendance and input.

MSD Boardmember O'Donnell commented that given the current work load it would be difficult to determine who should take on another appointment, particularly given the Measure V efforts and since MSD Governing Board assignments were routinely made in December.

MSD President Simon again suggested the issue be considered as a new business item for a new MSD Governing Board to consider.

MSD Boardmember Obsitnik agreed since there would be three MSD Boardmember seats up for election that it would be premature to consider such action at this time.

Vice Mayor Trotter suggested the MSD President could give direction to MSD Superintendent Burns to agendize the matter on a future agenda for consideration.

MSD President Simon acknowledged the desire of the MSD to continue to work together with the Town Council and seek out opportunities to work together.

MSD Boardmember O'Donnell suggested it was highly probable such action would be requested to be agendized by the incoming MSD President. It was not typical for an outgoing President to make such a recommendation.

MSD Boardmember Obsitnik understood that action would likely be agendized for a December agenda.

Vice Mayor Trotter reported that the Town Council routinely made Town Council appointments in January of each year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS OPENED

There were no comments from the public.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CLOSED

VII. REQUESTS FOR ACTION

A. None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: It was M/S (MSD Boardmember O'Donnell/Councilmember Onoda) to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M. Vote: 9-0. Absent: Arth.

Respectfully submitted by:


Marty C. McInturf, Town Clerk

Approved by the Town Council:


Michael Metcalf, Mayor