

ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes

February 21st, 2023 7:03 PM – 9:19 PM

Watch on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/live/C9LHdiEDvPY?feature=share>

1.0 CALL TO ORDER 7:02pm

1.1 Flag Salute was replaced with “Lift Every Voice” sung by Allisonne Crawford in honor of Black History month.

1.2 Councilmember Wong called role.

Attending - Victoria Knapp, Connor Cippola, Nic Arnzen, Billy Malone, Melissa Marona, Dorothy Wong, Chris O’Malley, Veronica Jones, Diane Marcussen, Reginald Wilkins, Pat Sutherlen, Doug Colliflower, and Sylvia Vega. Councilmembers Dr. Sandra Thomas, Rod Bryce, and Alan Peck were excused. Moved forward with a quorum.

1.3 Vice Chair Knapp made motion to approve February 21st, 2023 meeting as presented. Approved unanimously.

2.0 OFFICERS’ REPORTS

2.1 Chair Veronica Jones reflected on Black History month.

2.2 Vice Chair Victoria Knapp yielded her time in the interest of the full agenda.

2.3 Recording Secretary Nic Arnzen motioned to approve January 17th, 2023 Minutes. Approved unanimously.

2.4 Treasurer Chris O’Malley gave January report. Started with \$2056.74 ended with \$2267.78. Deposit in the amount of \$228 from community donations. Withdrawals of \$16.98 for checks. Full Council approval sought for \$300 expenses for yearly council retreat. Approved Unanimously

2.5 Corresponding Secretary Wong made special announcements that can be seen on the ATC website.

3.0 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

3.1 California Highway Patrol Report by Officer Bay. January had 16 collisions, of those 16 - 4 involved injuries, 4 hit and runs, 1 vehicle vs bicyclist, 1 involved drugs and alcohol as a factor. CHP have increased speed monitoring on Altadena Drive and some other areas. Officer Richards was added to the patrol. Councilmember Arnzen requested follow up on death of Edward Bronstein in CHP custody. None available. Councilmember Sutherlen asked about a pedestrian, a minor, being hit in crosswalk in Tract 4611. Child sustained major injuries but no more details could be shared. Councilmember Wong checked in about malfunctioning speed trailers and concern for traffic safety and speeding on Fair Oaks above Altadena Drive. Councilmember Knapp asked why recent reports took so long to release preliminary reports. Officer Bay explained the complications and delays were typical due to many details and officers involved.

3.2 Altadena Sheriff’s Station Captain Williams reported crime stats in January in comparison to last January dropped significantly. Aggravated Assault and Violent crimes dropped 18%. Property crimes down 42%. Catalytic Converter thefts are still an issue but dropped considerably. The Captain did a recap of the incident leading to the death of Charles Towns on January 22nd, 2023. DOJ has assumed control of the investigation pursuant to assembly Bill 1506 which instructs the State DOJ to take over when they believe a suspect was killed when unarmed. No timeline on completing investigation. Chair Veronica Jones read a statement from the Council. The statement can be viewed on the ATC website.

3.3 L.A. County Fire Altadena spokesperson Maria Grycan reported 413 responses, 319 medical, 241 Transports, 10 traffic collisions, 8 fire calls (3 cooking, 1 tree, 1 illegal outdoor fire, 1 chimney) 12 instances of power lines down. Briefed Council on upcoming brush inspections. Many may have received notice letter for the first time. Better geo-mapping software has identified more homes in fire zone and all need to be inspected every year. Also had Deputy Alec Villalta from Forestry speak to the issue.

4.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

4.0 Traffic Safety Directive Update given by Matt Dubiel and Julien Garcia.

5.0 COMMUNITY REPORTS

5.1 Parks and Rec representative Ryan Hicks reported on upcoming events.

5.2 Director Nikki Winslow reported on activities at the Altadena Libraries.

5.3 Judy Matthews of the Chamber of Commerce reported on activities and upcoming events.

5.4 ACCAB report by Doug Colliflower.

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Land Use Chair Diane Marcussen facilitated presentation and action item.

6.1.1 **Action Item** 4410 El Prieto Rd– PRJ2022-000059 Request for CSD modification for setback/new garage. Land Use Committee recommended approval. Applicant presented then Councilmember Marona introduced motion and called for a vote.

6.1.2 Public Comment followed, there was none, unanimous yes vote to recommend approval.

6.2 Councilmember Colliflower introduced EAH Housing 2052 Lake Ave. Presentation was given and is available for viewing on line.

6.3 Communication Committee report given by Chair Nic Arnzen.

6.4 Education Committee Chair report given by Chair Victoria Knapp.

7.0 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Due to high volume of comment cards submitted Chair Jones and Vice Chair Knapp called to limit comments to one minute. Comments were given and are available for viewing on the ATC website and YouTube.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jones called for adjournment at 9:19pm