

ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes

August 15th, 2023 7:03 PM – 8:40 PM

Watch on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/Gi6uvO2kztI?si=0M27HgMF2ucWlvhI>

1.0 CALL TO ORDER 7:02pm

1.1 Flag Salute by Boy Scout Troop 1

1.2 Councilmember Wong called role.

Attending – Victoria Knapp, Nic Arzen, Milissa Marona, Dorothy Wong, Veronica Jones, Pat Sutherlen, Doug Colliflower, Connor Cipolla, Chris O'Malley, Reginald Wilkins, Diane Marcussen, and Alan Peck. Councilmembers Billy Malone, Rod Bryce, Sylvia Vega, and Sandra Thomas were excused. Moved forward with a quorum.

1.3 Vice Chair Victoria Knapp made motion to approve August 15th, 2023 meeting agenda with the following changes; Moved CERT report from 5.5 to 3.4, removed 5.4 ACCAB and 5.3 Chamber of Commerce reports. Approved Unanimously.

2.0 OFFICERS' REPORTS

2.1 Chair Veronica Jones noted upcoming Town Council elections and encouraged residents to consider running.

2.2 Vice Chair Victoria Knapp reminded drivers to remain vigilant with school back in session. Also gave attention to the new Altadena Arts Magnet mural.

2.3 Recording Secretary Nic Arzen motioned to approve July 18th, 2023 minutes with one minor change to Councilmember Sutherlen's ACCAB report. 10 votes for approval, 2 abstentions, 4 absent.

2.4 Treasurer Chris O'Malley gave July report. Started with \$2184.75 one deposit of \$74.25 and one withdrawal of \$100. Ended month with balance of \$2159.00.

2.5 Corresponding Secretary Wong made special announcements that can be seen on the ATC website. They included reminder to stay vigilant about wildfires and mentioned the Lahaina, Maui Wildfire in Hawaii.

3.0 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

3.1 Altadena Sheriff's Station Captain Williams reported aggravated assaults up 6.9% property crimes down 9%. There were 4 noted assault incidents, 2 domestic violence and 1 road rage. Robbery at local Woodbury and Fair Oaks Mobil gas station at the pump was the other. Operation being put together to deal with parking issues. Asking for hot spots. Setting aside days to go out and write tickets.

Councilmember Sutherlen noted car thefts bunched together in a lower area of tract 4611. Asking if coordinated or random. Sheriff suggested it's random.

Councilmember Marona asked if parking tickets will include strips on Marengo and Fair Oaks and Captain said those were the top of the list.

Councilmember Arzen asked for any updates to the DOJ Charles Townes investigation. There were no updates.

3.2 California Highway Patrol Report by Officer Boyd. July had 19 traffic collisions, of those – 4 involved injuries, 3 hit and run, 1 DUI. No vehicle vs. Pedestrian/Bicycle collision.

Investigating multiple traffic complaints and have been writing increased violation tickets.

Councilmember Arnzen requested follow up on hearing held to set a court date for officers and staff involved in death of Edward Bronstein in CHP custody. Officer Boyd did not know but will get back to Council with the date.

Councilmember Wong reminded that two more local schools begin classes tomorrow, Aveson and Odyssey, and there will be an increase in students walking and traffic in those areas.

3.3 LA County Fire spokesperson Maria Grycan reported 387 responses in July, 301 medical calls, 216 patients transported. 9 fires responded to- 3 trash, 1 fence, 1 small spot grass fire, 1 vehicle fire, 1 brush fire, 2 structure fires. 4 incidents of power lines down/hazardous conditions. Reminded of Genasys Protect is place which is an evacuation plan. Go to website to find your zone and more info - Protect.Genasys.com. You can also download the app “Genasys Protect”

3.4 CERT presentation by Deb Halberstadt. Gave advice on what to do during a fire in close proximity. Mostly remember to go earlier than later, don't wait for final call to evacuate. In person CERT training in Sierra Madre coming September 16-23. Deb is looking for someone to take her place a CERT leader.

4.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Illegal Unpermitted Street Vendors issues report by Captain Jabari Williams. Strategies and ways to enforce: Trespassing (Need 602 letter on file, signs posted helps), No loud noise between 9pm and 7am, no blocking walkways, no loitering. Encourages public to refrain from using these vendors. They are not sanitary, they are disruptive to neighbors, they are not good for local small businesses.

5.0 COMMUNITY REPORTS

5.1 Parks and Rec representative Guillermo Portillo reported on upcoming events. Altadena Neighbors Farmers Market will have a concert every last Friday thanks to Supervisor Barger's office. Pools will be closing August 26th.

5.2 Nikki Winslow reported on activities at the Altadena Libraries.

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Land Use reported on upcoming projects in September. Also noted the September 17th 100th birthday party for Mountainview Cemetery sponsors include Altadena Heritage, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, and Owen Brown Gravesite Committee.

6.2 Election Committee Chair Veronica Jones gave dates for upcoming Town Council Election: Councilmember Application deadline October 6, early voting on Tuesday November 7, regular voting on Saturday November 11. Application can be found on Altadena Town Council website.

6.3 Communication Committee Chair Nic Arnzen reported on the new Unhoused Initiative and seeking more committee members. Also reminded parents and students the Town Council Internship program is running and putting kids to work.

6.4 Safe Streets report by Chair Dorothy Wong. Meetings are always 4th Thursday of each month. Next one is August 24th 7pm. Reminded to stay vigilant with more kids back at school and

reviewed past meetings and events. New all-way stops at Palm and Fair Oaks, Sunset Ridge and Loma Alta, and at Holliston and Altadena Dr will be coming. New crosswalks are going in around town.

7.0 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

-Nancy Robb spoke of the local Lapidary Society (Rock Club) upcoming show. Info available on ATC site. -Nelson Morales from El Patron restaurant spoke out against the prevalence of illegal street vendors. The negative impact on local restaurants and El Patron has had a 30% decrease in business.

8.0 CENSUS TRACT REPORTS

8.1 4601 Councilmember Cipolla announced new dates for Road resurfacing of Altadena Drive from Allen to Canyon Close Rd. August 24th through September 8th are the new dates.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair approved motion for adjournment at 8:40 pm