

city connection

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the
CITY of EAST PALO ALTO, CA

JANUARY 1987

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 1

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mayor:

Barbara A. Mouton

Vice-Mayor:

James E. Blakey, Jr.

Councilmembers:

Ruben Abrica, John B. Bostic,
Warnell Coats

Acting City Manager:

James E. White

SECRET WITNESS PROGRAM LAUNCHED

The City Council has approved a Secret Witness Program in which individuals can receive up to \$200 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons dumping illegally or destroying City property. In recent months, the City has experienced an increase in the amount of illegal dumping on both public and private properties. Also, incidents of damage to City property have been noted. City property is YOUR property; you pay for its acquisition and maintenance. If you allow it to be destroyed or damaged, your maintenance costs increase and you lose other valuable services. You can help to make and keep our City beautiful by reporting illegal and destructive behaviors. Call 853-3100 for details of this program. Do your part for our City. It could be worth up to \$200.

LETTER FROM MAYOR MOUTON

As always, praising God's Holy Name and giving thanks to Him for the privilege of being alive to greet this glorious new year, I bring you good tidings on this beautiful January morning.

Our City continues its progress towards being the kind of place we envisioned and deserve. The fund balance at the end of the 85-86 fiscal year was approximately \$1,327,000; this is well above the amount projected by financial analysts almost five years ago when they attempted to plot the financial future of the new city-to-be. We should see a marked increase in our financial picture when community development and economic development begin very soon to emerge from their present stagnated condition.

In mid-December, we paid the \$200,000 installment due on the Ravenswood High School site. This leaves a little over \$600,000 remaining on the unpaid balance. With a little imagination and some good old small town know-how, we should be able to generate enough monies to extinguish this debt this year. Are you willing to help? We've already received several donations toward that goal.

Mr. James White, assistant City Manager, has been appointed acting City Manager by the Council. The action by the Council on December 18th to accept the resignation of City Manager Howell received an unusual amount of attention from the area press, most of which was tinged with notoriety. Mindful of our fiduciary obligation to you, we simply took the steps essential to taking care of the community's business. We have all the policies, resolutions, and ordinances needed for the smooth functioning of our city; we just need staff that is willing and able to implement that agenda. Let me say that the amount of severance pay was a little more than first envisioned, a result of several complications. However, projected revenues from the operationalizing of just the mobile vendors, dumping, and "E" District ordinances will make up that debit in a hurry.

Over the past several years, many of our sister neighboring cities have been very successful in obtaining monetary resources from private industry, the state, and the federal government. Our City must participate in this arena if we are to receive a share of the pie. We have the ability, and hopefully in the near future, the willingness to package and present the City in a manner that will assure success in these undertakings.

There was a letter written to the *Times Tribune* recently by a member of our community asking "Why do only some council members write in the city newsletter?" This is due to the fact that some Council Members choose not to avail themselves of the opportunity to write articles in the CityConnection. The Council adopted a City Newsletter Policy in February 1985. In the content section, article "C" speaks to articles by Council Members and article "E" speaks to the Mayor's column. If indeed as alleged, some Council Members state that they are not allowed to contribute to this monthly newsletter, I can only say that they are being

Continued on page 4

SCHEDULE OF CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

All City Government Meetings are held at 2415 University Avenue. Following is a meeting schedule:

Meeting	Date(s)	Time: P.M.
City Council	1st & 3rd Monday of every month	7:30
Redevelopment Agency	1st & 3rd Monday of every month	5:45
Planning Commission	2nd & 4th Monday of every month	7:30
Parks & Recreation Commission	2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month	7:30
Public Safety Commission	1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month	7:30
Arts & Culture Commission	2nd Monday of every month	7:30
Human Services Commission	1st Tuesday of every month	7:00
Economic Development Task Force & Economic Development Technical Advisory Committee	1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month	7:30
Rent Stabilization Board	2nd & 3rd Wednesday of every month	7:00
Personnel Commission	2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month	6:30

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE CITY

The following positions are available with the City. Applications and resumes should be submitted to the City of East Palo Alto, Personnel Division, 2415 University Avenue, East Palo Alto, CA 94303. For further information, call the Personnel Division at 415/853-3100. Local residents are encouraged to apply.

ASSOCIATE PLANNER (Temporary Position)

Minimum Qualifications: Graduation from an accredited four (4) year college or university with major work in Urban Planning, Architecture, Public Administration, or a closely related field. A Masters Degree in any of the above fields of specialization may be substituted for one (1) year of the required experience. Approximately two (2) years of progressively responsible professional City Planning, County Planning and/or Urban Regional Planning experience. Must possess at the time of employment and continuously throughout employment, a valid California Class 3 Driver's License.

BUILDING INSPECTION TECHNICIAN

(Temporary Position)

Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma or G.E.D. Certificate; possession of a valid California

Class 3 driver's license; one (1) year of recent experience in building inspection or code enforcement. An AA degree or certificate in building inspection and I.C.B.O. certification desirable.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Description and Minimum Qualifications:

Reports to City Manager. Minimum of five years full-time in land use planning, housing, or economic development with two years in supervisory capacity; research, administrative and managerial skills related to municipal community development operations. B.S. from accredited institution. Graduate degree desired.

Salary: \$36,920 to \$44,886

Filing Deadline: Open

CODE ENFORCEMENT TECHNICIAN (Temporary Position)

Minimum Qualifications: High School diploma or G.E.D. Certification; possession of a valid California Class 3 driver's license; one year work experience requiring public contact and the interpretation of complex zoning regulations and neighborhood standards including some prior work experience in a municipal government.

Filing Deadline: Open



CHEIF'S REPORT

Accident or Burglary Reports:

Citizens may obtain copies of accident or burglary reports through the main office of the East Palo Alto Police Department located at 2415 University Avenue in East Palo Alto. Following is a step by step procedural description:

1. A report is taken by a police officer or police service technician.
2. The citizen may then come to the police station and request a copy of their report (Accident or Burglary). There is a \$5.00 fee for a copy of a report.
3. Processing the report will take three days. After three days the citizen requesting a report can come into the station to pick-up the report. Payment may be made at the time the citizen requests the report or at the time of pick-up. If the citizen wants the report mailed she/he will have to pay at the time of request (step two of process).

POLICE OFFICER--ENTRY LEVEL

The City of East Palo Alto Police Department is accepting applications. The minimum requirements include a high school diploma, uncorrected vision of 20/100 correctable to 20/30 with normal color vision and a valid California Drivers license.

An extensive background investigation will be conducted. Examinations will include a written, oral and a very difficult physical agility exam.

Candidates will be required to take a polygraph, physical and a psychological evaluation. Candidates must not have any felony convictions.

Salary range: \$24,065 to \$29,265 Annually.

Closing Date: January 30, 1987.

CITY COUNCIL RECAP

DECEMBER 15, 1986-- Regular Meeting

- Proclaimed December 14-20, 1986 as Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Week.
- Adopted Resolution No. 350 approving and adopting Memorandum of Understanding with East Palo Alto Police Officers Association.
- Adopted Resolution No. 351 appointing members to various boards and commissions:

Gene Tate,
Parks and Recreation
Commission

Lorraine Higuera,
Rent Stabilization Board

- Approved staff recommendation with regards to the Arts and Culture

- Commission proposal re: National Arbor Day Foundation Standards for tree care within the City.
- Introduced Ordinance No. 80 amending the Personnel Commission Ordinance (no. 063, as amended).
- Adopted Resolution No. 352, adopting the City of East Palo Alto General Plan.
- Denied appeal and upheld Planning Commission denial without prejudice (Torres, 1175 Weeks Street).
- Adopted Resolution No. 361 authorizing application for non-profit status for the Youth Development Center and authorizing execution of agreement with the Sequoia Union High School District.
- Introduced Ordinance No. 81, amending Conflict of Interest Ordinance No. 056.

RENT STABILIZATION BOARD

By now, tenants in the City should have received interest on their security deposits, as outlined in last month's article. If you have not received interest, please contact the program staff.

Starting in February, the Rent Stabilization Program will again be offering seminars on various aspects of the law. These seminars will be scheduled on every other Monday from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Schedule for February:

February 2: Security Deposits:

This seminar will cover the legal requirement for the return of interest and remedies available to tenants when they do not receive interest; the seminar will also touch briefly on civil remedies when a tenant does not receive his security deposit back after moving.

February 16: Individual Rent Adjustments:

This is the first of a series of two seminars designed to assist landlords in the individual rent adjustment

process. This will cover the capital improvements area and how landlords can recover their costs (including interest) through the petition process.

If you have any questions about the Seminars or Program in general, contact Sharon Wallace, Community Housing Specialist at 853-3100.

PROJECT HELP

Project HELP may lower your PG & E bill.

Project HELP provides free insulation and other energy-saving home improvements to eligible PG & E customers.

For eligibility requirements call Greg Willson at 800-367-7232.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Applications are currently being accepted from local residents interested in serving on City Boards and Commissions. If you are interested call Patricia Perkins at 853-3100 for more information.

LIBRARY PAPERBACK BOOK SALE

Need some excitement and adventure in your life? Come to the **FRIENDS OF EAST PALO ALTO LIBRARY'S** on-going Paperback Book Sale. The Latest:

- HARLEQUIN ROMANCES
- JACKIE COLLINS
- STEPHEN KING
- DONALD GOINES
- HORROR & SUSPENSE NOVELS
- MYSTERIES **AND**
- BESTSELLERS

Now on sale for 25 cents each or three (3) for fifty cents!!! THIS IS BY FAR, THE BEST BUY IN TOWN!!! Hurry and beat the crowd, and support your local library. See you at the Booksale!

"CityConnection"

is published monthly by the
City of East Palo Alto
2415 University Avenue
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
415/853-3100
Editor: Patricia Perkins

LETTER FROM MAYOR MOUTON *Continued from page 1*

blatantly untruthful. Also, it causes one to ponder whether the writer of the letter had an ulterior motive when he wrote his question; after all, a phone call to the City would have secured him the information he allegedly was seeking.

Drugs continue to negatively impact us. One thing is certain, most of these people in our midst peddling their packages of death have a base nearby. Observe the activity at Euclid and Bell, you'll see that several of the houses nearby are activity bases; at Clarke and Bay, some of those pushers are given refuge across the street in some of those apartments and, if there is any validity to the rumor one constantly hears, perhaps in the store itself; pushers of drugs reside on Verbena and on Wisteria not far from where they peddle their wares. When "good citizens" stop harboring these young people, stop condoning their activities just because they're bringing in fistfuls of that "ol green stuff," then and only then will we be able to begin turning back the tide. Are you listening? Are you willing to help?

Our thanks and love to all of you, individuals and members of various churches and groups, for making this holiday season a brighter one for many who would have had a very bleak time except for your generosity. Our thanks, in particular, to Mr. William Branner for doing what you did for five deserving families who were experiencing rough times. There are many destitute and homeless people in our midst. I pray that God will continue to bless you and permit you to share whatever you can with someone less fortunate.

In ending, with God's help this can really be the year that makes the difference in our lives. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

--Peace.

city connection
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the
CITY of EAST PALO ALTO, CA

2415 University Avenue
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
Telephone: 415/853-3100

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit # 350
Palo Alto, CA