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Town Council changed Mayor/Vice Mayor selection policy again

In a 3:2 vote the town council adopted a new draft policy provided by staff on how to select the town's mayor during the Oct. 9 meeting. The change came after Town Council member David Shapiro had requested during an early September meeting that the matter should become an agenda item before the new council takes

over. Back in September Council member Renata Sos felt strongly that the new policy adopted last year in September was good enough. "First of all, I don't think anything needs to be changed." Sos explained, "Because the Council still under the current protocol can use its best judgement to do what it wants and to pick whatever mayor they want regardless of whatever the voting history is."

Pointing out that there has been some conflict in electing the mayor in the past, Shapiro explained: "The voters don't elect the mayor. Some of the people think that the voters elect the mayor that's not right." He believes that the new protocol will help avoid conflict in situations when the traditional selection by received votes does not apply, like this year

when all three new council members were appointed without an election.

Town manager Scott Mitnick ended the presentation of the staff report with: "For the record to make it very clear to the Council members and people who are watching, this is not a staff driven agenda item. We did not recommend this to be put on the agenda, but we were asked to review it, do some homework and come back with a recommendation. We fatefully implement whatever direction you provide us."

California law requires the council to ac-

All candidates were

in agreement when it

to get a job done and

the greater good.

move forward towards

dates night on youtube

To view the candi-

came to the importance

of collaboration in order

cept the outcome of an election and to select a mayor and vice mayor. The law does not provide a protocol on how to elect the officers.

Moraga's protocol -which states in the past to elect the mayor based on received votes and rotate after one year - had been altered last year

and now accommodates appointed council mem-bers who did not receive any votes in an election.

The new protocol passed by Council members Shapiro, Kerry, and Onoda will allow the council to elect the mayor and vice mayor by the following policy: "All Council members

may vote for mayor and vice mayor and may consider seniority, experi-ence, leadership, willing-ness to collaborate, efficiency, the number of votes received when elected or any other relevant and legal factor." Mitnick stated. - A. Scheck

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Moraga School District Board

... continued from Page A4

What steps do you propose to help Moraga K - 8 schools be better prepared to protect our students?

Dickerson has been on school safety committees, and in 2018, they were able to acquire school safety experts to examine Moraga's schools and file a report detailing all of the issues facing schools. Keeping schools safe is her prior-

Hays feels that collaboration with first responders when it comes to school safety is important, and hopes that parents become involved. Mental and emotional wellness should also be included in the safety

Having experienced a lock-down while a student at Los Perales Elementary School. Panetta would like to see schools become more involved with the Moraga Police Department and Moraga-Orinda Fire District with regards to a game plan. He would also like MSD to become better organized in case of emergencies.

Question four: Recent legislation encourages school districts to create homework policies that among other things align with the developmental needs of students, emphasize meaningful assignments over busy-work, and prioritize students' mental and physical health. What are your thoughts on how this law will impact instruction in the MSD?

Hays feels that the district's teachers are currently giving the right amount of homework, and that they are attuned to each child's needs. He believes there are other ways to educate kids without excessive homework and the district is successful thus

Panetta wants to make certain that this situation doesn't overload the teachers.

Dickerson feels that the schools are already doing a great job with dispensing the right

amount of homework. The fifth question: What is motivating you to become a member of the Moraga School District governing board?

Having gone through the Moraga school system, Panetta feels that he can bring a lot of experience to the table. He also wants to make sure that no kid falls behind.

Dickerson explained that it's a natural progression to what she's already been doing, and that it feels like a calling – she wants kids to be safe in school. Another priority is the lack of funding.

A strong belief in Moraga's schools and the community are what motivate Hays. He feels that with his background in finance and construction he will be an asset when it comes to Measure D decisions.

The last question of evening: If you find yourself in the minority position on a vote, how will you manage the situation both internally and externally?





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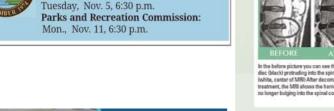
Before you consider surgery consider these points

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Missed work can amoint to \$1000s in lost wages Outcomes may be uncertain, and surgery is not reversible

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