From:

To: City Counc

 Cc:
 Public Comment; Andrea Chelemengos

 Subject:
 public comment on items not on the agenda

 Date:
 Sunday, September 19, 2021 6:36:56 PM

It is disappointing that the city council voted for the so-called "Updated City Council Norms and Procedures." They are is just a thinly-veiled excuse for continuing your anti-Asian jihad against Council Member Lee Eng. We all know this action, particularly section 6.8, came about because Lee Eng had her phone on due to a family emergency. Someone sent her some racist tweets that became a six-month soap opera until the City council passed Resolution 2021-24 which was a shameful attempt to appease the woke mob by throwing Council Member Lee Eng under the proverbial bus.

If the council took its Resolution 2021-17, which condemned intimidation, aggression and violence against Asian-Americans, seriously, this would not have happened. There was no need to revise the Los Altos City Council norms and procedures. I doubt the anti-bias training described in section 6.7 will do anything to fix the damage done by this. These new policies will simply allow council to check a box to make it harder to sue the city.

You fail to realize that Resolution 2021-24 continues to spread misstatements and disingenuous statements, and these procedures won't do anything about it. Council Member Lee Eng did not allege that anyone threatened her or mention anybody by name. However, she had every right to be concerned by the texts that were sent to her. Although the final text in the series reads, "I just want to be clear, this is in no way a threat of any kind. This is me expressing my disappointment," one has to ask why this statement was necessary if the texts in question were unambiguously NOT a threat? Considering recent events around the country, it is reasonable to fear doxxing, vandalism or physical harm. Last year, this happened to the mayors of San Jose and Oakland.

People have fanned the flames by demanding Lee Eng apologize but her enemies need to acknowledge that the texts could be interpreted as a threat. The existence of the final text admits that possibility. Lee Eng should not apologize or resign, however, Justice Vanguard owes the city an apology for keeping this issue alive. In the spirit of Resolution 2021-17, the council must rescind Resolution 2021-24 and Updated City Council Norms and Procedures.

Bill Hough Los Altos