

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
PALOS VERDES ESTATES, CALIFORNIA**

**January 9, 2008**

**A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Palos Verdes Estates was called to order this day at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall by Mayor James F. Goodhart.**

**ROLL CALL: Councilmembers Perkins, Rea, Humphrey, Mayor Pro Tem Sherwood, Mayor Goodhart**

**ABSENT: None**

**ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Hoefgen, City Attorney Ailin**

**CLOSED SESSION: Council adjourned to Closed Session at 6:35 p.m.  
Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b)  
of Section 54956.9: 1 case**

**RECONVENE: Council reconvened at 7:30 p.m.**

**ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Hoefgen, City Attorney Ailin, Assistant City Manager Smith, Police Chief Dreiling, Public Works Director Rigg,  
City Treasurer Ritscher, Administrative Analyst Davis,  
Minutes Secretary Monson**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MAYOR'S REPORT – Matters of Community Interest**

Scott Gobble, SCE Regional Manager, reported on Edison's planned upgrades for the Peninsula and region over the next few years.

Mr. Gobble reported that SCE serves 4.8 million customers and approximately 50,000 square miles in Southern California. All of Edison's technology is designed to improve the carbon footprint, reduce greenhouse gases, and help the growth in Southern California. Edison is committed to \$13 billion in system upgrades over the next five years - \$9 billion of that is in the distribution system and that is what primarily serves Palos Verdes Estates. This is to keep up with the increased demand on the Edison system and the fact that their system is aging.

**CITY COUNCIL 01-09-08**

Specifically in PVE, Edison is planning to replace a capacitor, three circuit regulators, and 30-35 deteriorated poles. The transformers are not adequate to serve the larger homes being built. The demand in usage in the community is considerably different than it was 15-20 years ago. Edison is working in Lunada Bay - on Via Visalia between PVE and RPV- where there were failures in the major underground systems last July. PVE shares the electrical system with RPV in this area and they have been experiencing power outages as these systems are being replaced. There is a community meeting scheduled for January 23 at Hesse Park for the residents in this area to update them on what is taking place. The second area being worked on is Malaga Plaza where there is a high water table and water intrusion concerns. SCE is planning to discuss with the PV Homes Association the possibility of cost sharing between the property owners and SCE to place systems above ground. Another area being upgraded is in Rolling Hills Estates off of Silver Spur in the business area.

Edison has curtailed the necessity to build power plants through energy efficiency. Compact fluorescent light bulbs use  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the power that traditional light bulbs use. SCE provides power that is 17% from renewable sources – not carbon generating sources. This reduces the carbon imprint.

Three years ago, Edison changed out most of the meters to the homes in PVE to meters that can be read by an SCE employee driving down the street in a truck. The next upgrade, available over the next three years, will be to install Smart Meters that are read by radio waves. Customers can read on their computer or television and then choose when is the best time to consume energy by looking at a cost graph.

Councilmember Humphrey asked how our Lunada Bay residents will be notified for the January 23 meeting regarding upgrades in their area. Mr. Gobble will contact the homeowners association to get the word out. Public Works Director Rigg said that we will place signs in the neighborhood advertising the meeting.

Councilmember Rea asked how many utility poles in PVE will be replaced. Mr. Gobble said between 30 and 35 over the next year. Councilmember Rea asked what type of pole is the replacement. Mr. Gobble said the new poles are wood and will be five feet taller. There is increased usage on the poles by the cable companies and if a new pole is required State Law comes into play regarding minimum separation of lines and the new poles are five feet taller. Councilmember Rea asked if the amount of money spent to replace the poles would be better spent in undergrounding them instead. Mr. Gobble said the cost of an over-ground system is 1/10 the cost of an under-ground system.

Councilmember Perkins asked which part of the community will require upgrades next, or is Edison just responding to the areas that have had repeated outages. Mr. Gobble said that SCE has a 5-year and a 10-year plan. The upgrades he discussed are taking place in 2008; in 2009 there will be upgrades planned for San Pedro, the Trump and Marineland areas in RPV, and the Monticello area in RHE. Councilmember Perkins asked when we can expect the new Smart Meters. Mr. Gobble replied that they are currently being installed in the region and the Peninsula can expect to be changed out completely in two to three years.

**CITY COUNCIL 01-09-08**

Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood asked if residents want to form a district for undergrounding utilities, what do the other companies like ATT and Verizon do for transmitting stations. Mr. Gobble said he can address the phone company and cable company as it relates to Edison and defer to the Public Works Director for the cellular towers. The phone company will bill the residents just like Edison does and they will place their system, usually, in the same trench with Edison. For the cable company, the residents provide the conduit system and the cable company provides the wires. For the cellular towers that is a City issue and there are legal implications.

Director Rigg stated that we have discussed this exact situation when we implemented our Wireless Telecommunications Ordinance. We anticipate that the entitlement that the cellular company received to have their antennae in a location is separate from the undergrounding. The City would try to relocate the tower to a better location to be less intrusive, but when PVE investigated a few years back it was our understanding that PVE would have little ability to force the cellular companies to move. Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood asked if the City would have to pay for the additional pole as a result of an undergrounding. Director Rigg said he would anticipate the cellular company would want to stay where they are on the same pole. Director Rigg said that if a local group wants to have an underground project, at a cost of ~\$60,000 to \$100,000 per residence, they would not want to leave a pole standing when they could pay an additional ~\$10,000 to \$20,000 to move the pole. The City would probably include the relocation of the cellular tower within the overall contract for the undergrounding.

Mayor Goodhart liked the idea of the Smart Meters with fewer trucks driving around the community. The Mayor asked Mr. Gobble to work with the City Manger on reducing the cost of undergrounding. PVE has had several utility districts disappointed by the costs for undergrounding. Mayor Goodhart also mentioned the vulnerability of newer appliances to power fluctuations and stated that PVE residents want clean, efficient power that is not interrupted.

City Manager Hoefgen asked Mr. Gobble what type of notification will be given to the residents regarding pole replacements. Mr. Gobble replied that he will work toward more notification than just a door notice.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

It was moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood, seconded by Council member Rea and unanimously approved that the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

- MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 11, 2007
- CITY TREASURER'S REPORT – NOVEMBER, 2007
- FINANCIAL REPORT – NOVEMBER, 2007

**CITY COUNCIL 01-09-08**

- MAP-102-6; APPROVAL OF FINAL PARCEL MAP NO.60264 FOR THE SUBDIVISION OF 2508, 2510, AND 2512 VIA CAMPESINA FOR CONDOMINIUM PURPOSES. LOT 13, BLOCK 1621, TRACT 6885
- SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION FOR THE PALOS VERDES COMMUNITY ART ASSOCIATION AFFILIATES SUMMER ART SHOWS: APRIL 19-20; MAY 17-18, JUNE 21-22; JULY 19-20; AUGUST 16-17; SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2008 FROM 9:00AM TO 5:00PM ON THE MALAGA COVE PLAZA GREEN
- PARKLANDS COMMITTEE ACTIONS OF DECEMBER 10, 2007

**PC-279-07;** Application to remove 2 pine trees located in the City right-of-way adjacent to 424 Avenida Mirola  
 Applicant: Richard Lindgren  
 424 Avenida Mirola  
 Approved

**PC-280-07;** Application to remove 3 pine trees located in the City right-of-way adjacent to 977 Paseo La Cresta for view restoration  
 Applicant: Fred Davidowitz  
 977 Paseo La Cresta  
 Approved

**PC-281-07;** Application to top a row of pine trees located in the Parkland north of 4457 Via Pinzon for view enhancement  
 Applicant: Phil and Jacqui Rafferty  
 4457 Via Pinzon  
 Approved

**PC-283-07:** Application to remove 1 Photina tree located in the City right-of-way adjacent to 935 Via Rincon for view enhancement and review of the street tree requirements for 937 Via Rincon  
 Applicant: Kari and Ravi Rao  
 945 Via Rincon  
 Denied

- TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE ACTIONS OF DECEMBER 12, 2007

Recommended turn restrictions into Lunada Bay Elementary School Visitor Parking Lot  
 Approved

- PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIONS OF DECEMBER 18, 2007

**NC-930R-07;** Consideration of a revised Neighborhood Compatibility Application for revisions to the single family residence located at 453 Via Media. Lots 20 & 21, Block 1511, Tract 6886.  
 Owner: Sal Gonzales

**CITY COUNCIL 01-09-08**

Approved with conditions

**CDP-67/NC-1299/M-653-07;** Consideration of Coastal Development Permit, Neighborhood Compatibility and Grading Applications for additions to the single family residence located at 2137 Paseo Del Mar. Lot 34, Tract 17606.

Owner: Patricia Franich-Springer

Approved with conditions

**NC-1307/GA-1424-07;** Consideration of Neighborhood Compatibility and Grading Applications for additions to the single family residence located at 1017 Via Nogales. Lot 5, Block 1637, Tract 7330.

Owner: Michael and Libby Thomas

Approved with conditions

**NC-1308/GA-1425-07;** Consideration of Neighborhood Compatibility and Grading Applications for a new single family residence located at 1641 Chelsea Road. Lot 26, Block 1270, Tract 7140.

Owner: Michael Mulligan

Approved with conditions

**NC-1249R-07;** Consideration of a revised Neighborhood Compatibility Application for revisions to the new single family residence located at 700 Horcada Place. Lot 2, Block 1427, Tract 8523.

Owner: Mr. and Mrs. Masoud Tehrani

Denied

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Resident Ruth Walker, [PVHS Area Resident], asked the Council to keep four things in mind with regards to the Residential Permit Parking Zone being considered at the next Council meeting: 1) the importance of preserving the rural and tranquil character of PVE, 2) honor the commitments made by the School District and community officials to the neighborhood to mitigate the impact of re-opening PVHS as outlined in the LSA study which included an RPZ, 3) RPZ does not impact the quality of the school, and 4) at the last Traffic meeting, Mr. Buss stated that the residents and school have to absorb the problem. Ms. Walker stated that even with the RPZ the residents will bear significant issues – she feels that the residents have absorbed their fair share of the problems. The residents are not anti-school, but they want to make sure the area remains a community where everyone enjoys walking, bicycling and being outdoors in general.

## **STAFF REPORTS –**

City Manager Hoefgen reported that Chief Dreiling will present an update on the City of Palos Verdes Estates disaster preparedness efforts. Manager Hoefgen stated that everyone is aware that times of disaster present special challenges to the City. The City is required to

## **CITY COUNCIL 01-09-08**

respond to saving lives and protecting property to the best of our ability. There is also a need to continue to provide basic essential City services. The City's resources are limited at these times; we make due with the staff on-hand and utilize our inter-agency agreements to pool resources. Manager Hoefgen said the City is in the process of implementing a new program; the concept of personal preparedness extended to a neighborhood or district level. Experience shows that communities that have taken proactive steps to work with the residents are the ones that have the greatest level of response and the best level of survivability. Police Chief Dreiling will lead the effort to work with the community and staff to implement the program.

Chief Dreiling reported that the City recently replaced our adopted disaster plan, SIMS, with NIMS, the National Incident Management System. Chief Dreiling introduced Bryant Winchell and Bill Harper the founders of the Palos Verdes Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team (NART). NART is a network of Ham radio operators organized to communicate with the PV Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in the event of a disaster. In addition, Palos Verdes Estates has the highest number of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trained volunteers on the Peninsula. CERT is coordinated through the Police Department's Neighborhood Watch program. Neighborhood Watch has purchased, and is now offering for \$50, two-person emergency backpacks.

Chief Dreiling feels that even with all this preparation there is still a significant gap in citizen planning. In an emergency there is currently no way for the residents to know who or how to contact these trained volunteers. Chief Dreiling presented the concept for a plan to coordinate the various disaster preparedness efforts to better utilize the available resources.

Chief Dreiling proposed to divide the City into six sectors or districts – Valmonte, Malaga Cove, Montemalaga, and three in Lunada Bay. Each district will be assigned the task of writing its own disaster manual. The City will assist in providing instructions in the creation of these six manuals. Each manual will contain the names and addresses of: neighborhood amateur radio operators, CERT trained citizens, medical personnel, and elderly seniors. The manuals will include site locations for evacuation and staging areas and alternate sites. The manuals will also include a detailed incident command structure. The City will organize and assist the process by forming a committee comprised of citizen representatives from each of the six districts, experts from various disciplines including city management, police department, city engineering, fire department and Area G. Chief Dreiling will chair this committee that will meet monthly until the project is complete. The plan will then be introduced through a series of Neighborhood Watch meetings.

Chief Dreiling stated that this is an ambitious project and he is not aware of any other of this kind. He announced that John Douglass, Los Angeles County Disaster Service Coordinator and local expert in the field, has joined our team. The Area G coordinator, Mike Martinet, will continue to assist us in our preparedness efforts. City Manager Hoefgen is supportive of the program and has a background in disaster preparedness. Local philanthropist Arlo Sorensen has given a generous donation of \$15,000 to kick-off this program.

Area G Coordinator Mike Martinet is the local disaster plan coordinator for the entire South Bay and an expert in disaster planning, mitigation and recovery. Mr. Martinet spoke about

**CITY COUNCIL 01-09-08**

the GIS component of the plan. He stated that 95% of the rescues in a disaster are undertaken by the citizens in the neighborhood, not trained personnel. Due to the topography of the community, there are areas that are subject to potential landslides and this could cause some neighborhoods to be cut-off from emergency services. The proposed plan would address that problem by developing clusters of residents that can help each other during a disaster.

Mr. Martinet reported that the utilities and life-lines that we depend on cross the San Andreas Fault. In a large earthquake we will have an unusual problem in that we may not have direct damage, but we will have trouble with electricity, water, gas, communications, etc. The proposed plan will address some of these issues. Also, the process of planning will help to generate ideas in community. Part of the proposed plan is a GIS mapping program. He hopes the PV plan will work in conjunction with another GIS mapping project that he is currently working on that shows where the hazards are in a community. He feels that this plan provides for greater management/control at the local level.

Councilmember Perkins learned at the Neighborhood Watch Annual Meeting that you need to prepare for two kinds of disasters that may occur. The first requires you to prepare to stay in your home for a number of days and the second would require you to prepare for evacuating your home. She asked if this plan will address both of these kinds of potential emergencies. Chief Dreiling responded that the plan was designed with an evacuation site and an alternate site in each district.

Councilmember Perkins asked if the plans will also deal with potential terrorist type threats. Chief Dreiling explained that in law enforcement you plan and look at many alternatives which will help you prepare, but, in reality, it never goes according to plan. He said if you plan it allows you to improvise better during the actual event.

Councilmember Perkins stated that every resident could benefit from the CERT training and hopes that the City can create more opportunities for our residents to go through this training.

Mayor Goodhart would like the district manuals to show on a map where the CERT trained residents are located. He fears that there will be areas that do not have many residents trained in CERT and this may motivate residents in specific areas to get the training. Chief Dreiling said the GIS mapping will show who the CERT trained residents are in each district.

Mayor Goodhart asked if there are plans to coordinate with the School District on this plan. Chief Dreiling responded that this is one of the reasons there is one school in each district. The schools have a Ham radio and provisions at each school. Pearl Izuka of the School District will also be on the planning committee.

Mayor Goodhart asked if there is any kind of schedule for the plan. Chief Dreiling said the plan is in the infancy stage, but he is hopeful that the manuals will be completed and distributed by April of 2009.

Mayor Goodhart asked if it is the City's intention to provide training to the individuals who will be the incident commanders. City Manager Hoefgen said there will be an inventory

**CITY COUNCIL 01-09-08**

assessment component as part of the planning efforts and training will be an important part of the program.

Councilmember Humphrey added that the NIMS plan identifies the hierarchy for the incident commander. It is set-up very uniformly so those that have been trained can step in to any incident command post at any location, but the training is intensive.

Mayor Goodhart thanked Chief Dreiling for presenting the plan.

### **City Manager's Report**

Manager Hoefgen reminded everyone that there will be drilling on Palos Verdes Drive West in Bluff Cove as part of the landslide research Monday, January 15, through Thursday, January 18, from 9:00am to 3:00pm. There will be an alternate route to aid with congestion.

### **DEMANDS**

It was moved by Councilmember Humphrey and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood that the demands, as approved by a majority of the City Council, totaling \$206,710.80 be allowed and it was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Councilmember Humphrey and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood that the demands, as approved by the majority of the City Council, totaling \$216,850.80 be allowed and it was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Councilmember Humphrey and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood that the demands, as approved by a majority of the City Council, No.512511H, 512512H to 512513H, 512514 to 512582 totaling \$490,318.38 be allowed and it was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Councilmember Humphrey and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Sherwood that the demands, as approved by a majority of the City Council, No.512593H to 512596H, 512597 to 512637 totaling \$107,577.47 be allowed and it was unanimously approved.

### **MAYOR & CITY COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS**

Councilmember Humphrey asked if any of the Council members would be attending the Chamber and Rotary Club Salute to Business on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Goodhart, Councilmember Humphrey and City Manager Hoefgen will be attending.

### **CITY COUNCIL 01-09-08**



Mayor Goodhart reported that the City of PVE, as a member of the SBCCOG, was in support of SB886 to add one additional member to the Air Quality Management District. It was approved and PVE received a thank you memento from the SBCCOG for our support. Louis Ayala from Alhambra was elected to the new position. The Mayor also attended the League of California Cities L.A. Division meeting where James Christy, the Regional Director of the U.S. Census Bureau, gave an overview of the upcoming 2010 Census. He found it interesting that the County of Los Angeles has more people than 42 States.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:40p.m. to Tuesday, January 22nd, at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

/s/

MICHÉLE D. MONSON, MINUTES SECRETARY

APPROVED:

/s/

JAMES F. GOODHART, MAYOR