

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

**October 25, 2011**

**A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Palos Verdes Estates was called to order this day at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall by Mayor Rea. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.**

**ROLL CALL: Council Members Humphrey, Mayor Pro Tem Bird, and Mayor Rea**

**ABSENT: Council Members Perkins and Goodhart**

**ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Smith, Police Chief Dreiling, Public Works Director Rigg, City Treasurer Sherwood, City Attorney Hogin, Asst. to City Manager Davis, Executive Asst./Deputy City Clerk Kroneberger**

**CEREMONIAL MATTERS**

- Certificate of Recognition – Blake LaMar, Traffic Safety Committee

Mayor Rea recognized retiring Traffic Safety Committee member Blake LaMar for his service, having previously served on the committee for eight years (2001 to 2008). He returned at the Council's request for an interim term, December 2010 to September 2011. Mr. LaMar continues to report on his attendance at the LAX Noise Round Table meetings on behalf of the City.

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

- Swearing-In of Palos Verdes Estates Resident Disaster Service Workers

Mayor Rea administered the loyalty oath to 10 new disaster service workers. As designated Disaster Worker volunteers, they are included in the State's workers' compensation coverage when working under authority of the City's emergency organization. He thanked them for their commitment and service to the community.

Mayor Rea announced the City will be hosting its first in a series of events featuring the 6 disaster preparedness districts, providing residents the opportunity to purchase emergency water and supplies in partnership with Sparkletts. The first event will be Saturday, November 5, 10am to noon at the Malaga Cove School parking lot. The other 5 DDP district areas will have similar events scheduled.

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Mayor Rea announced a presentation by the City's Planning Department will be held on Thursday, November 17, 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of City Hall. It is open to the public, area architects, and contractors. A representative of the PV Homes Association will be present, and a Q&A opportunity will directly follow the presentation on the City's planning processes.

**CONSENT AGENDA (Items #1 – 7; except Items #5 and #6a)**

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

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2011**

**TREASURER'S QUARTERLY INTEREST REPORT – JULY - SEPTEMBER 2011**

**RESOLUTION R11-34; AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF OBSOLETE RECORDS OF THE CITY CLERK, TREASURER, FINANCE, PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING DEPARTMENTS**

**RESOLUTION R11-35; DELEGATING TORT CLAIMS HANDLING RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE CALIFORNIA JOINT POWERS INSURANCE AUTHORITY**

**TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING ITEM OF OCTOBER 12, 2011**

Request to Modify the PVHS RPZ Turn Restriction Signs from a 7:00 am - 9:00 am Time Period to a 6:30 am – 9:00 am Time Period

Action: Recommended that staff 1) modify six PVHS RPZ turn restriction signs to show a 6:30 am – 9:00 am time period. (Approved)

**PLANNING COMMISSION ACTIONS OF OCTOBER 18, 2011**

**M-833-11;** Consideration of a Miscellaneous Application for new structures exceeding the maximum allowable height at the single family residence located at 2704 Via Elevado. Lot 9, Block 1730, Tract 7540.

Owner: Tom Bailey

Action: Approved with conditions.

**V-84-11;** Variance Application for mechanical equipment proposed in the sideyard at the single family residence located at 3000 Via Alvarado. Lot 44, Block 2233, Tract 7144.

Owner: Gary Freeman

Action: Approved with conditions.

**M-832-11;** Consideration of a Miscellaneous Application for structures exceeding the maximum allowable height at the single family residence located at 1500 Paseo La Cresta. Lot 1, Block 4, Tract 8043.

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Owner: Dan & Marnie Gruen  
Action: Approved with conditions.

**M-834-11;** Consideration of a Miscellaneous Application requesting after-the-fact approval for structures exceeding the maximum allowable height at the new single family residence located at 1408 Via Fernandez. Portion of Lot 8, Block 6, Tract 8043.

Owner: S.K. Khurana  
Action: Approved with conditions.

**SP-4-11;** Consideration of a Sign Plan Application for new non-standard signage at 2201 Palos Verdes Drive West. Lot 1, Block 2205, Tract 6888.

Owner: Veith Moore  
Action: Approved with conditions.

***THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:***

**AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO KIBEL GREEN, INC. FOR PURPOSES OF CONDUCTING AN ECONOMIC USE EVALUATION OF CITY PROPERTIES AT BLUFF COVE**

City Attorney Hogin stated she and Asst. to City Manager Davis have worked on this matter. The award of a professional services agreement with Kibel Green is for analysis and preliminary opinion as to what would be the best economic use of the residential properties the City owns on Bluff Cove. Historical documents have been gathered and Kibel Green would conduct an investigation of the current market; providing an independent third party opinion for the use and value of the properties. More follow up work may be required as a result. The contract before Council had a minor correction and changes regarding scope and insurance provisions. An initial economic evaluation of the ten properties is included in the scope of work and she queried if the "Gate House" property on Via Valmonte should be included in the analysis.

Mayor Rea confirmed with Assistant Davis that analysis will include the life estate, as one of the ten properties included within the scope of work.

Mayor Rea asked how marketability can be determined if it does not involve appraisal. Attorney Hogin explained that the proposed contractor believes a reasonable range can be determined based on historical documentation provided and other available information, including analysis of comparable properties. A good working understanding of the value of the properties can be provided given the properties' constraints and uses.

MPT Bird noted the properties are in various states of disrepair; 3 of them are occupied and have issues; 3 are vacant properties which have issues that need to be addressed. He asked if an estimate of repairs to bring the properties to habitable condition would be provided if determined the properties can be rented. Attorney Hogin responded there would be inspections and if they reach

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that conclusion, an outside contractor may be needed to provide more specific information. Kibel Green will advise the City what the best use or alternative uses would be from the subject properties.

MPT Bird confirmed with the City Attorney that the contractor envisions they will be able to complete their analysis, which would include a recommendation for more specific quotes, if additional work, e.g. geology, carpentry, roof work, or other work is required. Their economic analysis would conclude if these would be minor or major costs; determining if upkeep exceeds its value or not.

MPT Bird confirmed with City Attorney Hogin that a separate agreement would be forthcoming if third party analysis, such as structural engineering, is recommended. Ms. Hogin explained that this contract is for initial investigation and economic analysis and capped at \$8000; a discounted rate.

MPT Bird asked if the contractor will meet with interested area residents responding to questions and concerns. City Attorney Hogin said it's not currently within the scope but could be included. MPT Bird and Councilmember Humphrey agreed they'd like this to be part of the analysis process.

Councilmember Humphrey supported inclusion of the "Gate House" within the scope of the analysis.

MPT Bird stated for the record that the City Manager and City Engineer are not included in this discussion. City Attorney Hogin confirmed that she and Asst. Davis have worked exclusively with the subcommittee (Mayor Rea and MPT Bird) on this matter and none of the affected senior staff have played any role in this process.

Mayor Rea asked when Kibel Green would start work and return with a report. Attorney Hogin said the documents requested have already been gathered for transmittal to the contractor if approved. February is the target set forth for a report.

Desiree Myers, 1508 Via Lazo, representing Malaga Cove Homeowners Association, queried if the properties are being resided in by just employees or suppliers as well. She said a number of the homeowners have questions regarding use of the Bluff Cove Homes, thanked the City for looking into this, and look forward to seeing the proposed results.

Mayor Rea confirmed consensus was to add the Gate House to the study.

City Attorney Hogin responded that 2 of the homes are currently occupied by staff, and the other is within a contract relationship with the City that functions as a staff position as a contractor.

MPT Bird thanked the City Attorney and Ms. Davis and looked forward to receiving the report.

On motion of Councilmember Humphrey, seconded by MPT Bird, the City Council unanimously awarded a professional services agreement to Kibel Green, Inc. for purposes of conducting an

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economic use evaluation of City properties at Bluff Cove with modification to the Scope of Work to include the 'Gate House'

## **TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING ITEM OF OCTOBER 12, 2011**

### **REQUEST FOR LEFT-TURN RESTRICTION ON VIA ANITA AT THE 100 BLOCK OF PALOS VERDES DRIVE WEST**

Director Rigg said the Police Department requested implementing restrictions for the left turns coming from Via Anita onto southbound Palos Verdes Boulevard. Concerns were anecdotal and it was noticed there were a significant amount of accidents over the last 18 months at that intersection. The Traffic Safety Committee reviewed it and recommends implementation of a no left turn restriction from Via Anita onto southbound PV Blvd. from 7am to 9am and 4pm to 6pm Monday through Friday. The times were picked due to input from the City's traffic engineer because they contain the most amount of traffic flow on PV Blvd. as well as the most accidents.

Mr. Rigg said the City traffic engineer suggested a roundabout at that intersection to help eliminate the concerns of the left hand turns out of Via Anita, right hand turns, and a left from Via Rosa onto PV Blvd. The roundabout was determined worthwhile to investigate and it will be brought back to the Traffic Safety Committee at a future date for further review.

Ann Valdez, [PVE resident], said a majority of Via Anita neighbors spoke at the Traffic Safety Committee meeting and felt that the left hand turn is not the issue, but the speed on PV Blvd./PV Drive that needs to be addressed. She said making no left hand turn does not address the real problem. She said they supported the roundabout idea because it would address the problem of the increased traffic over the years. Letters were written that do not support the left hand turn restrictions.

MPT Bird said the Traffic Safety Committee will review the roundabout suggestion. He confirmed with Ms. Valdez that she and neighbors are against the idea of prohibiting the left hand turn until that analysis. Ms. Valdez said this is because that is not what is causing the problem and would cause inconvenience; causing drivers to turn right, make a U-turn to return resulting in more problems and danger.

Mayor Rea confirmed the restricted times coincide with rush hour and asked why. Director Rigg said it was discussed that there isn't significant traffic volume outside those times, making it easier to maneuver from Via Anita left onto the southbound PV Blvd.

Councilmember Humphrey said she would never turn left onto PV Blvd. when she lived in the area; taking an alternate route. She said neighbors she spoke with supported the restriction when it was explained that the left turn restriction would be only during specific hours, also supporting consideration of a roundabout.

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Director Rigg confirmed that the speed limit is currently 35MPH through that section of road. A speed survey was done about 3 years ago. Perception has been that cars have slowed over time with vegetation growing up. After speed study analysis, the traffic engineer said reduction to 30MPH could be posted, but must be adopted by Council. He said a section of Paseo Del Mar will be reanalyzed and would return to Council for review and approval.

Director Rigg said analysis of the roundabout will be ready for review by the Traffic Safety Committee in December.

Councilmember Humphrey supported implementation of the Traffic Safety Committee recommendation until such time analysis of the roundabout is presented because the intersection has been identified as dangerous, noting the curve is also of concern.

Mayor Rea said a resident letter suggested that Via Anita be declared a 'no bicycle zone' but the City is pre-empted by State law to impose/enforce such restrictions.

MPT Bird confirmed with Director Rigg that several residents spoke in favor of the left turn restriction. He said they shared the same experience Council member Humphrey expressed; they will not make left turns because it is significantly dangerous to make the maneuver. It was also felt that it is not that much of a detour to turn off Via Alameda onto PV Drive North, noting the impact is not significant.

Councilmember Humphrey confirmed that conversations with residents, once clarified that it would still be permissible to make a right turn onto PV Blvd., the restriction was supported.

MPT Bird favored further evaluation of the roundabout. The Police Department has provided notice there is a danger and public safety issue; it would be a failure if they weren't to act in some way, even though some residents do not support restricting left turns. This is an issue and they need to address it – at least in the short term until the roundabout is presented. He supported approval of the Traffic Safety Committee recommendation.

On motion of Councilmember Humphrey, seconded by MPT Bird, City Council unanimously approved the Traffic Safety Committee's recommendation to 1) implement the installation of W2-1 crossing signage on Palos Verdes Drive West and Palos Verdes Blvd. in Torrance prior to the intersection and 2) implement a restricted left turn from Via Anita to Palos Verdes Drive West between 7 – 9 am and 4 – 6 pm, Mon. - Fri. (Approved)

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

William Lama, [PVE resident], representing the Malaga Cove Homeowners Association, thanked Mayor Rea and MPT Bird for addressing the Association at their recent meeting.

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David Wagman, [PVE resident], spoke in support of PVPUSD Measure M on the November 8<sup>th</sup> ballot.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

## **STAFF REPORTS**

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Cancellation of November 22, 2011 City Council Meeting

The Council concurred in the cancellation of the November 22, 2011 Council meeting.

City Manager Smith reported that the L.A. County Regional Park and Open Space District approved the City's application for \$150,000 in grant funding as designated by Supervisor Knabe, which allows staff to begin the bidding process for the projects.

## **DEMANDS**

It was moved by Councilmember Humphrey and seconded by MPT Bird that the demands, as approved by a majority of the City Council, totaling \$226,020.69 be allowed and it was unanimously approved.

It was moved by Councilmember Humphrey and seconded by MPT Bird that the demands, as approved by a majority of the City Council No. 520141V, 520420H to 520422H, 520423 to 520509 totaling \$1,046,476.33 be allowed and it was unanimously approved.

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

Councilmember Humphrey reported on her attendance at the Peninsula Rotary/PVP Chamber Citizen of the Year Award Banquet honoring Peninsula residents Loren and Craig DeRoy on October 21<sup>st</sup> at Trump National Golf Club with Mayor Pro Tem Bird and City Manager Smith.

Mayor Pro Tem Bird reported on his attendance at the PVE-CARES 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Health Fair on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. He presented a plaque of thanks to the Neighborhood Church for hosting the well attended annual event for 6 years running. Chief Dreiling reported that this was the best seniors' community event yet, which included refreshments, entertainment, flu shots, a paper shredding opportunity, and expired prescription drug collection.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. to Tuesday, November 1, 2011, 6:30 p.m. at Palos Verdes Golf Club, 3301 Via Campesina, Palos Verdes Estates, for the purpose of an Adjourned Meeting/Joint Meeting with the Planning Commission and Homes Association.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**VICKIE KRONEBERGER,  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK**

**APPROVED:**

**WILLIAM JOHN REA, MAYOR**

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