

Post-Meeting Summary of the September 25, 2018, City Council Meeting

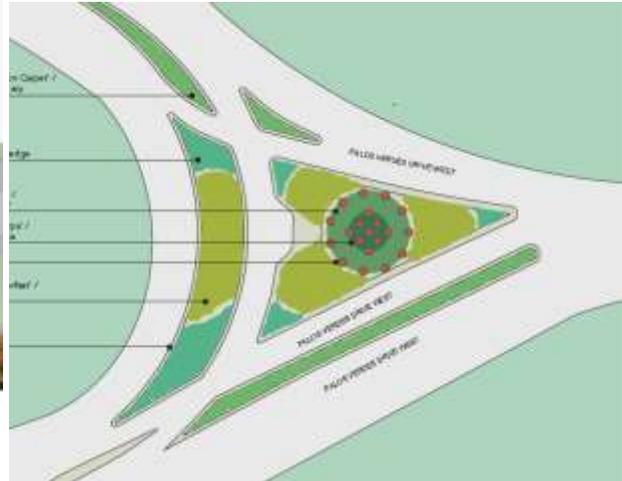
(Post Date: 9/27/18)

The Council meeting on September 25 was the longest in recent memory with a variety of different business decisions on the agenda. It was a long night for the City Council, public that followed the meeting, and staff! After interviewing applicants for the Investment Policy Advisory Committee beginning at 5:00 p.m. and Closed Session to discuss labor negotiations with the Police Officers Association and Public Services Employee Association beginning at 6:15 p.m., the City Council convened to discuss and consider 18 items on the agenda. Recognizing the number of topics and duration of the meeting, the City Council re-calendared "Consideration of Options for Maintaining the Mirlo Gate Tower House" and "Consideration of Extension for Agreement for Refuse and Recycling Collection" with Athens Services to the meeting on October 9, 2018. In addition, because appeals were filed with the City on Planning Commission decisions for 1509 Espinosa Circle and 421 Via Media, hearings on these projects were calendared for October 23, 2018. Despite these changes to the agenda, the meeting did not conclude until approximately 12:30 a.m. Kudos to all who stayed up to watch. A replay can be watched [here](#).

The meeting started with a warm and welcoming appreciation for the City's Parklands Volunteers who provide valuable service to the community and support the Police Department. They were followed by the recognition of the Citizen Academy graduating class of 2018. If you don't know about these programs, please contact the City. They are both terrific opportunities to learn about the City and be engaged.

Over the course of the evening, there were many community-wide matters that merit note.

Did you know that the flags in the triangle at Palos Verdes Drive North and Palos Verdes Drive West are a memorial to 9/11? Next time you happen to drive by, notice that the flags are configured in a row of 9 and a row of 11. With the water drought and State prohibition on watering medians, the beautiful grass around the memorial was removed. Now, following the consideration of various landscaping designs, the City will be moving forward to re-landscape and reconfigure the memorial over the next three months. In honor of the civilian and public safety individuals that lost their lives on 9/11, the City hopes the public will join the funding of the 9/11 flags by "adopting" a pole. Our current flags are on PVC and the goal is to raise \$40,000 for lighted poles to make it a suitable memorial as lighted poles will ensure the proper and appropriate display for the American flag. The conceptual image is below and the City looks forward to finalizing this important effort.



Also of public interest may be the City Council's continuing work to formulate an ordinance for Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). In conformance with the State mandate to remove barriers for the construction of ADUs, the City Council conducted a Public Hearing for establishing an ordinance that is tailored to the unique character of Palos Verdes Estates. Toward adoption of an ordinance, the hearing process will continue on the City Council's November 27, 2018, agenda.

Disaster preparedness and response for maintaining public safety and welfare is an integral responsibility of government and nonetheless, a significant priority of the City. The City also recognizes that there is much to be accomplished for providing and supporting an effective response in a disaster. Therefore, grant funds were approved by the City Council for planning and training over the next year. As a long-outstanding need, we are pleased to have the partnerships, resources, time and commitment to bring this very important effort forward. We look forward to sharing the progress as we reach specific milestones in the coming months.

Finally, one other action of the City Council was to exchange "Rule 20A" Southern California Edison tariffs (restricted money in the form of credits for undergrounding utilities along arterial corridors) that has accumulated over 30-years with no practical value for "General Fund" revenue that can be applied to any municipal purpose. We are appreciative to the City of Rolling Hills for the exchange, as it is a benefit to all. Rolling Hills will receive approximately \$1 million in credits for undergrounding along their major streets and Palos Verdes Estates will receive approximately \$600,000. In the future, and subject to the City Council's determination, the money could be applied to small, neighborhood undergrounding projects, pension obligations, infrastructure improvements, or any number of one-time purpose.

The next City Council meeting is a Closed Session scheduled on October 1 at 6:00 p.m., followed by the next Regular City Council meeting on October 9, 2018. The agenda for the Regular meeting will be posted on October 5, 2018, at www.pvestates.org.

Thank you for tuning into this report. Let us know if you find it helpful by sending an email to cityclerk@pvestates.org.

Sincerely,

Tony

Questions or comments? Please contact the City Clerk Lauren Pettit at (310) 378-0383 or via email at lpettit@pvestates.org.