

City Council Meeting, May 14, 2018, 7 p.m.

We had a **Closed Session** (at 5 p.m.), regarding labor negotiations. Closed-session topics typically involve labor or personnel, legal proceedings, or real estate negotiations. Because of the sensitive nature of the topics, participants are prohibited from talking about them.

At 5:45 we had a **Study Session** to hear annual reports from city commissions and committees. (A commission is authorized to make decisions regarding appeals, whereas a committee is purely advisory, in case you were wondering.)

We opened the **City Council** meeting (a little late) with a proclamation honoring Pacifica Mizpah Fellowship for its help to Pacifica Resource Center and scholarships provided to Pacifica high school students.

Then Pacifica police officer Gomez was presented with the Life Saving Medal for his actions during the recent shooting at YouTube headquarters in San Bruno.

The **Consent Calendar** was next. Items on the consent calendar are thought to need no discussion and are all approved together, unless anyone has an objection or comment.

1. Approval of Disbursements for 4/01/18 through 4/15/18. Checks issued.

2. Approval of Minutes for April 23, 2018.

3. Proclamation Confirming Existence of Local Emergency of the Pacifica Coastline from Westline Drive (far north end of Pacifica) to the End of Beach Boulevard.

This is required by certain State of California grants to repair damage from winter storms in January 2016 that we proclaim each month (with photos) as a State of Local Emergency.

4. Resolution Supporting Proposition 68, the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.

This is a state bond measure on the June 5 ballot. (Remember to vote!) Pacifica would potentially be able to apply for some of the grant funds of the measure.

5. Resolution Supporting Proposition 69 and Opposing Repeal of Senate Bill 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017.

This constitutional amendment is also on the June 5 ballot. It would prevent the diversion of SB1 funds for non-transportation purposes and oppose a measure to repeal SB1 that will appear on the November ballot. SB1 increased the tax on

gas and diesel, and directs the funds to transportation needs. Pacifica receives some funding from SB1 to repair our streets.

Council voted 5-0 to approve the **Consent Calendar**.

Oral Communications, for members of the public to comment on items not on the agenda, **Council Communications**, and **Staff Communications** came next.

Followed by a **Public Hearing**.

6. Construction of a 24-unit condominium development at 801 Fassler (APN 022-083-020 and -030).

This was "called up" (similar to an appeal) by me, John Keener. I was primarily concerned about the traffic, particularly the safety of vehicles making a left turn into the development across traffic on Fassler coming down the hill toward Highway 1. Other issues included the height of the buildings, which would be visible from Highway 1 and the quarry; the number of undesignated parking spaces; and whether a trail proposed for the eastern portion of the property could be made open to the public.

I wanted a traffic light that would operate only when someone coming up the hill on Fassler was attempting a left turn into the development. But the City Engineer and City Attorney informed me that warrants were required for traffic lights, and without such a warrant, the City of Pacifica would be open to a lawsuit (which the city cannot afford) if someone had an accident at the intersection, even if that person was clearly in the wrong. The most likely warrant in this case would be five accidents at the intersection in the space of a year. (Other reasons include the volume of traffic at the intersection, etc.)

The City Engineer said that the best we could do was traffic-calming measures for westbound traffic coming down the hill as it approaches the intersection. Accordingly, condition of approval #44 was modified to include those. Perhaps the most effective will be pavement grooves or dots that make an audible noise as vehicles pass over them as they approach the intersection.

Regarding the height of the buildings, the Planning Director pointed out that this didn't contradict any Hillside Preservation District regulations, which was the main problem I was worried about. Only two of the buildings exceed 35 feet and require variances, one by a few inches, and another by about two feet.

Each condo will be assigned two parking spaces that are covered. The number of guest parking spaces is three, which I thought was inadequate for 24 units, but the developers pointed to an additional 10 spaces that are unassigned to particular condos.

On the trail to be situated on the eastern portion of the property, the developer was willing to deed it over to the city, but the city didn't want the expense of maintaining it. The developer wasn't willing to allow public access, citing liability issues. We settled on the possibility of deeding it to the city in the future, memorialized in condition #67.

There was also a proposed ordinance for a development plan and for rezoning the parcel that needed council approval, as well as all of the other work approved by the Planning Commission, including transfer of development rights from the eastern parcel to the western parcel.

Council voted 5-0 to approve everything, with the addition of conditions of approval #44 and #67.

And finally, a single **Item for Consideration**

7. Proposed 2018-19 General Fund Budget -- Departmental Briefings.

We received budget presentations for the Pacifica Police Department, North County Fire Authority, General Government, and the Planning & Building Department.

And we **adjourned** at 11:15 p.m.