

**PALM VALLEY CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 17, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Palm Valley met in a Regular Meeting on the 17th day of August 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at 1313 N. Stuart Place Road, Palm Valley, Texas. Council members attended in person. (ZOOM videoconferencing was available for the public).

Council members present.  
Mayor George Rivera  
Councilman Michael Galvan  
Councilman Jerry Wade  
Councilman Eric Hoff

Present via ZOOM:  
Councilwoman Lisa Taylor  
Jason Mann, City Attorney

Absent: Councilwoman Cynthia Thompson

Staff present (in person):  
Sylvia R. Trevino, City Secretary  
Chief Alvaro Garcia  
Rosendo Flores, Public Works Director  
Jose Rivera, Support Services Aide

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rivera.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - The Pledge of Allegiance followed led by Mayor Rivera.
3. **LEGISLATIVE PRAYER** – Mayor Pro Tem Galvan.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

At this time, Mayor Rivera announced that the City of Palm Valley will not mandate that masks be worn into City Hall. However, he asked that the public be respectful of the City staff should they require that they be worn.

5. **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL – REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 20, 2021**

Councilwoman Taylor made several corrections to the minutes, specifically to Pages 2, 3, and 5.

Councilman Hoff made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections as noted by Councilwoman Taylor.

Councilman Galvan seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

**6. RECOMMENDATION ACCEPTED FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE VETERANS PARK AND ALL ITEMS RELATED TO THE PROJECT.**

John Topp, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, informed the Council that the Council previously approved the site plan for the Veterans Park on Polo Circle, along with the RFP and the scope of work giving the P&R Board the authority to proceed with the project.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is now asking that the Council accept the Board's recommendation giving the Board the authorization to construct the Park and all the related items associated with the project.

The total cost is estimated to be \$43,134.00 with an anticipated revenue of \$4,600.00. Part of the project will be paid for in this year fiscal year and the balance will be requested in the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget.

Mr. Topp announced that the groundbreaking ceremony will be held on August 18, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. and the grand opening is scheduled for November 11, 2021 – Veterans Day at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Topp added that, thus far, 52 pavers have been sold as well as four benches.

At this time, the City Secretary read a letter that was submitted by Patricia Crunk, a local resident. (The letter is attached and made a part of these minutes).

One of her concerns was the location of the park and questioned why not construct it at the entrance to Palm Valley on the median at El Camino. Mayor Rivera explained that the property does not belong to the City---it belongs to the Country Club. The City currently leases it for the purpose of maintaining it. The discussion on a proposed Veterans Park has been under discussion for several years and it is long time coming. Mr. Weeks, one of the adjacent residents to the location, wanted to have the Park there on Polo Circle. The Parks and Recreation Board took over this project a couple of years ago and they have come up with the proposed project. Mayor Rivera commented that he does not see that there will be much traffic with the park as it is meant to be a quiet setting for reflection and respect to our Veterans.

Councilwoman Taylor asked if the existing bench and stone plaque in the ground would remain. John Topp replied they will remain and will not be disturbed.

Councilman Hoff relayed his experience with Veterans Parks, memorials, law enforcement and he understands why 'we love our Veterans'. He would have been honored to have had such a park in front of his house.

Councilman Galvan also agreed that this park will not be a traffic generator and referred to the Veterans Memorial Park in San Benito. The Park will be well beautified and the perception that it is a 'park' is what causes the residents to think that there will be a lot of traffic around Polo Circle.

Mayor Rivera stated that it is sad that Mr. Weeks (deceased) will not see the project completed as it was his original idea.

Councilman Hoff, with honor, made the motion to accept the recommendation made by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

Councilman Wade seconded the motion.

Mayor Rivera took the votes and the motion carried unanimously by those present.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
- A. Police Monthly Report – July 2021**
  - B. Municipal Court Monthly Report – July 2021**
  - C. Monthly Investment Report – July 2021**
  - D. Monthly Financial Report – July 2021**
  - E. Monthly Check Listings – July 2021**
  - F. Council/staff liaison reports**

Under Council liaison reports, Mayor Rivera informed the Council that the City's budget workshop will be held on August 28, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

He added that on September 1 the restrictions on the Open Meetings Act will be lifted. All meetings will now be in person, however, ZOOM meetings will continue for the benefit of the citizens that want to participate.

Mayor Rivera stated that the City's financial status remains strong and added that Public Works is working on the manholes throughout the city to keep water out and adding new manhole covers, as well.

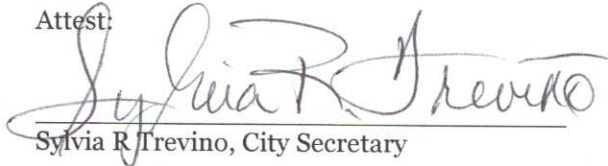
Mayor Rivera introduced Jose Rivera as the new Support Services Aide who will be conducting the meetings via ZOOM.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m. upon a motion by Councilman Hoff and a second by Councilman Wade.



George Rivera, Mayor

Attest:



Sylvia R. Trevino, City Secretary



August 17, 2021

To Mayor & City Council of Palm Valley:

My name is Patricia Crunk, & I have lived at 5001 Palo Verde for 34 years. When my ex-husband & I moved from San Antonio, the "island" in front of our house was neglected, with large patches of bare ground, where grass was supposed to be. To my recollection, some of these trees weren't there. (Now two of them have just been chopped down!!)

A few years after our arrival, Julian Wiggins, who lived directly across the street on PVE, wanted to dedicate the "island" to his deceased wife, Castyl.

Several of us neighbors, spear-headed by Bill Weeks, R.I.P. got together & completely resodded it. Julian bought the table, benches & plaque. I don't remember, but

think the city installed a sprinkler system, at that time. Our beloved neighbor, Bill Weeks took responsibility for watering, & did so until recent years.

We all have enjoyed watching our neighbors walking their dogs, hiking & "resting awhile", as Casty's plaque indicates! Now this park, literally in my front yard, will become noisy & congested & we will all be deprived of our quiet, peaceful cul-de-sac!

There is to be handicapped parking as well as other features, which I believe will not serve us well. I have nothing but respect for handicapped & veterans, but if you really want to demonstrate respect, then why not at the front entrance, visible to all ~~you~~ who enter & exit Palm Valley? That would really make a statement!! Would love to know the real reason this wasn't chosen!



I realize this was discussed & approved several months ago. I should have noticed it, but didn't. I also realize it probably wouldn't have made a difference if I had voiced my opposition! I'm the only remaining resident around to remember the difference we made to this little plot.

I would have thought, at the very least, & as a common courtesy residents of Polo Circle, & across the street would have been notified! It both saddens & offends me!!

I expected to attend the meeting this evening via zoom, but have an out-of-town guest & will be travelling. I'm hopeful this letter will be read at the meeting, & expect a response.

Sincerely,

Patricia Crunk

P.S. A big reason I didn't see this, to begin with, is I had 2 major surgeries in the past 14 months, with a-

house physical therapy, & in home  
care. Getting well took most of my  
time & energy!