



# City of Palo Alto

## City Council Staff Report

(ID # 7148)

---

**Report Type: Special Orders of the Day Meeting Date: 8/29/2016**

**Summary Title: Resolutions for Steve Eglash, Jonathan Foster and Garth Hall**

**Title: Adoption of Resolutions Expressing Appreciation to Steve Eglash, Jonathan Foster and Garth Hall Upon Completion of Their Terms as Utilities Advisory Commissioners**

**From: City Manager**

**Lead Department: Utilities**

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Resolution of Appreciation - Steve Eglash (DOC)
- Attachment B: Resolution of Appreciation - Jonathan Foster (DOC)
- Attachment C: Resolution of Appreciation - Garth Hall (DOC)

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO STEVE EGLASH, UTILITIES ADVISORY COMMISSIONER**

*WHEREAS*, Steve Eglash has served as a Commissioner on the Utilities Advisory Commission from July 2009 through May 2016; and

*WHEREAS*, Steve Eglash has provided dedicated service to the residents and businesses of this community through his carefully reasoned evaluation and balanced assessment of utilities budgets and rates, rate structure design, capital projects and many other utilities policies and practices, employing his extensive knowledge of the utilities industry; and

*WHEREAS*, Steve Eglash provided guidance and insights as the Utilities Department engaged in the development of their 10-year Energy Efficiency Goals, Renewable Portfolio Standard, Utilities Strategic Plan, Long-term Electric Acquisition Plan, Gas Utility Long-term Plan, the 2010 and 2015 Urban Water Management Plan, Local Solar Plan, Carbon Neutral Plan, Utilities Strategic Plan, Utilities Legislative Policy Guidelines and utilities rates for the Electric, Fiber Optics, Natural Gas, Water and Wastewater Collection Utilities; and

*WHEREAS*, Steve Eglash paid particular attention to the policies that dealt with the Utilities Long-term Financial Plans, rates and rate design. He asked penetrating questions about fairness for ratepayers, advocated for effective communication of rate changes and recommended that changes to policies underlying rate design be discussed in advance of the completion of Cost of Service Analyses; and

*WHEREAS*, Steve Eglash provided thorough review of all proposed programs and plans, he requested staff be knowledgeable and well prepared and he provided thoughtful, comprehensive comments and suggestions that were extremely valuable to staff as new programs and plans were developed; and

*WHEREAS*, Steve Eglash's deep understanding of the utility sector as it underwent significant changes, and his interest in emerging technologies, led to a strengthening of the connection between the City and Stanford University as he introduced staff to professors and different types of research that expanded exposure and understanding of new technologies and trends; and

*WHEREAS*, Steve Eglash willingly engaged the community on many levels, including working directly with Council Members and academics to help shape recommendations for the future of Utilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Palo Alto desires to recognize the meritorious service of Steve Eglash by commending his outstanding public service and records appreciation as well as the appreciation of the citizens of this community for the services and contributions rendered.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: August 29, 2016

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO  
ALTO EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO  
JONATHAN FOSTER, UTILITIES ADVISORY COMMISSIONER**

*WHEREAS*, Jonathan Foster served as a Utilities Advisory Commissioner from July 2009 through May 2016, serving as Vice Chair for two years and Chair for two years; and

*WHEREAS*, Jonathan Foster provided guidance and insight as the Utilities Department engaged in the development of projects such as their 10-year Energy Efficiency Goals, Renewable Portfolio Standard, Utilities Strategic Plan, Long-term Electric Acquisition Plan, Gas Utility Long-term Plan, the 2010 and 2015 Urban Water Management Plans, Local Solar Plan, Carbon Neutral Plan, Utilities Strategic Plan, Utilities Legislative Policy Guidelines and utilities rates for the Electric, Fiber Optics, Natural Gas, Water and Wastewater Collection Utilities; and

*WHEREAS*, Jonathan Foster is known for his dedicated service to the residents and businesses of this community through his enthusiasm, his out-of-the-box thinking and his entrepreneurial approach; and

*WHEREAS*, Jonathan Foster's passion for sustainability and concern for greenhouse gas emissions is manifested by his advocacy for carbon neutral electric supplies, including the city's long-term contracts for landfill-gas-to-energy and solar projects, the development of the PaloAltoGreen Gas program and the Palo Alto Clean Local Energy Accessible Now (CLEAN) Program; and

*WHEREAS*, Jonathan Foster supported testing and employing new technology, and he championed the utilities program for emerging technologies to provide a test bed for incoming technologies, bringing to bear his extensive knowledge of both the utilities industry and green technologies. He also expressed early support for the development of the Utilities Smart Grid Road Map; and

*WHEREAS*, Jonathan Foster served on an ad-hoc subcommittee of the Utilities Advisory Commission to review Smart Grid Recommendations and he supported the development of Smart Grid Pilot Programs, including CustomerConnect, the Residential Advanced Meter Pilot Program and the Commercial Demand Response Program; and

*WHEREAS*, Jonathan Foster actively engaged the community on many levels, he worked with Council Members to help shape recommendations for utilities, respectfully considered concerns raised by the public, and was always willing to listen to different points of view.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Palo Alto desires to recognize the meritorious service of Jonathan Foster by commending his outstanding public service, as well as the appreciation of the citizens of this community for the services and contributions rendered.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: August 29, 2016

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
PALO ALTO EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO  
GARTH HALL, UTILITIES ADVISORY COMMISSIONER**

**WHEREAS**, Garth Hall served as a Utilities Advisory Commissioner from April 2012 through May 2016 and contributed to the Utilities Advisory Commission through the use of his experience as a staff person for public agencies, having a thorough understanding of the role of an advisory board and by displaying a respectful attitude toward staff; and

**WHEREAS**, Garth Hall provided dedicated service to the residents and businesses of this community by means of a thorough review of utilities budgets and rates, rate structure design, capital projects and many other utilities policies and practices, all the while employing his extensive knowledge of financial analysis, business strategy and experience of public agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, Garth Hall provided guidance and insight in the development of the Carbon Neutral Plan, the Local Solar Plan, the redesign of the PaloAltoGreen Program, the Utilities Legislative Policy Guidelines and utilities rates for Electric, Natural Gas, Water and Wastewater Collection Utilities; and

**WHEREAS**, Garth Hall volunteered for extra assignments as a Commissioner by participating on ad-hoc subcommittees charged with establishing a new program to test emerging technologies, examining how to speed up the undergrounding of electric distribution lines and evaluating a second electric transmission pathway to improve reliability; and

**WHEREAS**, Garth Hall applied his extensive expertise in water resource planning and evaluation as a Utilities Advisory Commissioner; and

**WHEREAS**, Garth Hall's consideration of concerns raised by the public and his willingness to listen to different points of view made by staff and the Commission often resulted in the Commission's joint recommendation, which resulted in decisions adopted by the City Council.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Palo Alto desires to recognize the meritorious service of Garth Hall by commending his outstanding public service, as well as the appreciation of the citizens of this community for the services and contributions rendered throughout his position on the Utilities Advisory Commission.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: August 29, 2016

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager