



Draft Copy
Hillcrest Improvement
Association
Lighting Town Hall Meeting
December 2, 2025- 5:30 pm
(Pool Pavilion)

Board Members Present: President, Steve Larson; Treasurer, Cheri Gries; Secretary, Sandy Kaye; Membership Chair, Jeremy Grimm

Joining from the Community: Kenny Roynestad, Ed Jeter, Steve Hayes, Wendy Sticht, Brenda Boyd, Lea Stewart, Ellen and Bob Kirschbaum, Anne Compton, Colleen and Mark Donimari, Mary and Frank Lynott, Vicki Lamb, Nancy and Dick Krause, Vicki Greenfield, Julie and Steve Lindquist, Molly York, Kendra York, Jerry Gries, Jim Kaye, Rob and Dawn Harmon, Becky and Randy Parker, Brent Laizure, Elizabeth D'huart, Catherine and Ted Gates, Dave Dix, Tom Merisola, Betty Silva, Cindy Kerr

Steve Larson called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m.

Steve started the meeting by telling the attendees we are still seeking candidates for the 2026 Board of Directors. We have had volunteers come forward but we are still in need. We are looking to be flexible if we must by combining some positions.

He then introduced Kenny Royenstad.

Kenny said he became involved in the lighting project by helping change lightbulbs. He said our existing solar lights were not filling the bill for illuminating our cul de sacs. He, Ed Jeter and Steve Hays have been evaluating products, getting pricing since March. Their conclusion was Lighting Southwest was the best product for the price.

He said we have options, those being:

1. Do nothing
2. Use low voltage lights that require trenching
3. Line voltage post lighting that requires new wiring
4. Solar lighting

He said that our guest speaker, Thom Petteruti has brought samples of solar lighting. Kenny said that there are pros and cons to all of the options: line voltage has the least maintenance; low voltage can have insular damage; solar while effective on sunny days are not as advertised on cloudy days.

He said our guest has all of the options available for installation.

Kenny then introduced Thom Petteruti from Lighting Southwest. Thom is from Rhode Island and is the third generation in the business, raising the fourth. Thom

said he had never been farther than the US, Canada and Mexico when he embarked on an international tour of lighting shows. He was impressed with the high-end solar lighting he encountered abroad. Thom said he has a close and exclusive relationship with the manufacturer of the sample light bollard he brought with him. He said the manufacturer always takes his calls if there is a problem. The particular bollard he brought has 360 degree solar panels around the bollard gathering energy at any time or sun angle during the day. It will give off light for 30 days without sunlight. The photo cells are vandal resistant. The bollard with the stem solar panel is \$500 more than the one with the solar panel on the top. The light can be adjustable from bright white to warm white light.

There are options for installation. Thom does low voltage lighting with the necessary trenching for wiring, embedding the solar bollards or providing the lighting bollards and letting the installation be done by someone else.

The lights are guaranteed for 5 years. He has a customer who has maintained her lights for 12 years with proper care.

Thom also brought a bar solar light that would nicely illuminate our wall Hillcrest sign.

Pricing depends on lighting bollard and installation, approximately \$1500-\$2300 (Secretary's note: pricing will be updated for accuracy at the Monthly Meeting of December 9th)

Thom said he has done installations removing and replacing his competitor's products because the quality was poor.

We had questions from Lea Stuart, Betty Silva, Ted Gates, Cindy Kerr, Tom Merisola as well as others.

Some of the answers to their questions were:

- We would need 2 lights per cul de sac
- The bollards stay in the ground by pouring a slab of concrete and securely burying them deep enough to maintain stability and be anti-theft
- They need periodic cleaning by wiping the solar panels with Windex to keep them functioning at top performance
- The replacement batteries are \$60-\$80
- Examples of installations are in Queen Creek, a bit far for us
- You can see examples of the low voltage lighting at a Church at NW corner of Happy Valley and Pima Road

Other questions:

- Can we have multiple vendors display lighting on different islands?
- Can we get a matrix of options and pricing?

- Can we get other estimates?
- Can you leave the lights with us to evaluate?

The lights were left with us to evaluate.

We need to discuss this further with more information but this was an excellent turnout and meeting.

Adjourn We adjourned at 6:30 p.m.