

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, January 26, 2015

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hidden Hills was duly held in the Council Chambers at the City Hall, 6165 Spring Valley Road, Hidden Hills, California 91302 on Monday, January 26, 2015 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. Mayor Marv Landon called the meeting to order and presided thereover after leading the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council:	Mayor Marv Landon Council Member Jim Cohen Council Member Steve Freedland Council Member Stuart E. Siegel
Staff:	City Engineer Dirk Lovett Emer. Services Coordinator Chris Sundlee City Manager Cherie L. Paglia
Absent:	Mayor Pro Tem Larry G. Weber

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Freeland and unanimously carried, it was resolved to excuse the absence of Mayor Pro Tem Weber.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the January 26, 2015 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Landon made the following announcements:

This Friday Round Meadow School will celebrate its 50th anniversary (actual anniversary date 2/1); he and Mayor Pro Tem Weber will be attending and presenting a special crystal award on behalf of the City; congratulations to Round Meadow.

Happy Birthday to our Fire Department liaison Maria Grycan on Thursday (2/5), and to Council Member Siegel's granddaughter Zoe, who will be 7 on that same day.

Valentine Musicale tickets will go on sale at the Community Center on Friday (2/6); call the Association for additional information.

AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments at this time.

PRESENTATION

Consideration of Approval of Community Assistance Grant to Round Meadow Elementary School for Additional Funds for Purchase of Hand Held Two-Way Radios for Employees and Self-Expiring Visitor Badges

(This item was addressed after the Public Safety agenda items were completed.)

Jeremy Resnick, Round Meadow Elementary School Principal, addressed the Council:

last month he was at a Council meeting and asked for funding for new radios and an upgrade to their visitor check-in system; the Council was kind enough to approve \$1700 at that time, and to also recommend that the City's Emergency Services Coordinator Chris Sundlee meet with him to look at the type of radios that should be purchased; he did have a very productive meeting with Mr. Sundlee, and now understands the need for purchasing a better radio than the school was originally looking at; he contacted the same vendor that recently sold radios to the City, and was given the same purchase cost per

radio; he forwarded that proposal, which was more than the original \$1700 approved previously, to the City Manager; he is now asking for another grant to cover the additional costs related to the up-graded radios.

The City Manager informed the Council that staff suggested Mr. Resnick ask for an additional \$2000 community assistance grant (easily covered by the budget) which would cover all the additional costs related to the purchase of the better radios, the shipping, and the new visitor check-in system. Council Member Siegel stated that he was very happy Mr. Resnick decided to purchase a better-grade radio than what he originally intended, with the rest of the Council Members agreeing. Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the request from Round Meadow Elementary School for a \$2000 community assistance grant (which along with the previously approved grant in the amount of \$1700 will result in a final \$3700 community assistance grant) for the additional costs in relation to the purchase of emergency service radios and an upgraded visitor check-in system.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Reports - November and December

The following report was provided by Deputy Robert DeSantis:

during the month of November, there were no Part I crimes, no noteworthy incidents, no arrests, no collisions, no DUIs, and 2 false alarms; 17 traffic citations were issued by the Motors, with 12 of those being hazardous, 4 non-hazardous, and 1 parking; the most frequent citations were for stop sign violations; crime in general is up in the City 11.1%; in December, there was one Part I crime, that being a locked vehicle burglary on Scott Robertson; there were no signs of forced entry; when the victim returned from several different stores in Westlake Village and Woodland Hills, he noticed that the third row seat had been taken from his vehicle; there seems to be a market for third row seats from Escalades, and the thefts have been a major problem at The Commons in Calabasas and Westlake Village shopping centers; during the month, there were no arrests, but 21 citations issued, with 17 of those being hazardous and 4 non-hazardous.

In response to Council Member Cohen, Deputy DeSantis explained that a citation for financial responsibility means the driver had no proof of insurance, and this is non-correctable - the person

has to appear and bring the proof. That is different from having no driver's license, which is a correctable citation.

Mayor Landon asked about the 11.1% increase in crime. Deputy DeSantis stated that was comparing year-to-date the number of crimes through November in 2013 (9 Part I crimes) to the number of crimes through November in 2014 (10 Part I crimes).

B. Los Angeles County Fire Department Reports - November and December

Community Services Representative Maria Grycan provided the following report:

in November, there were 10 responses, including 5 medical calls, 1 service call (public assist), 2 good intent calls, 1 fire on Jacob Hamblin (falling tree limb hit electrical wires, setting the pole on fire), and 1 hazardous condition (malfunctioning washing machine resulting in no fire and no damage); during December, there were no fires, 4 medical calls, 4 good intent calls, and 1 hazardous condition (an electrical wiring problem on Jed Smith).

Council Member Freedland pointed out that the service assist call was listed at a Jacob Hamblin address that does not exist. Ms. Grycan stated that was probably a typographical error and she would check into the correct address.

C. Consideration of Purchase of Five (5) Laptop Computers for the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

Emergency Services Coordinator Chris Sundlee presented the following information:

the City currently has seven old laptops, purchased approximately ten years ago, that utilize the Windows XP operating system, which is no longer supported as of April 2014; staff discussed this with the City's IT consultant, who recommended that new laptops be purchased; staff made it clear that there was no need for anything fancy, just basic and reliable laptops that could be used if the ECO was activated for videos, weather forecasts, sending emails, searching the web for resources, etc.

In response to questions from Mayor Landon and Council Member Cohen, staff explained the following:

the seven laptops and one printer (that is still functioning), along with the software and labor, were purchased with a \$19,000 Homeland Security grant after the 9/11/01 attacks; there are no additional grant funds available now; staff believes five laptops are sufficient, one for each of the five different sections of the EOC; there are cheaper laptops available from different retail stores, but staff would prefer to follow the recommendation of the IT consultant, who is suggesting business grade laptops, with a three-year warranty, that would be more reliable for a government agency.

Council Member Siegel stated that he preferred Windows 7, as he felt Windows 8 was more sophisticated and not as user friendly, and that Windows 7 would be updateable for many years. Council Member Freedland whole heartedly agreed. Staff will share this information with the IT consultant and make sure that the new laptops use Windows 7.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Cohen and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to authorize the expenditure of \$4,760 to Axson Engineering, per the proposal dated 1/15/15, for the purchase of five new laptops, including all programming and set-up, for the Emergency Operations Center.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes - January 12, 2015 Special Meeting**
- B. City Council Minutes - January 12, 2015**
- C. Demand List**
- D. Disbursement List - December**
- E. Financial/Treasurer's Report - December**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Cohen and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve items A, B, C, D, and E of the consent calendar as submitted.

MATTERS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

A. Update, Discussion, and Direction to Staff Regarding the Condition of the Property Located at 5546 Jed Smith Road

Council Member Freedland recused himself at this time as his property lies within 500' of the subject property.

The following update was provided by City Engineer Dirk Lovett:

he provided a status report at the last meeting; at that time the property owners did not have a definite schedule, but hoped to begin demolition of the existing house the following week; however, to date, no demolition has taken place; per a discussion today, the owners stated they are still in negotiations with different bidders to conduct the demolition, and hope to begin that demolition within the next couple of weeks; staff has imposed a soft deadline of 2/22/15 for the pulling of the building permit; it is not likely that they will meet that deadline since they would have to have completed the demo and the grading; however, if some reasonable amount of progress was being made, and perhaps the demolition of the house underway, staff could certainly consider an extension of that soft deadline.

Mayor Landon and Council Member Cohen asked what would happen if the soft deadline is not met, to which Mr. Lovett stated the following:

if the deadline is not met, staff can let the building plan check lapse, which would result in the owners having to start all over by submitting new plans and paying new fees; however, that does not result in the demolition of the house; staff will check with the City Attorney to see what other legal remedies might be available if no progress is made in the near future.

The Council asked that this item be placed on the next agenda for another update.

Council Member Freedland rejoined the meeting at this time.

B. Discussion and Approval of a Preliminary Plan for the Possible Use of Measure R Funds for a Valley Circle Interchange Improvement Project

The following information was provided by City Engineer Dirk Lovett:

in 2008, L.A. County voters approved a 1/2 cent sales tax for reducing traffic congestion, called Measure R; \$175 million in Measure R was allocated to the Las Virgenes Malibu

Council of Governments (COG); the COG has the responsibility to further allocate the funds to its member cities for local projects of regional significance; there is not really much opportunity for Hidden Hills to use these funds; Council Member Siegel came up with the idea for Hidden Hills to potentially use Measure R funds for a project at the Valley Circle Interchange (VCI); this intersection, at Long Valley Road and the northbound 101 freeway onramp, is totally outside of Hidden Hills, yet very much affects our City; a cost estimate was completed, and the COG Board approved the allocation of \$1 million for this potential Hidden Hills project; however, the final approval for that money must come from the MTA, which should address the matter in March of this year; the proposed project would include a new traffic signal at Long Valley Road and the northbound 101 freeway onramp, which would provide free access onto the freeway coming down the ramp; the light would remain green for those entering the freeway (except possibly during rush hour when access onto the freeway is controlled) until any vehicle leaving Hidden Hills would trip the newly installed detectors to change the light to green from that direction; an ADA compliant sidewalk would also be added on the north side of the onramp (the Boething side) to provide access to Valley Circle, then easterly on Valley Circle to an existing crosswalk to Ventura Boulevard; if the allocation of funds is approved by the MTA, the project itself would need approval from various agencies and property owners (City of Los Angeles, Caltrans, Boething Treeland); at this time, staff is asking for any comments or suggestions from the Council Members, and approval of the concept so the project can move forward if given approval by the MTA.

A short discussion then occurred regarding the following: what types of projects fit the requirements of Measure R; how this proposed project relieves traffic congestion; connections to public transportation; possible different pedestrian routes; why this particular route was chosen at this time; issues with pedestrian crossings; cooperation/approval from the different agencies/property owners; the possibility of this leading to additional projects in the future if approved and completed. Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Freedland and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the use of Measure R funds, allocated to the City of Hidden Hills by the Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments, if approved by the MTA, for the preliminary design and construction of the Valley Circle Interchange Improvement Project to improve traffic congestion and conflicts at the intersection of Long Valley Road and the northbound 101 freeway onramp.

C. Report from the 1/20/15 Hidden Hills Community Association Board of Directors Meeting

The report was received and filed, showing that a quorum for the annual meeting was not achieved, so the annual meeting and election will be moved to February.

D. Report from the 1/20/15 Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments Meeting

Council Member Siegel discussed the \$175 million in Measure R funds provided to the Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments (COG), and the responsibility of the COG to allocate those funds to its five member cities, which it chose to do based on population, a large part of which resides in the unincorporated county area. He added that this led to minor conflicts that are being worked out by the COG members regarding the amount set aside for each city (with one city already using more than its allocated amount), the amount set aside for the unincorporated area, the possible use of those fund, and how much of this funding will be approved by the MTA in the near future (Measure R is supposed to be spent over a 30-year period, with this COG already having spent close to 70% of the \$175 million in the first seven years). Council Member Siegel pointed out that if Hidden Hills is able to spend \$1 million on the Valley Circle Interchange Improvement Project, that still leaves approximately \$2.9 million that has been allocated to our City, but only for traffic congestion relief projects that have a regional significance.

E. Consideration of a Proposed Ordinance Regarding Filming Requirements - Second Reading

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Freedland and unanimously carried, it was resolved to give second reading to and adopt by title only Ordinance No. 351 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS REGARDING MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS AND AMENDING CHAPTER 9 OF TITLE 2 OF THE HIDDEN HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

Charles Abbott Monthly Report - December

The report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Cohen and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of January 26, 2015 at the hour of 8:18 p.m.



Marv Landon, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager