

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, November 9, 2009

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, November 9, 2009 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. Mayor Steve Freedland called the meeting to order and presided thereover after leading the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council:	Mayor Steve Freedland Mayor Pro Tem Larry Weber Council Member Jim Cohen Council Member Stuart E. Siegel
Staff:	City Engineer Dirk Lovett City Manager Cherie L. Paglia
Absent:	Council Member Monty E. Fisher

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Cohen and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the November 9, 2009 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Freedland made the following announcements:

City Hall, Building and Safety, and the Community Center will all be closed, and there will be no inspections this Wednesday in honor of Veterans Day.

Happy “sweet sixteen” birthday to the City’s videographer, who also happens to be his daughter, this Thursday (11/12).

This Saturday is the 5-city point of distribution (POD) exercise at the Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center; Hidden Hills residents can get free flu shots, both seasonal and the H1N1, in a drive-through format; the exercise will be conducted from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., or until vaccine supplies last.

Don’t forget to send in your ballots to assure a quorum for the Community Association annual meeting on 11/17/09; you will be voting for three Board Members and the Saddle Creek Park project.

The Round Meadow gate will be closed this Wednesday (Veterans Day) from 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for road work for a future slurry seal project.

AUDIENCE

Wes Myers, representing Ashley Construction, Inc. (ACI), showed the Council a map of ACI owned property located outside of the City at the end of Bridle Trail Road. He stated that ACI believed it would be in the best interest of the community if that property were located in Hidden Hills, and he was therefore “offering for annexation the parcel”.

Resident Britt Aaronson addressed the Council, explaining that she and her husband were not opposed to the proposed annexation of the parcel, but wanted to assure that the Council protected

all undeveloped ridgelines within the City, including the ridgeline on this parcel, if it were to be annexed, to the same degree that it is currently protected in the County. Resident Bob Mayer then expressed his and his wife's support of annexation of the property being discussed.

Mayor Freedland explained that this item was not on the agenda, and therefore there was no action to be taken. He assured everyone that if a project was going to be addressed, all the proper notification would be made and everyone would be able to express their comments.

Resident Deborah Vangelos asked if Council meetings might be shown on the Internet, with the Mayor stating that all agendas and minutes were placed on the City's website, but there were currently no plans to web stream the meetings, which are shown live on Cable TV channel 3.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes – October 26, 2009**
- B. Demand List**

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Weber, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve items A and B of the consent calendar as submitted.

MATTERS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- A. Annual Financial Audit – June 30, 2009**

Council Member Siegel stated the following:

The City has auditors that review the financial information and prepare the financial statement at the end of the year; the document provided this year regarding internal controls and compliance raised four points of concern; there was nothing overly serious, but it was pointed out that due to the City's very small staff, it is hard to segregate duties; it was also pointed out that due to new regulations and standards, the independent auditor is not and cannot be part of their client's reporting process or its internal controls, so it is the responsibility of the City management, its governing board, and its audit committee to oversee the financial reporting process; the City does have a City Treasurer, resident Eddie Bauch, who reviews the financial statements monthly, but in addition to that, he

would like to suggest bringing in an independent accounting firm to review the City's financial information, perhaps quarterly; he thought Mr. Bauch might be able to recommend a firm and help determine how that firm might be able to assist the City.

Mayor Freedland and the rest of the Council Members agreed that some type of additional oversight was necessary, and that Mr. Bauch should be asked for a recommendation regarding a possible accounting firm, what any additional oversight should involve, and at what frequency it should be provided. Council Member Cohen had two questions regarding specific entries in the report that staff will investigate.

B. Crown Castle - Update

Mayor Freedland provided the following update:

He and Council Member Cohen recently met with a representative from Crown Castle and that company's consultant to give them a better understanding of what it is the City is looking for and what is expected; it was made clear that everyone in the City would like better coverage, but most would probably be opposed to 50' tall poles, especially when the first proposal had much smaller equipment and much less of it; it is not clear what they will be able to do, but they were given guidelines in relation to the City's issues; they were also told that if they had to change their plans – for example, perhaps going from four carriers to one – the City might not be opposed to helping financially, if it were the right plan; the City is now waiting for Crown Castle to review their options and will set up another meeting at their request.

Council Member Siegel wondered if Crown Castle found the City's most recent telecommunications ordinance to be problematic. Mayor Freedland replied as follows:

It was made clear to Crown Castle the ordinance was updated to comply with existing laws, which they understood, as they deal with that all the time in other cities; Crown Castle was also told that if there was anything specific in the ordinance that they felt would prohibit them from doing a project, that they should let the City know; if that is the case, the City would review that particular section to see if any amendments or changes could be made.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

Consideration of Approval of an Ordinance Regarding Adoption of Telecommunications Regulations – Second Reading

Upon MOTION of Council Member Cohen, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weber and unanimously carried, it was resolved to give second reading to and adopt by title only Ordinance No. 328 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS REVISING REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO THE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES AND AMENDING TITLE 5 OF THE HIDDEN HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Anticipated Litigation:

**Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(3)(C):
Number of Potential Cases: 1**

At this time, City Attorney Roxanne Diaz joined the meeting by telephone. Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Weber, seconded by Council Member Cohen and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn to closed session at 8:01 p.m., at which time Mayor Freedland announced that the Council in closed session would be discussing the item listed above.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Cohen, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried, it was resolved to return to open session at 8:08 p.m., at which time City Attorney Roxanne Diaz announced that the Council in closed session discussed the item listed above, and that no reportable action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weber and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of November 9, 2009 at 8:09 p.m.

Steve Freedland, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager/City Clerk