

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, April 11, 2011

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, April 11, 2011 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. Mayor Jim Cohen called the meeting to order and presided thereover after asking Council Member Marv Landon to lead the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council:

Mayor Jim Cohen
Mayor Pro Tem Stuart E. Siegel
Council Member Steve Freedland
Council Member Marv Landon
Council Member Larry G. Weber

Staff:

City Attorney Roxanne Diaz
Special Counsel Norman Dupont
City Engineer Dirk Lovett
Environmental Services Regional Manager Kevin Powers
City Manager Cherie L. Paglia

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Freedland and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the April 11, 2011 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cohen announced that Passover would begin at sundown on Monday, 4/18, while Easter would be celebrated on Sunday, 4/24. Mayor Pro Tem Siegel stated that he and Council Member Weber both took part in a community hike on the Ahmanson Ranch, sponsored by the HHCA's Parks & Recreation Committee, on Sunday; there were approximately thirty people in attendance, and it was lots of fun.

AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments at this time.

PRESENTATION – CIVIC ARTS PLAZA REGIONAL ART MUSEUM

President and CEO of the Regional Art Museum, Frank Schillo, introduced himself and Albert “Bud” Marley, and then provided information regarding this project, with some of the highlights as follows:

Two years ago a task force was created by the Conejo/Las Virgenes Future Foundation to investigate the need for housing visual arts in this area; there was so much interest, a committee was formed to pursue the project, with Behr Browsers Architects providing free conceptual renderings; it was determined the best location would be at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, which already provides performing arts, creating an arts hub; Agoura Hills, Calabasas, and Westlake Village have said they would participate, although no one has been asked for money yet; the Thousand Oaks City Council has given free land, free parking, and use of an office at the City Hall; hopefully Hidden Hills and its residents would consider participating and lending support; the design shows four floors with over 30,000 square feet; they are looking for donations for a permanent collection, but with the proper security and temperature control, international art could be rotated through the museum, along with shows for local artists; the campaign for fund raising is just now beginning, with a goal of \$1.5 million for the rest of this year to get started.

In response to Council Member Landon, Mr. Schillo said they expect the cost to be around \$30 million (\$1000/square foot), with hopefully a 2016 groundbreaking, depending on the funding. Mayor Cohen asked if this would be a membership museum. Mr. Schillo explained there is an application for membership for as little as \$50 (\$35 for seniors), which if submitted by 12/31/11, will result in a charter membership including the name listed in the lobby. He added that if someone is a member, that person would be eligible to show paintings.

Mayor Cohen thanked Mr. Schillo, and informed everyone that information packets would be available at City Hall.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes – March 28, 2011**
- B. Demand List**

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

MATTERS FROM STAFF

- A. Consideration of Approval of Malibu Creek Bacteria TMDL Coordinated Monitoring Plan Implementation Agreement**

Environmental Compliance Coordinator Kevin Powers provided the following staff report:

Staff is recommending approval of this agreement to continue, with the other area cities, bacterial water quality monitoring in the Malibu Creek Watershed; the proposed agreement just renews the previous agreement with the other area cities that has expired after three years; it will continue bacterial sampling as required by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board; the City's cost would be \$396.40 for the 2011-12 fiscal year, and \$399.92 for the 2012-13 fiscal year.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, Mr. Powers explained the following:

There is support from other agencies that conduct monitoring; everyone works as a watershed group, meeting monthly; the bacterial problem is still being investigated, as there are uncertainties as to the source; this proposed plan is required, but it is giving cities background information regarding the hot spots from the mountains to the beaches.

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the new and proposed Malibu Creek Bacteria TMDL Coordinated Monitoring Plan Implementation Agreement.

B. Consideration of Approval to Authorize City Manager to Cancel Membership in the Los Angeles Stormwater Quality Partnership (LASQP)

The following information was provided by the City Manager:

The City joined LASQP in 2008, hoping that it would present an opportunity to work with a group of cities to increase cooperation and communication with the Regional Water Quality Control Board in pursuing better water quality; the cost to Hidden Hills is approximately \$30,000/year, which covers the consultant and expenses; this amount is the same being paid by much larger cities, and staff has not seen much difference in the relationship with the Board; Calabasas has already left the group, with Agoura Hills and Westlake Village considering withdrawal.

Mayor Cohen thought the public relations effort was not providing much in the way of results for the cost, with Council Member Weber agreeing that the City should leave the group. In response to Council Member Weber, the City Manager stated that per the Memorandum of Understanding, the City had to provide notification 60 days before the end of the fiscal year, but would still be obligated to continue paying its portion of the group costs through June 30, 2011. Upon MOTION of Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Freedland and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the City Manager to submit a letter to LASQP, withdrawing the City's membership from the group.

C. Consideration of Appointment of Three Public Safety Commissioners

The City Manager presented the following staff report:

Each of the five Public Safety Commissioners serves a two year term, on a rotating basis, resulting in three seats being up for reappointment at this time; the openings were posted and noticed, with the three incumbents being the only ones to apply for the Commission seats; staff would recommend the reappointment of those three incumbents.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Siegel and unanimously carried, it was resolved to reappoint Mark Deitch, Jim Doran, and Gabe Nussbaum to the Public Safety Commission, each to serve a two year term effective May 1, 2011 through April 30, 2013.

Mayor Cohen, on behalf of the entire Council, expressed gratitude to the three incumbents who have been serving on the Commission and volunteered to continue to serve the City in that capacity.

D. Round Meadow/Long Valley Road Utility Undergrounding Project - Update

City Engineer Dirk Lovett informed the Council that, weather permitting, the slurry seal of the roads affected by the undergrounding project would take place next Tuesday and Wednesday (4/19-20), and that would complete the project.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

**Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a): Number of Cases –
1**

Natural Resources Defense Council and Santa Monica Baykeeper v. County of Los Angeles, et. al., U.S. District Court for the Central District of California (Western Division) Case No. CV 08-01467 AHM (PLAx)

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Siegel and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn to closed session at 7:49 p.m., at which time

Mayor Cohen announced that the Council in closed session would be discussing the item listed above.

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried, it was resolved to return to open session at 8:30 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 Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of April 11, 2011 at 8:31 p.m.

Jim Cohen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager/City Clerk