

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, April 25, 2005

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 25, 2005 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. Mayor Ronald Berg called the meeting to order and presided thereover after asking resident Jill Rosenberg to lead the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council:

Mayor Ronald S. Berg
Mayor Pro Tem Jim Cohen
Council Member Monty Fisher
Council Member Stuart E. Siegel
Council Member Steve Freedland

Staff:

City Attorney Larry Wiener
City Engineer Dirk Lovett
City Manager Cherie L. Paglia

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Fisher and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the April 25, 2005 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Berg announced that the City scheduled a bulky item collection day for this coming Saturday, and asked staff to provide additional information. City Engineer Dirk Lovett stated the following:

The collection day is Saturday, April 30th; residents need to call their haulers before Thursday, 4/28, if they have any items to be picked up; residents can call any time during the year to have bulky items picked up, but there is normally a cost; this is the one time during the year that the pick-up is done at no charge; there is a flyer available that lists both the items that are acceptable for pick-up and those that are not; call City Hall for a copy of the flyer, or for additional information.

Mayor Berg also announced that there would be a Fine Arts Festival in Calabasas on Saturday and Sunday, April 30th and May 1st, adjacent to The Commons on Park Sorrento.

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen wanted to congratulate and acknowledge the efforts of the various jurisdictions and Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky in acquiring the Soka University property, which should be quite pristine and a place for our residents to visit in the future.

AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Approval of Community Assistance Application from Calabasas High School PFC for Rehabilitation of Calabasas High School Library and Purchase of Books

Mayor Berg reminded everyone that the Council earlier in the year approved a grant for the Calabasas library, with \$1000 designated for the purchase of books and \$600 for the rehabilitation of the physical facility. At that time, resident Jill Rosenberg was encouraged to return to the Council toward the end of the fiscal year to see if there were any remaining grant funds in the City's budget.

Ms. Rosenberg was in attendance and addressed the Council as follows:

The Calabasas library renovation has been completed, all with contributions from residents of Hidden Hills and Calabasas; there are before and after pictures; the change is pretty incredible, and she would like to invite everyone to come and visit; they are, however, short funds on the renovation and they would like to buy more books; for State schools in 2000-2001, the budget provided \$25.43 per student for books; when this school year started, many of the students did not have books for six weeks, as the school only received \$0.88 per student for books for the year; the librarian provided to her a list of books and computer programs that the library would still like to have; she is requesting \$1,000 for books (the goal is \$20,000 total) and \$1,000 for the renovation.

In response to Mayor Berg, the City Manager stated that the City had \$2,400 remaining in its budget for community assistance grants.

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen asked how close they were to the goal of \$100,000, and if Ms. Rosenberg would prefer the money for the renovation or for books. Ms. Rosenberg wished to split the grant between the two if that was acceptable to the Council. She added that they had raised \$65,000 for the renovation so were \$5,000 shy there, and had raised \$5,000 of the \$20,000 they wanted for books.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Fisher and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve a Community Assistance Grant in the amount of \$2,000 to the Calabasas High School PFC for the library, with \$1,000 to be used specifically for the purchase of books, and the other \$1,000 to be used for renovation of the facilities.

Ms. Rosenberg invited the Council to a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Mayors of the local cities and other dignitaries at 5:00 p.m. on May 12th, for which an invitation will be sent shortly.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Los Angeles County Fire Department Report - March

Community Services Representative Maria Grycan provided the following report:

It was a relatively quiet month, with no EMS calls; there were two false alarm/good intent calls and one snake removal; 440 hydrants were inspected, which could be in either Hidden Hills or Calabasas; there were also three plan checks and two Fire Prevention Bureau inspections.

Mayor Berg saw a recent article regarding the lack of air tankers for Fire Department response, and wondered how that would impact our City. Ms. Grycan replied as follows:

This should not affect Hidden Hills; the L.A. County Fire Department has its own helicopters and also mutual aid agreements with other agencies; they can then also go to the State and Federal governments if necessary; they generally get all the air support they need.

Ms. Grycan also made the following announcement:

From noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, 5/15, the Fire Department will be hosting a Fire Service Day at Juan Bautista DeAnza Park in Calabasas at the corner of Lost Hills and Las Virgenes Roads; there will be many displays and demonstrations, including engines, paramedic squads, hazardous materials task force, urban search & rescue, arson and search dogs, helicopter and water drop, vehicle extrication, firefighting, etc.; the Fire Department will be joined by the Lost Hills Sheriff Station personnel, the California Highway Patrol, Animal Care & Control, and Arson Watch; the local cities have been invited to attend and share information regarding their emergency response teams; she has talked to Emergency Services Director Jim Doran about this; it will be a great day for youngsters; she will leave flyers here at City Hall.

At the direction of Mayor Berg, information regarding the Fire Service Day will be placed on cable TV channel 3.

B. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Report - March

Lost Hills Station Captain Tom Martin presented the following report:

There was one crime during the month of March which was listed as a grand theft auto, although it was only an attempt, in the 5800 block of Round Meadow Road; between 3/17-18, someone broke into a Hummer by cutting the plastic rear window and attempted to disable the ignition; they were unsuccessful, but there was some damage to the ignition

switch; there were also seven false alarms, and one traffic collision at the corner of Jed Smith and Kit Carson around 6:30 p.m. on 3/18; it was a rainy day and the young man was driving too fast and could not stop at the stop sign, skidding into the fire hydrant poles.

Mayor Berg pointed out that Deputy Scott T. Fuquay and Sergeant Craig M. Barnes were retiring from the Sheriff's Department, and presented certificates for them to Captain Martin for their service to the Sheriff's Department and this community.

Council Member Siegel had several questions on the recent car theft from a garage on Annie Oakley, which were answered by Captain Martin as follows:

Someone did steal a vehicle from the garage after entering the house and taking a shower in the maid's room; the vehicle was stopped and recovered in the San Luis Obispo area, at which time the suspect was arrested for grand theft auto; he claims he found the car in a lot with the keys in it and decided to take it for a ride; he has not been charged with burglary as they are still attempting to place the suspect in the house; DNA evidence was removed from the shower and is being analyzed at a private lab; there was no forced entry to the house; as far as they know, the suspect is not someone known to the homeowner.

C. Emergency Antenna At/Near Round Meadow Gatehouse

Mayor Berg stated that the concrete base has hardened, with the flagpole scheduled to be raised Tuesday, which will hopefully complete the project. The City Manager pointed out that a pull rope only, not the conduit that had been expected, had been installed from the gatehouse crawl space up into the gatehouse and to the top of the desk. City Engineer Dirk Lovett added that the wire is low voltage and does not legally require conduit, and although that would have been better, it will probably be acceptable for the installation of the wiring by Nida.

Mayor Berg thanked everyone who helped with this project, especially Kim Gagnier, who devoted a great deal of time and really made an effort to assure that the project was completed.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes – April 11, 2005**
- B. Demand List**
- C. Disbursement List – March**
- D. Financial/Treasurer’s Report – March**
- E. Annual Financial Report of the Transportation Development Act (TDA) Fund for the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2004 and 2003**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Fisher 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

Report from 4/19/05 Hidden Hills Community Association Board of Directors Meeting

Mayor Berg reported the following:

He attended the last Association Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday; there was concern expressed for the condition of the trails on Ahmanson, which everyone wanted to see repaired; there appears to be quite a bit of damage from the heavy rains; Chief Ranger Walt Young will attend the next City Council meeting; staff will email the Board of Directors, the Equestrian Services Committee Chairman, and the Hidden Hills Horsemen to invite them to attend that meeting; anyone else who wishes to discuss the trails or anything else on the Ranch is also welcome.

The City Manager informed the Council that the Ahmanson property was recently assessed by FEMA for flood/water damage, and now that the assessment has been completed, Chief Ranger Young is hoping that a budget will be approved within thirty days and money forwarded for the repairs to the trails, which are actually considered fire roads.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

Lasher Development – Update

City Engineer Dirk Lovett presented the following update:

Just before the last Council meeting staff received a revised version of the screen check draft EIR, which was not complete; the consultant then provided additional sections, and

those are now being reviewed; it is apparent that the document is still not complete and acceptable, so further comments will be forwarded to the consultant for another revision; on a very positive note, he and the Gonens met with representatives of L.A. County Flood Control in Alhambra; they discussed the possible transfer of the storm drain system for this project to the County; all indications are that the County will take over the maintenance of the storm drain system, including any devices installed per NPDES requirements, as long as the developers meet the County standards.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Cohen and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of April 25, 2005 at 7:51 p.m.

Ronald S. Berg, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager/City Clerk