

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, October 28, 2013

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, October 28, 2013 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 Marv Landon
Council Member Jim Cohen
Council Member Stuart E. Siegel
Council Member Larry G. Weber

Staff:

Building Official Greg Robinson
City Engineer Dirk Lovett
City Manager Cherie L. Paglia

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the October 28, 2013 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Freedland made the following announcements:

Congratulations to the Community Association and the Parks & Recreation Committee for a very successful Halloween party yesterday.

Halloween is this Thursday (10/31); the Community Association has changed some of the gate entry rules for the night; please drive safely as there are hundreds of children trick-or-treating; be especially careful in the area of Long Valley/Round Meadow/Wingfield, which is one of the most congested areas; in relation to golf carts, they must be licensed and registered to be on the road; in addition, the driver must also be licensed; any vehicle code violations could lead to citation, arrest, and/or storage/impoundment of the golf cart.

Happy birthday to Council Member Siegel's wife Peggi on 10/31.

Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, 11/3; don't forget to set your clocks back one hour.

On Monday, 11/4, at 6:00 p.m. here at City Hall, there will be a public workshop to consider the City's 2013-2021 draft housing element.

Tuesday, 11/5, is election day; City Hall will serve as the polling place for residents; however, for the special election on 11/19, City Hall will not be a polling place, so check your sample ballots to find your polling place.

City Hall, the Community Center, and Building & Safety will all be closed and there will be no inspections on Monday, 11/11, in honor of Veterans' Day.

Happy birthday to Council Member Cohen (11/11) and to my daughter Kelsey Freedland (11/12).

AUDIENCE

Residents Jay Ritt and Shawn Antin addressed the Council, asking for the City to submit the necessary information and take whatever action is required to enable the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to approve a revision to the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), changing the flood zone designation for their two properties, as well as an additional twelve properties in the City. Resident Bret Katz expressed his support for their request.

Mayor Freedland explained that the Council could not discuss this request or take any action at this time, but directed staff, once Mr. Ritt and Mr. Antin submit paperwork supporting their request to the City Manager, to research the matter based on the City's legal, financial/fiduciary, engineering, etc. responsibilities, if any, and then place the item on a future agenda for discussion.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Los Angeles County Fire Department Reports - July, August, September

Community Services Representative Maria Grycan presented the following report:

In July there were no fires but 11 responses, including 4 snake removals; again, there were 11 responses in August, with one of those being a vehicle fire resulting from a traffic accident outside the Round Meadow gate; a jeep coming out of the gate clipped approximately four other vehicles coming into the gate, crashed into a container on the school grounds, and burst into flames; this caused \$30,000 worth of damage to children's equipment, but not to the school building itself; there were no serious injuries, but two people, including the driver of the jeep, were transported to the hospital for further observation; during August there were also 3 Fire Prevention Bureau inspections, and 3 plan checks; 21 responses occurred in September, including 8 medical and 8 service calls, 7 of which were snake removals; Annie Oakley Road experienced a downed power line, which was reported to SCE; on 9/17, an animal rescue took place; a large deer caught its antlers in a wrought iron fence, which had to be cut by the firefighters to free the deer; she is still working to get more accurate numbers for brush inspections, as Fire Station 68 lumps all inspections for Hidden Hills, Calabasas, and the unincorporated area together; before, there were 19 properties in Hidden Hills listed as not in compliance, and she will try to determine which of those have been referred to the brush clearance unit; unless she specifically asks, she is not aware of what compliance stage these properties might be in with County Agriculture, but she will hopefully have that information for the next meeting; CERT training is going well, with only two classes remaining (11/7 and 11/14).

Mayor Freedland again pointed out that these free CERT classes are very informational and practical, providing valuable knowledge to help residents take care of their families during an emergency, and he would highly recommend that all residents take the classes.

B. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Reports - July, August, September

The following report was provided by Lt. Matt Squire:

In July, there were two Part I crimes; however, Mr. Ron Snyder was arrested on 7/14/13, after which Part I crimes were eliminated in the City; Mr. Snyder is still in custody at the North County Correctional facility on \$415,000 bail; he is due back in court on 11/19/13; the Deputies that handled his arrest will be commended for using restraint, as Mr. Snyder was armed at the time of arrest and basically had a hostage; there were no traffic collisions during the month; 27 citations were issued, with 23 of those being hazardous and 4 non-hazardous; there were no Part I crimes in August, but some arrests were made in relation to DUI injury and property damage collisions; 35 citations were issued, with 27 of those being hazardous, 6 non-hazardous, and 1 parking; in September 34 citations were issued, including 26 hazardous, 4 non-hazardous, and 4 parking; there were no Part I crimes and no traffic collisions.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes - October 14, 2013**
- B. Demand List**
- C. Financial/Treasurer's Report - August**
- D. Disbursement List - August**
- E. Financial/Treasurer's Report - September**
- F. Disbursement List - September**

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

MATTERS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

- A. Report from the 10/15/13 Hidden Hills Community Association Board of Directors Meeting**

Community Association Board Member and City liaison Bret Katz presented the following report:

The Board Members were pleased to have some dignitaries at the meeting - Council Members Stuart Siegel, Larry Weber, and Jimmy Cohen, as well as the City Manager - who presented a plaque on behalf of the City to Association Manager Shannon Moore in

honor of her 20 years of service; Board President Mitch Jacobs and Board Member Rob Raznick also presented Ms. Moore with a plaque from the Board; they spent quite a bit of time discussing Halloween after which it was decided to 1) hire extra roving guards, 2) change the call down policy (if a guest is not on the list by 5:00 p.m., there will be no calls to the residence and no call downs accepted after that time, although guests can be added via computer), 3) provide extra lighting in the Wingfield area, and 4) ask the City for additional Sheriff patrol; the Board approved a revamping of all the cameras so guards will be able to monitor the Community Center and all three of the gates from each of their positions, as well as see faces when necessary due to the higher resolution of the cameras; term limits were discussed; the kids' Halloween party was one of the largest with over 250 youngsters, and he would like to thank everyone for making it such a success.

Mayor Freedland pointed out that the City would be contracting for two motorcycle officers and two one-man cars for Halloween night, with Mr. Katz expressing the Association's appreciation for the City's prompt response and extra support.

In response to Council Member Weber, Mr. Katz stated he did not know the cost of the extra lighting for Halloween, but thought it was a good idea due to safety concerns. The City Manager pointed out that she gave to the Association the name of the company that provides the movable lights on generators that the City uses for the Fiesta.

Council Member Siegel asked if there was license plate recognition in relation to the new cameras, to which Mr. Katz replied as follows:

the license plate cameras are being replaced with license plate recognition cameras; they hope to tie those into the gate system so they can search by license plate and see on the tapes when a vehicle with that plate actually went through a gate; they will track guests, not residents; they also hope to have the system tie all of the gates together, as they are not tied together now.

B. Consideration of a Proposed Resolution to Support the Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Mayor Freedland introduced the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD) Board President and Hidden Hills resident Charles Caspary, and LVMWD General Manager Dave Pedersen. Mr. Pedersen addressed the Council, providing background information on what he felt was probably the most important water issue now facing the state and especially Southern California and this area, since we receive 100% of our water supply from the state water project through the Metropolitan Water District. The LVMWD is asking all of the cities in its service area to support, via resolution, the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, which is a regulatory process to repair and restore the Delta. Mr. Pedersen explained that there are opposing points of view on this process, and that Northern California is afraid that Southern California is trying to take more water from them, but that is not the case - the goal is to try to improve reliability and to save a lot of the water that is normally lost to the sea.

Mr. Pedersen provided the following additional information in response to questions asked by the Council Members:

there are no construction plans or an actual project at this time, as this is just part of the Environmental Impact Report/Statement that is looking at at least fifteen alternatives, one of which would be no project at all; the estimate for the entire project is \$25 billion; about \$1 billion for the public benefit portion would be funded by the state water bond proposed for the 2014 ballot; it is anticipated that \$24 billion would be paid by users of the water conveyed through the system, on both the federal and state levels, through water rates; it is estimated that rates would increase approximately \$7 - \$8 per household per month over a ten year period; a lot of the users are large agricultural users in the central valley; the LVMWD is asking for support at this time because the decision makers (the heads of certain federal and state agencies) are looking at the level of support, and the public opinion and concerns expressed by those mostly affected; since this area is 100% dependent on this water, we have a lot at stake and are hoping to encourage those in charge to make a decision to move this process forward; then once the EIR is publicly released, that is the time that individuals and agencies can comment more specifically on the different alternatives; it seems that there is not widespread support for doing nothing, and what is starting to emerge as the preferred alternative is a dual conveyance system with two tunnels passing through the Delta; economists are looking at the alternatives, to see what investment is going to yield the most economic value;

building the smaller conveyance systems may not provide that economic value; the final decision will be made, after the EIR is completed, by three individuals - the heads of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the National Marine Fisheries Service; but even if approved, the funding has to be available; there are a lot of interested groups, and everybody who uses the water would have to pay their fair share.

As there was no further discussion, upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adopt by title only Resolution No. 863 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS IN SUPPORT OF THE BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN, RELIABLE WATER SUPPLIES AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

A. Calabasas Library Commission Report

The following report was provided by the City of Hidden Hills' Member of the Calabasas Library Commission, Britt Aaronson:

she wanted to thank the Council for giving her the opportunity to serve in this capacity and represent both cities; she previously served as a library commissioner when she lived in Calabasas, until she moved to Hidden Hills; this is a fabulous three party agreement (City of Hidden Hills, City of Calabasas, Las Virgenes Unified School District) and an amazing way to use the annual library funds that Hidden Hills will now receive since leaving the County Library System; at the first meeting she attended, the Commission approved the use of one-half of those funds for an e-book platform, which will be implemented with the help of several companies that provide this service; she would like to encourage Hidden Hills residents to get a library card and make use of all the services that can be very helpful to students, reading groups, seniors, etc.; the next Commission meeting is on February 10th, after which she will return to the Council with a report.

Mayor Freedland wondered if the recent loss of the technology expert at LVUSD was going to have any effect on the implementation of the three party agreement, which led to several related questions and comments by Council Member Siegel. Ms. Aaronson pointed out that Round Meadow School also just lost its technology person due to budget constraints, and she would

look into how these changes might affect the provision of the e-book system, although she did not believe it would be a problem. Ms. Aaronson and the City Manager explained that the LVUSD would make the decisions on which e-books (and how many of each they wanted) would be purchased with the District's half of the money, but then the Calabasas librarian would be in charge of ordering those books, which are provided by the three companies (3M, Recorded Books, and Gale) that offer the e-books/platform, making those e-books available to library card holders online (it is almost like ordering online from I-tunes).

Ms. Aaronson added the following information in response to Council Member questions:

the 3M platform costs \$3000/year, plus a \$1000 fee for the first year acquisition and catalog training; the Commission recommended a minimum of \$50,000 to get an extensive catalog of e-books and maintain popular titles (from 3M), \$15,000 for Recorded Books (audiobooks plus additional e-books), and \$50,000 for reference e-material (Gale), for a total of \$115,000 (of the expected \$129,000 from Hidden Hills); she did not believe the school could require the students to read e-books, as all of them might not have an e-reader, but they want to make the e-books available; the e-books cannot be cancelled, but you can choose not to renew them, based on evaluations of how many e-books are being "checked out" and read; the Calabasas librarians are working very closely with the LVUSD personnel; some of the e-books are already available for check out if you have the software and a library card; she will write an article for the City's newsletter, pointing out that they can easily get a Calabasas library card (Mayor Freedland pointed out that Hidden Hills residents will be treated the same as Calabasas residents regarding the use of the library) to use these wonderful services that are available and when they will all be available; the City is now helping to finance this great facility.

Mayor Freedland and the Council thanked Ms. Aaronson for her willingness to represent Hidden Hills on the Calabasas Library Commission, and her commitment to promoting the library and its services to our residents.

B. Consideration of Proposed Ordinance Regarding Adoption of Revised Building Codes - First Reading

Building Official Greg Robinson informed the Council of the following:

every three years the California Building Standards Commission publishes the California Building Standards Code; this coincides with the updates of the model codes on which the California Building Standards Code is based; Hidden Hills has previously adopted amendments to the codes, such as those relating to pool fencing, roofing materials, foundations, and grading; staff is proposing that we maintain those amendments in the new codes; also, the administrative provisions have been modified to ensure the building codes are consistent in their enforcement, so each code has the same administrative code; staff would recommend that the Council introduce and give first reading by title only to the proposed ordinance, and direct staff to schedule a public hearing.

The City Manager pointed out that the proposed ordinance does not include the fire code, since the County has not adopted this code yet; once the County adopts it, staff will bring an ordinance to the Council to adopt that code by reference.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Cohen, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried, it was resolved to introduce and give first reading by title only to an Ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS ADOPTING BY REFERENCE PART 2 OF TITLE 24 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, COMPRISING THE 2013 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE; PART 2.5 OF TITLE 24 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, COMPRISING THE 2013 CALIFORNIA RESIDENTIAL CODE; PART 3 OF TITLE 24 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, COMPRISING THE 2013 CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE; PART 4 OF TITLE 24 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, COMPRISING THE 2013 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE; PART 5 OF TITLE 24 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, COMPRISING THE 2013 CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE; PART 11 OF TITLE 24 OF THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, COMPRISING THE 2013 CALIFORNIA GREEN BUILDING STANDARDS CODE; THE 2012 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE AND AMENDING TITLE 5 OF THE HIDDEN HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE, and further resolved to direct staff to advertise

and schedule, as required per law, a public hearing regarding the adoption of the Ordinance for Monday, November 25, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

C. Charles Abbott Monthly Report - September

The report was received and filed.

D. Consideration of Cancellation of November 11, 2013 (Veterans' Day) and December 23, 2013 (Winter Holidays) City Council Meetings

Upon MOTION of Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried, it was resolved to cancel both the November 11, 2013 (Veterans' Day) and December 23, 2013 (winter holiday) City Council meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of October 28, 2013 at 8:47 p.m.

Steve Freedland, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager/City Clerk