

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, January 13, 2014

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 13, 2014 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. Mayor Steve Freedland called the meeting to order and presided thereover after asking new Eagle Scout Alexander DeJesse to lead 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 Larry G. Weber
Staff:	City Attorney Roxanne Diaz City Engineer Dirk Lovett City Manager Cherie L. Paglia
Absent:	Council Member Stuart E. Siegel

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Council Member Cohen, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the January 13, 2014 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Freedland made the following announcements:

Happy birthday to Mayor Pro Tem Marv Landon on 1/19, and a belated happy birthday to Council Member Larry Weber's daughter Aubrey on 1/10.

City Hall, the Community Center, and Building & Safety will be closed and there will be no inspections on Monday, 1/20, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Happy anniversary to Council Member Jimmy Cohen and his wife Joanne on 1/23.

AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments at this time.

PRESENTATION

To Alexander DeJesse for Achievement of Eagle Scout

Mayor Freedland introduced Alexander DeJesse, and asked him to provide a little information on his Eagle project.

Mr. DeJesse, who is going to school at the University of Arizona, explained that with the help of over forty people from his Troop 22, over 300 collaborative man-hours in a little over two weeks, and a garage sale fundraiser at the Feldman's, he led and completed the renovation of the teachers' patio at A.E. Wright Middle School. Mayor Freedland, on behalf of the Council, presented a certificate to Mr. DeJesse, congratulating him for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, a very big accomplishment, as less than 4% of Boy Scouts reach the Eagle Scout level.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes - December 9, 2013**
- B. City Council Minutes - December 23, 2013**
- C. Demand List**
- D. Disbursement List - November**
- E. Financial/Treasurer's Report - November**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Cohen, seconded by Council Member Weber 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

Discussion, Update and Direction to Staff Regarding the Proposed Annexation of Craftsman's Corner by the City of Calabasas

The following staff report was provided by City Attorney Roxanne Diaz:

there was a recent newspaper article regarding this proposed annexation by the City of Calabasas; as a first step, the Calabasas City Council gave formal direction to its staff to begin the annexation process, which should take around two to two and one-half years; Hidden Hills becomes a part of this process because the area to be annexed is within the Hidden Hills' sphere of influence (SOI), and also includes two small areas that Calabasas does not wish to annex; LAFCO, the agency that will have to approve the annexation, does not approve of leaving small unincorporated islands of County property when an annexation occurs, so either Calabasas or Hidden Hills will have to annex those two areas; Calabasas is proposing that they pay for all of the costs for Hidden Hills to annex those two areas, including attorney costs, staff costs, and LAFCO related annexation costs; she recently spoke to the Calabasas City Attorney, confirming his understanding that Calabasas would indeed pay for these costs, and proposing that the first step is the drafting and adoption of a reimbursement agreement between the two cities that defines the scope of what costs will be covered; following the adoption of a reimbursement agreement, the next step is to work with the City's ad hoc committee and Calabasas regarding a tax sharing agreement.

In response to Mayor Freedland, Attorney Diaz said this agreement, which is just the second step in the process after the reimbursement agreement, could be called an MOU, and unless the Council objects, she will work with the Calabasas City Attorney to draft the reimbursement

agreement, which would then be brought to the Councils of each City for approval. Mayor Freedland said that since Hidden Hills was already incurring costs related to this annexation, the faster the agreement can be completed, the better.

Council Member Cohen wondered if the two agreements could be done at the same time. Mayor Freedland said he asked staff that same question, but was convinced that since Hidden Hills is already incurring expenses, and it could take some weeks to get a draft agreement ready and then approved by both cities, it made more sense to get the reimbursement agreement done as soon as possible. He added that he and Council Member Siegel (the ad hoc committee) have been negotiating with representatives from Calabasas, so they do have some idea of what might be acceptable, and of course, would bring any proposals back to the Council for approval. Attorney Diaz pointed out that the tax sharing agreement would need to be submitted to LAFCO by Calabasas, along with the entire annexation package of materials, and that will happen more toward the end of the process.

Attorney Diaz assured Council Member Cohen that approving a reimbursement agreement does not approve the annexation, with the City Manager adding that if for some reason the annexation would not occur, the reimbursement agreement would still assure the payment of expenses incurred up to that point. In response to Mayor Freedland, Attorney Diaz said in most cases with a reimbursement agreement, an upfront deposit is made, which is billed against until depleted, at which time additional funds are added to the deposit if necessary.

Mayor Freedland asked about the ownership of the two areas that Calabasas is proposing be annexed into Hidden Hills. The City Manager stated that the "finger" property is owned by Mike Ashley, while the other area consists of three properties at the end of Oakfield Road, which for some reason were not included in Hidden Hills when the City incorporated (they remain in

unincorporated County and have to obtain permits from the County when doing any work), but do belong to the Community Association, as they are accessed through the Long Valley gate.

As there was no further discussion, the City Attorney was directed to work with the Calabasas City Attorney to prepare a draft reimbursement agreement for future consideration independently by the City Councils of the City of Hidden Hills and the City of Calabasas.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL:

**Potential Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4):
Number of Cases: 2**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Weber, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn to closed session at 7:45 p.m., at which time City Attorney Roxanne Diaz announced that in closed session the Council would be discussing the items listed above.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Cohen, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried, it was resolved to return to open session at 8:07 p.m., at which time City Attorney Diaz announced that the Council in closed session discussed the items 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 Weber, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of January 13, 2014 at 8:08 p.m.



Steve Freedland, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager/City Clerk