

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, March 10, 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, March 10, 2014 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:

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 March 10, 2014 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Freedland made the following announcements:

Happy Birthday, today, to Brian Cohen, Council Member Cohen's son.

The next City Council meeting will be held on Monday, 3/24, as regularly scheduled; that meeting will be adjourned to Monday, 3/31, at which time the Council will reorganize.

Association Board Member Bret Katz announced that there would be a Parks & Recreation Committee meeting on Tuesday, 3/11.

AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments at this time.

PRESENTATIONS

A. To Samantha Steinberg for Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award

As the Steinbergs had not yet arrived, the Council chose to address Item B at this time.

B. Poison Free Santa Monica Mountains Inter-City Coordinated Campaign

Joel and Kian Schulman, from Poison Free Malibu and The Malibu Agricultural Society, addressed the Council regarding the dangers of using anticoagulant rodenticides, poisons that kill not only the targeted species (rats, mice, gophers) but also non-targeted species, such as hawks, owls, bobcats, coyotes, mountain lions, and others that eat the rodents. Mr. and Mrs. Schulman stressed the importance of education and suggested alternatives. They also asked the Council to adopt a resolution opposing the sale, purchase, and use of the rodenticides in the City, which they have already obtained from the cities of Malibu, Calabasas, and Agoura Hills.

The Council Members had some questions, which lead to a very informative dialogue, during which Council Member Siegel asked the City Manager to report on her discussion on this topic with SMMC Chief Ranger Walt Young. She provided the following information as stated by

Mr. Young: the National Park Service (NPS) has done some studies on this issue which are available to anyone; the NPA is very concerned and believes this is a serious problem that they are trying to address; poisons are working their way up the food chain, resulting in higher predator mortality rates.

At the end of the discussion, Mayor Freedland, with the concurrence of the other Council Members, directed staff to prepare a resolution appropriate to Hidden Hills, to be placed on the next agenda for consideration. Staff will also obtain one of the flyers from Mr. and Mrs. Schulman to be placed in a future City newsletter.

As the Steinbergs were now in attendance, the Council returned to item A.

A. To Samantha Steinberg for Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award

Mayor Freedland asked Samantha Steinberg to tell everyone about her project. Ms. Steinberg stated that she informed the public and raised awareness of the need for pet food to be provided by food pantries. She added that most do not have pet food to offer, yet many people who need help often have pets that also need to be fed.

Mayor Freedland then presented to Ms. Steinberg, on behalf of the entire Council, a City certificate that read as follows: SAMANTHA STEINBERG - AS HAVING EARNED THE HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POSSIBLE FOR A GIRL SCOUT - THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD.

Council Member Siegel suggested that Ms. Steinberg share information from the presentation she just heard about rodenticides with others in her organization, as that might make a good project for someone in the future.

PUBLIC HEARING

**Minor Accommodation
24501 Deep Well Road
Renovation**

City Engineer Dirk Lovett provided the following staff report:

this is an application for an addition to an existing single family nonconforming building that encroaches into the side yard setback; there is a little jog in the property line that is the issue; without that jog, the house would be outside of the setback; but because of the jog, the house is approximately 15' into the setback; the applicant wants to do a remodel, none of which will encroach any further into the existing setback, and then additions (shown in gray on the plans) that will be outside of the setbacks; there will be additional square footage, but no additional square footage in the setback; so the applicant is requesting a minor accommodation to alter the exterior of the house (walls, texture, gables); notices were sent to all property owners within a 300' radius of the subject property, and posted at City Hall, the Community Center, and two other public locations in the City; no comments have been received to date; the proposed improvements in the side yard setback, as stated, include new decorative roof gables and new wall siding; the applicant's argument in favor of this request is that the existing residence and the proposed improvements in the setbacks are in conformance with the neighborhood characteristics and therefore will have no material adverse impact on the public welfare or adjacent property; pursuant to the Hidden Hills Municipal Code, the City Council may grant the minor accommodation if the Council finds that it will not have a material adverse impact on the public welfare or adjacent property; it is staff's determination that the finding can be made in this case because none of the proposed improvements would encroach any further into the required setbacks, and the proposed improvements within the setbacks will not be out of character with other homes on Deep Well Road; accordingly, there will be no material adverse impact on the public welfare or adjacent property; staff would therefore recommend the Council make the finding and approve the request for a minor accommodation; the project has been approved by the Community Association.

At this time, Mayor Freedland opened the public hearing. He then closed the hearing as there were no comments. Mayor Freedland, Mayor Pro Tem Landon, and Council Member Weber all reported they had visited the subject property, with Council Members Siegel and Cohen stating they had not.

Mayor Freedland asked why the jog existed on the property. Mr. Lovett replied that no one seems to know. The project architect George de la Nuez agreed, stating that the property seemed to be mixed and matched over the years, did have an actual deep well on the property at one time, and has ten different sides, rather than the usual four. Mr. Lovett further stated that there had not been any research done on whether or not the lot was ever divided, but he was not aware of any lot division. In response to Mayor Pro Tem Landon, Mr. de la Nuez said the 3-rail fence was not in existence at this time, but the installation of the fence was a part of the Association approval.

As there was no further discussion, upon MOTION of Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Cohen and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minor accommodation, as the required finding could be made, and to adopt by title only Resolution No. 867 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS SITTING AS THE PLANNING AGENCY, APPROVING A REQUEST FOR A MINOR ACCOMMODATION TO ALTER AN EXISTING NONCONFORMING RESIDENCE LOCATED AT 24501 DEEP WELL ROAD.

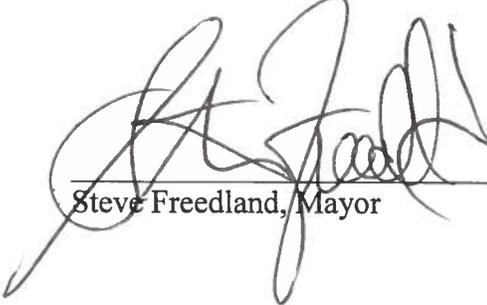
CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes - February 24, 2014**
- B. Demand List**

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Council Member Cohen and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of March 10, 2014 at 8:06 p.m.



Steve Freedland, Mayor

ATTEST:



Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager/City Clerk