

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, May 13, 2019

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, May 13, 2019 at the hour of 6:30 p.m. Mayor Larry G. Weber called the meeting to order and presided thereover after leading the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council:

Mayor Larry G. Weber
Mayor Pro Tem Bret Katz
Council Member Steve Freedland
Council Member Laura McCorkindale
Council Member Stuart E. Siegel

Staff:

City Manager Kerry Kallman
City Attorney Roxanne Diaz
City Engineer Dirk Lovett
Water Quality Consultant Joe Bellomo
City Clerk Deana L. Graybill (absent)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Katz and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the May 13, 2019 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next City Council meeting scheduled for May 27, 2019 will be canceled and no inspections will be done due to the Memorial Day holiday.

Longtime resident Gene Wolver passed away on Friday, May 2nd. The Council and staff send their condolences to his wife Anita and his whole family. He was instrumental in many things involving Hidden Hills.

AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments at this time.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Siegel wanted to thank resident Deb Spellman and her volunteers for a wonderful New Resident Welcome Party. Council Member Siegel suggested that the Council at a near future meeting discuss asking the Conservancy to consider the use of goats on the Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve (formerly Ahmanson Ranch). He recalled that this has been done in the past.

Council Member Freedland shared that he and City Manager Kallman met with Sheriff Alex Villanueva, along with other surrounding cities City Managers and Council Members to discuss concerns involving the Lost Hills Sheriff Station, including the lack staffing of personnel at the station and the hiring of a new Captain as the former Captain is out on disability, and the position is being held temporarily. The meeting was optimistic and the cities hope to see a positive outcome.

Council Member Freedland also mentioned that he attended the Woolsey Fire Task Force meeting and had an opportunity to talk to Ranger Walt Young, who is in charge of the Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve and the request of additional clearance along the City property line. Mr. Young stated that if the City provides a map showing the request, he will expedite it. City Manager Kallman mentioned that City Engineer Lovett is in the process of preparing such a map.

Council Member Freedland informed the Council that he and Council Member McCorkindale will be meeting with staff next week to work on the 2019-2020 City budget and bring back to Council on the June 10th City Council meeting.

STAFF COMMENTS

Report on 3/28/19 Public Safety Policy Committee Meeting

City Manager Kallman presented the following report:

The last meeting was held in Costa Mesa; various topics discussed but didn't necessarily pertain to Hidden Hills were legislation for a tax credit for attic vent closures which seeks to reduce fires from spreading to residential homes during wildfires; fire arms and prohibited persons; and concealed carry licenses.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes – April 8, 2019, 2019 Regular Meeting**
- B. City Council Minutes – April 22, 2019 Special Meeting**
- C. Demand List**

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

NEW BUSINESS

A. Report on 4/30/19 Hidden Hills Community Association Board of Directors Meeting

Hidden Hills Community Association Board Member Deb Spellman thanked all who attended the Welcome Party and expressed how much the support is appreciated. She then presented the following report:

the Board approved the following items: a new playground to replace the existing playground, the Long Valley Project and the gate will be moved during the summer of 2020, the purchase of a new generator for the Round Meadow gate, the consolidation of signs at each gatehouse to make them uniform, remaining landscape projects, and tree resistographs, which is an instrument that detects decay and stages of rot and whether or not trees need to be removed; road construction on phase one, which includes slurry, seal and swale replacement, will be starting this summer; and approved new arena maintenance proposals.

B. Consideration of Approval of Proposed Agreement with Lanspeed to Provide Information Technology Support and Services to City Hall

City Manager Kallman presented the following report:

IT services have been provided by Axson Engineering for many years; due to IT related challenges over the past year, especially after the Woolsey Fire, staff is considering a more comprehensive solution for IT services.

At this time, Mr. Kallman introduced Chris Chirgwin, CEO of Lanspeed who gave a brief presentation of the qualifications of Lanspeed and why they would be beneficial to the City to provide that next level of IT resources the City needs. Lanspeed has two offices and a team of highly certified and experienced IT employees located throughout the United States, providing swift resolution times.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Katz and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the proposed one-year agreement with Lanspeed to provide information technology support and services to City Hall at a cost of \$12,600.

C. Discussion of City's Existing Social Media Policy

City Attorney Roxanne Diaz presented the following report:

at its meeting on January 28th, the City Council adopted a Social Media Policy providing guidance should the City establish official social media accounts and also provides guidance for City Council Members who post on community social media sites and third party social media sites; at its previous goals session Section 6 of the policy was discussed and asked to be brought back by staff to a future Council meeting; the intent of the section being discussed is not to restrict a member of the City Council from having a personal online social media presence or mandate the content of a Council Member's speech but to assist in compliance with the California Brown Act; the Brown Act defines a meeting as any gathering of a majority of council members to hear, discuss or deliberate any item of local agency business or potential local agency business; the Brown Act prohibits "serial meetings", which are a series of meetings or communications, either in person or by other means, between individual members of the legislative body in which ideas are exchanged among a majority of the legislative body even when a majority of legislative body members never gather in a room at the same time; "serial meetings" also apply to emails as well; a new bill, AB 992, is being considered by the State Legislature in regards to serial meeting

prohibition on social media; as the social media policy adopted is self-policing, there is no repercussions for violation of the policy by Council Members, however if a social media post receives numerous replies or posts by a majority of the council where it was clear that three or more members were engaging in discussion regarding City business, a complaint could be made to the District Attorney's office for violation of the Brown Act; this section of the social media policy was adopted to ensure that discussions regarding City business or topics within the subject matter of the City happen at an open and public meeting; this is a policy decision to be made by the City Council.

Council Member McCorkindale asked City Attorney Diaz if there are any cities that her firm represents that have any restrictions whatsoever to Council Members posting on private community sites to which Ms. Diaz responded that as the firm represents 32 cities and she didn't poll them all with that question, she couldn't provide an answer to that. Ms. McCorkindale stated that she has done thorough research into this matter and cannot find any city in the United States that has regulations for private sites.

Mayor Pro Tem Katz expressed his concern with regards to Council Members posting in community social media sites like Facebook and Next Door, which aren't generally open and available to the public. He feels that if a City topic is being discussed, all members of the public, not just those selected to be in a closed group where a moderator has the power to delete posts, comments and/or remove someone from the group, should be privy to that topic.

Resident Jay Ritt then addressed the City Council expressing his concerns with the policy as it stands and would like to see a policy adopted that doesn't limit Council Member's speech in a way that potentially infringes first amendment rights in a private non-City social media site. He commented that if AB 992 is enacted, then the Section VI in the City's social media policy would be a moot point. Resident Robert Rose also addressed the Council to make some suggestions of changing or removing wording that may make the policy clearer.

After final comments from the City Council, City Attorney Diaz suggested that the Council remove Section VI of the City of Hidden Hills Social Media Policy.

Upon MOTION of Council Member McCorkindale, seconded by Council Member Freedland and carried on 4 – 1 roll call vote, it was resolved to remove Section VI from the City’s current Social Media Policy and all make other changes that are consistent with the removal.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL:

- A. Anticipated Litigation – Initiation of Litigation
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)4): Number of Potential Cases: 1**
- B. Significant Exposure to Litigation - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9
(d)(2): Number of Potential Cases: 1**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel seconded by Council Member Freedland and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn to closed session at 8:21 p.m. to address the items listed above.

The City Council returned from closed session and the City Attorney announced that in closed session the Council discussed the item listed above, and that no reportable action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Larry G. Weber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Deana L. Graybill, CMC, City Clerk