

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, May 9, 2011

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 9, 2011 at the hour of 7:32 p.m. Mayor Jim Cohen called the meeting to order and presided thereover after asking Council Member Larry Weber to lead the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council:

Mayor Jim Cohen
Mayor Pro Tem Stuart E. Siegel
Council Member Steve Freedland
Council Member Marv Landon
Council Member Larry G. Weber

Staff:

City Engineer Dirk Lovett
City Manager Cherie L. Paglia

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Freedland and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the May 9, 2011 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cohen made the following announcements:

Today is the first day of the Spring Food Drive; donated items can be placed in bins at any of the three gates, or residents can call Caitlin Goldstein or Macy Berg to pick up items.

The Community Association/Parks & Recreation sponsored New Resident Welcome Party will be held on Saturday, May 21st, from 7:00 p.m. to midnight; call the Association for information.

AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments at this time.

PRESENTATION

Consideration of Request from the Las Virgenes Unified School District for a Community Assistance Grant for the Save Our Schools Fund

A.E. Wright Middle School PFC President and resident Mathy Wasserman addressed the Council, asking for approval of a \$7000 community grant (approximately \$26.42 per Hidden Hills student in the District) for the District's Save Our Schools (SOS) campaign (\$1 million goal), to assist with the counseling program. She explained the following: how much the schools have been negatively affected, even though the District does a great job of managing funds, by the loss of state funding; what types of cuts have already been made; what was being done to raise funds, including events at each of the schools, phone banks calling residents, parents, and alumni, and the formation of a registered 501 C3 non profit organization called Together Helping Education (THE); how much the District and parents appreciate the support already being provided or provided in the past by Hidden Hills.

Mayor Cohen asked how much money had been raised so far, what THE has accomplished, and what the other three cities have contributed to SOS, with Council Member Weber wondering if other cities had been asked for a certain amount of money. Ms. Wasserman stated the following:

\$330,000 has been raised thus far; THE was formed approximately three months ago, has by-laws, has a checking account, and is receiving money; the goal of THE is to work on broader scale goals with larger corporations, but that money will be put into SOS; citizens from the other three cities are attending Council meetings to ask for assistance; Calabasas has agreed, for next year, to contribute the same amount, approximately \$240,000, that would have gone to the technology grant (this is the last year for the technology grant); that City, which has the most children in the District, has said it could contribute additional funds if the other cities do as well; they have been asking other cities for \$200 per student in the District; different cities are funded differently; for instance, Hidden Hills has no commercial activity, but has been generous with grants for things such as artificial turf, crossing guards, and ball fields.

Superintendent Dr. Donald Zimring informed the Council that Westlake village has committed \$50,000 over each of the next five years, although the money is not going to SOS, but to continue the four-city technology grant.

As there was no further discussion, upon MOTION of Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Freedland and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve a \$7000 community assistance grant to the Las Virgenes Unified School District Save Our Schools Fund. Dr. Zimring expressed his appreciation and passion for this City and the community, which he felt was unparalleled, adding that this grant is a huge deal, and that he felt it was an honor to work with everyone.

2011 FIESTA

A. Consideration of Approval of the 2011 Fiesta Budget

Fiesta Co-chairmen Bonnie Frank and Lisa Moriarity (Brett Katz was out of town) presented the proposed budget for this year's Fiesta. Ms. Moriarity explained that they had originally thought the cost of the rides/games would be \$50,000, but since the proposal is for \$53,300 (to get a few more thrill rides), they would recommend taking an extra \$3,300 from the \$9,000 miscellaneous category in the budget, and moving that amount to the rides/games line item to cover the proposal. In response to Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, the City Manager reminded the Council Members that they had earlier approved an additional \$25,000 for this year's Fiesta, since it is

the City's 50th anniversary; \$16,000 of that \$25,000 was added to the amount spent last year for the rides (which was \$34,000), with the other \$9,000 listed as miscellaneous, which would include any special decorations or commemorative items. Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the 2011 Fiesta budget, as amended (moving \$3,300 from the miscellaneous category to the rides/games), showing expected income at \$27,600 and expected expenses at \$101,775.

B. Consideration of Approval of Proposal from A Rental Connection for Rentals of Tables/Chairs, Electricity/Lights, and Other Miscellaneous Equipment and Payment of \$3,100 Deposit

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the proposal from A Rental Connection to provide rentals and miscellaneous equipment for this year's Fiesta at a cost of \$11,758.72, with a \$3,100 deposit to be paid by June 22, 2011, subject to the signing of a City agreement by the vendor.

C. Consideration of Approval of Proposal from The Outdoor Grill to Provide Saturday Night Dinner and Payment of \$10,009.20 Deposit

Mayor Cohen and Council Member Freedland expressed some concern about paying a 50% deposit, especially to a new vendor. Ms. Moriarity stated that even though this company was new to the Fiesta, they have two restaurants and she has known them a long time. Ms. Frank added that she taste-tested the food, and it was very good. The City Manager informed the Council that a 50% deposit, due this year by August 24th, was also paid last year to reserve the date and allow the company to plan for the amounts of food required. Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the proposal from The Outdoor Grill to provide the Saturday evening

dinner for this year's Fiesta at a cost of \$20,018.40, with a \$10,009.20 deposit to be paid by August 24th, subject to the signing of a City agreement by the vendor.

D. Consideration of Approval of Proposal from Carnival Midway Attractions to Provide the 2011 Fiesta Rides and Games, and Payment of Deposit to Reserve Date of September 24, 2011

A short discussion occurred regarding this proposal, during which the following points were made:

The company will have to sign a City agreement (they have seen a draft version), and provide insurance in the amount of \$5 million, naming the City an additional insured; they are providing very good rides, including the zipper and gravitron; three game booths (including a gold fish booth) will be provided at the Community Center after the parade; the City was lucky to find this company for our specific date this year, as the company used for the last several years was booked for that date, and could only offer rides in August; many organizations (like schools and churches) schedule their events five years out, so many of the rides are promised ahead of time; if this company does a good job, the Co-chairmen will work with them to possibly schedule and reserve dates for at least the next two or three Fiestas, hopefully getting some type of discount for committing that far ahead of time.

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the proposal from Carnival Midway Attractions to provide the rides and games for this year's Fiesta at a cost of \$53,300, with a \$15,000 deposit to be paid to reserve the September 24, 2011 date, once the vendor has signed a City agreement.

Mayor Cohen wished to point out that the Council Members agreed to spend an additional \$25,000 this year because it is the City's 50th anniversary, and they are trying to make this a special event – but this is not precedent setting. He also asked for a meeting with the Co-chairmen and anyone else who has expressed an interest in helping with the Fiesta, just to brainstorm in an effort to make the event as special as possible. Staff will schedule the meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes – April 25, 2011**
- B. Demand List**

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

MATTERS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Discussion and Direction Regarding Redistricting by the California Citizens Redistricting Commission

Mayor Pro Tem Siegel provided the following information:

A 14 member Independent California Citizens Redistricting Commission has been established to draw electoral district maps, theoretically so as not to benefit either party; our current representatives also represent areas such as Santa Monica, West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Chatsworth, and the West Valley; Calabasas has been active in trying to keep our five COG cities in the same district, which are also tied together through the Las Virgenes Unified School District (except for Malibu), the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, and the Lost Hills Sheriff Station; we really should not be aligned with Los Angeles, or even Ventura County, but probably more with the west San Fernando Valley; Calabasas and Malibu have both sent comment letters to the Commission, as will the COG; he wondered if the Council wished to do the same; our City and the COG are both so small that letters may not help in determining what district we would be placed in, but we could at least support the position that all five cities should be in the same district.

Council Member Freedland thought a letter should be sent supporting Calabasas and Malibu, and the position taken by Calabasas that our five COG cities, which have closer ties to the west San Fernando Valley than either the west Los Angeles area or Ventura County, should at least remain in the same district. As all the other Council Members agreed, the Mayor directed staff to draft a letter, using the Calabasas letter as an example. The City Manager pointed out that the first draft map was scheduled to be ready by June 10th, after which there would be additional comment periods.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

Consideration of Approval of Amendment to Agreement with All City Management Services for Crossing Guards at Round Meadow School for the 2011-2012 School Year

The following information was provided by the City Manager:

The proposed amendment to the contract is the same as that signed last year; it will extend the contract for one year beginning July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012; the rate will remain the same at \$15.42/hour per guard for an estimated 1890 hours of service; the hours are based on 3.5 hours per day for each of the three guards for 180 school days, with the cost not to exceed \$29,144.00.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the Amendment to Agreement Between All City Management Services, Inc. and the City of Hidden Hills for Providing School Crossing Guard Services at a cost for providing 1890 hours of service (3.5 hours per day for each of the three guards for 180 school days in the year) of not to exceed \$29,144.00 (\$15.42 per hour per guard).

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL:

Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a): Number of Potential Cases – 1

Paul Ottosi v. City of Hidden Hills, et. al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. LC 089678

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn to closed session at 8:12 p.m., at which time Mayor Cohen announced that the Council in closed session would be discussing the item listed above. At this time, City Attorney Roxanne Diaz joined the meeting by telephone.

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to return to open session at 8:31 p.m., at which time City Attorney Diaz announced that the Council in closed session discussed the item 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 Landon, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of May 9, 2011 at 8:32 p.m.

Jim Cohen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager/City Clerk