

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, October 24, 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, October 24, 2011 at the hour of 7:31 p.m. Mayor Jim Cohen called the meeting to order and presided thereover after leading 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 Attorney Roxanne Diaz
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 October 24, 2011 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Cohen made the following announcements:

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

The bookmobile will not be at City Hall this Friday due to scheduled maintenance.

Please have a safe and happy Halloween next Monday, 10/31.

Happy birthday (10/31), and a speedy recovery from recent surgery, to Mayor Pro Tem Siegel's wife Peggi; and a happy birthday to Council Member Freedland's daughter Kelsey (11/12), our former videographer who is now away at college.

Daylight saving time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, 11/6; don't forget to set your clocks back one hour.

City Manager Cherie Paglia will be celebrating her 25th anniversary with the City on 11/6.

Tuesday, 11/8, is election day; the polls at City Hall will be open from 7:00 am. – 8:00 p.m.; there is no Hidden Hills City election, but the LVUSD's Measure K will be on the ballot.

City Hall, Building & Safety, and the Community Center will be closed on Friday, 11/11, in observance of Veterans' Day.

Mayor Pro Tem Siegel wished Mayor Cohen an upcoming happy birthday (11/11/11).

AUDIENCE

Residents Melissa and Aaron Ravo, who chaired the Halloween party at the Community Center on Sunday, gave a report on the very successful party attended by approximately 250 people, showing what they believed this community is all about.

Las Virgenes Unified School District (LVUSD) Board President Jill Gaines, LVUSD Superintendent Dr. Donald Zimring, resident Mathy Wasserman, and resident Jeff Costell all

spoke in favor of the LVUSD's Measure K parcel tax (on the November 8, 2011 ballot), and asked the Council Members and residents to support and vote for the measure.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Recognition of the City's 50th Anniversary

Agoura Hills Mayor Harry Schwarz and Westlake Village Mayor Ned Davis both presented, on behalf of their respective cities, plaques to Mayor Cohen (accepting on behalf of the entire Council) in honor of the City's 50th anniversary. Both Mayors also expressed their support for Measure K.

B. Request from the Las Virgenes Unified School District for Continued Funding and Support for Technology Initiatives

Dr. Donald Zimring, Superintendent of the Las Virgenes Unified School District (LVUSD) addressed the Council:

He is here representing Karen Kimmel, Chief Financial Officer, who could not attend the meeting this evening; approximately six years ago the four area cities (Hidden Hills, Agoura Hills, Calabasas, and Westlake Village) joined together to support the District; this is the District's annual request for that continued support; the request was kept on a pro-rata basis (per student), resulting in a request of a total of \$11,052 for the next three years, representing \$3684 per year, with the focus to be kept on technology; he would also like to congratulate Round Meadow Elementary School Principal Jeremy Resnick, who is in attendance this evening, as Round Meadow stands out in the use of technology.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Siegel and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the request from the Las Virgenes Unified School District for a community grant in the amount of \$11,052, to be used over the next three years, with the focus on technology.

C. Invitation to the City of Hidden Hills to Reinstate its Membership in the California Contract Cities Association (CCCA)

James Bozajian, Mayor of Calabasas and President of the California Contract Cities Association (CCCA), and Sam Olivito, Executive Director of the CCCA, both addressed the Council, asking the City to rejoin the organization, which includes forty two cities that contract with the Sheriff's Department, and explaining all of the benefits in being a member (in particular for smaller cities) and the accomplishments of the organization. Both Mayor Pro Tem Siegel and the City Manager spoke in favor of the City again becoming a member. Upon MOTION of Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to reinstate the City of Hidden Hills membership in the CCCA, and to authorize the payment of the annual dues of \$910.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Los Angeles County Fire Department Report - September

The following report was provided by Community Services Representative Maria Grycan:

In September every year, the Fire Department hosts the CCCA dinner, so she would love to see the Council Members attend next year; during the month of September, there were 14 responses, including 4 snake removals, 5 false alarm/good intent calls, 4 medical calls, and 1 fire; the fire involved an underground electrical vault on Rolling View, which damaged some trees and a wood fence; the fire was extinguished before the Fire Department arrived, so they secured the area until SCE came; the Station is still working with two residents to complete their brush clearance, while only three were turned over for enforcement; this is a very small number out of the 573 parcels, showing that this City does a great job complying with brush clearance requirements.

B. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Report - September

Lt. Dave Thompson provided the following report:

During the month of September there were no part I crimes, dropping the year-to-date percentage down another 5%; there were no arrests (adult or juvenile) and no collisions; 17 citations were issued (13 by the Motors), with 10 being hazardous and 7 non-hazardous, with no parking citations; no problems were reported to the STTOP Deputy, but he did take part in the Fiesta parade, and also set up the Bike Safety City in the

morning and the crash trailer in the evening; most of the other area communities have seen an increase in crimes, many of those due to unlocked vehicles.

The City Manager pointed out that every monthly report shows citations being issued for drivers passing the stopped school bus when the lights are flashing, and for talking on cell phones while driving. Lt. Thompson agreed that cell phone use while driving seems to be on the rise, even though there was a very strong effort originally to educate people about the law.

C. Consideration of Approval of Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Service Agreement for the Success Through Awareness and Resistance (STAR) Program for Fiscal Year 2011 - 2012

The City Manager informed the Council that the cost for the STAR program this year was slightly more than what was already approved in this year's budget, and reminded everyone that each of the area cities paid for the program to be provided in the schools within their boundaries. 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 Service Agreement between the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the City of Hidden Hills for services to be provided by the Sheriff's Department's Success Through Awareness & Resistance (STAR) Unit to seven classes of 4th and 5th graders at Round Meadow Elementary School for the 2011-2012 school year, at a cost of \$10,813.20.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes – August 8, 2011**
- B. City Council Minutes – September 26, 2011**
- C. City Council Minutes – October 10, 2011**
- D. Demand List**
- E. Disbursement List – September**
- F. Financial/Treasurer's Report – September**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Siegel and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve items A (with Council Member

Weber abstaining on this item as he was not in attendance at the meeting), B, C, D, E, and F of the consent calendar as submitted.

MATTERS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

A. Report from 10/18/11 Hidden Hills Community Association Board of Directors Meeting

The following report was provided by Community Association Board Member and City liaison Ron Wolfe:

They have started working on the grading and drainage at the Saddle Creek arena; it will be a dramatic difference and will be laid out nicely for the future; hopefully it will be done within 60-90 days; an electrical line to one house was knocked out, but that was the only hitch; the Board also approved a contract with DwellingLive for new software for gate operations; all the equipment inside the gates will be replaced; the system is web-based and more flexible; the company comes highly recommended and is used in lots of other places; there will be some training necessary, but hopefully the system will be operating within a couple of months.

The Council and staff thanked Mr. Wolfe for serving as the liaison to the City. This will be his last report, as he is termed out and will be leaving the Board.

B. Report from 10/18/11 Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments Meeting

The City Manager presented the following report:

Even though the County representative was not available, the COG did address the proposed water quality ordinance/parcel tax; the County would like to send ballots out next July so the tax could be imposed at the beginning of 2013 if approved; since it is a proposed parcel tax, only property owners will vote; the amount of the tax will be based on zoning and the percentage of impervious surfaces on properties; the exact amount is not known but is estimated to be around \$50 per parcel; there seems to be a lot of bureaucracy and confusion regarding the ordinance; public works representatives for each of the COG cities will meet next week to draft a letter expressing the COG's concerns and requests for clarifications; once reviewed by each COG city, the letter will be sent to the County.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

A. Consideration of Approval of Lot Line Adjustment between 6002 and 6005 Annie Oakley Road

The following staff report was provided by City Engineer Dirk Lovett:

This request is for a lot line adjustment for the two properties at the easterly end of Annie Oakley Road, whereby approximately 70,000 square feet of land will be transferred from the 6005 property to the 6002 property; this will add additional equestrian facilities to 6002, including a stable being transferred with the land; the Community Association has approved the lot line adjustment, and has worked out all of the easement issues; the City Council, sitting as the Planning Agency, may approve a major lot line adjustment provided that each parcel involved in the adjustment is a parcel approved under the procedures of the Subdivision Map Act, the General Plan, and the Municipal Code, and provided that certain findings can be made, as listed in the staff report (these were read by Mr. Lovett); after the adjustment, the reduced parcel will be essentially the same configuration as it was prior to an earlier 1994-1995 lot line adjustment with another neighboring property; the proposed configuration at 6002 will be an irregular lot, but will not be in conflict with the General Plan or Municipal Code; staff believes the required findings can be made and that the application is generally consistent with the City's zoning and building ordinances; the application has been reviewed and is accurate as to its representation of legal documentation; the City Council will need to determine if the City approval criteria has been met and if the required findings can be made in order to approve the proposed lot line adjustment.

All of the Council Members reported that they had not visited the site. As there was no further discussion, upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the proposed lot line adjustment, as the City approval criteria could be met and required findings made, and to direct staff to record the lot line adjustment and certificate of compliance for the new lots, subject to final review as to form and completeness by the City Engineer.

B. Consideration of Approval of an Ordinance Regarding the Grading of Ridgelines – Second Reading

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to give second reading to and adopt by title only Ordinance

No. 337 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS AMENDING THE STANDARDS REGARDING DEVELOPMENT ON RIDGELINES AND AMENDING THE HIDDEN HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE.

C. Consideration of Letter of Appreciation to Mr. Jahanpour-Bourke for Setting New City Benchmarks

City Engineer Dirk Lovett informed the Council of the following:

Staff would like the Council to formally thank a professional land surveyor, Mr. Hooshmand Jahanpour-Burke, who set benchmarks in the City at no cost to the City, even though it took him many hours and he provided all the materials; he recently did a project in the City, and was very pleased to be treated by staff with such courtesy and professionalism at the counter; at that time he noted the lack of benchmarks, and realized that he could express his appreciation and help future builders at the same time by installing the benchmarks; staff has provided a draft letter, to be signed by the Mayor, to express the City's gratitude.

Upon MOTION of Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to authorize the Mayor to sign and send, on behalf of the Council and staff, a letter of thanks and gratitude to Mr. Hooshmand Jahanpour-Burke for setting benchmarks in the City, at no cost whatsoever to the City.

D. Consideration of Cancellation of November 28, 2011 and December 26, 2011 City Council Meetings

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to cancel both the November 28, 2011 Council meeting (which falls right after the Thanksgiving holiday) and the December 26, 2011 Council meeting (which is the day after Christmas, at which time City Hall is closed).

E. Charles Abbott Monthly Report - September

The report was received and filed.

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 8:19 p.m., at which time Mayor Cohen announced that in closed session the Council would be discussing the item listed above.

Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried, it was resolved to return to open session at 8:28 p.m., at which time City Attorney Roxanne 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 Mayor Pro Tem Siegel, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of October 24, 2011 at 8:29 p.m.

Jim Cohen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager/City Clerk