

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, March 23, 2015

***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 23, 2015 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. Mayor Marv Landon called the meeting to order and presided thereover after leading the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Council:

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

Staff:

City Engineer Dirk Lovett  
City Manager Cherie L. Paglia

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the March 23, 2015 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Landon made the following announcements:

Happy Birthday to the following: Council Member Stuart Siegel (on Wednesday, 3/25); to Council Member Siegel's grandson Oliver, who will be 5 on Tuesday (3/24); to my son Hayden, also on Tuesday (3/24); and to City Attorney Roxanne Diaz's son Matthew on Thursday (4/2).

Passover begins at sundown on Friday, April 3rd; Good Friday will be celebrated on Friday, April 3rd, with Easter on Sunday, April 5th.

City Clerk Deana Graybill will be celebrating her 25th year with the City on Friday, April 10th.

Council Member Freedland thanked Ms. Graybill for preparing all the refreshments for this evening, and invited all those in attendance to stay after the meeting to enjoy those refreshments and to honor outgoing Mayor Landon and the newly elected Council Members.

Mayor Landon then announced, on a very sad note and with a very heavy heart, the passing of long time resident Jim Doran after a long period of numerous health issues. Mayor Landon praised Mr. Doran for his many years of service, and his 100% commitment to this City, especially in the area of CERT and emergency services.

### **ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION TO CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECT - JUDGE MICHAEL HARWIN**

The City Manager explained that the City's Municipal election, scheduled for 3/3/15, was cancelled, as the three incumbent Council Members were the only ones who filed papers for the three available seats. She added that even though the election was not held, the three incumbents are officially elected to each serve a four year term, and need to take the oath of office for the new term.

Mayor Landon introduced resident Judge Michael Harwin, thanking him for taking time from his busy schedule to attend the meeting, and stating that the City was honored to have him be a part of this ceremony. Judge Harwin said he has lived in the City for almost 30 years, and very much appreciates the wonderful work Council Members do to keep Hidden Hills the way the residents like it. Judge Harwin then individually administered the oath of office and presented a Certificate of Election to recently reelected Council Members Marv Landon, Stuart E. Siegel, and Larry G. Weber, who then thanked everyone for coming and made remarks regarding their past and upcoming terms.

#### **REORGANIZATION OF CITY COUNCIL**

- A. Presentations to Outgoing Mayor Landon**
- B. Remarks by Outgoing Mayor Landon**
- C. Remarks by Other Council Members**

Presentations were made to outgoing Mayor Landon by the following:

Field Deputy Dusty Russell - representing Senator Fran Pavley's office (certificate);

District Director Scott Abrams - representing Congressman Brad Sherman's office (American flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol in DC and a certificate);

Senior Field Representative Ian Anderson - representing Assemblymember Matt Dababneh's office (certificate);

Board Member and Clerk Angela Cutbill - representing the Las Virgenes Unified School District (certificate).

The following then addressed Mayor Landon, praising and thanking him for his past year of service as Mayor: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department/Lost Hills Station Captain Patrick Davoren and Deputy Robert DeSantis; Las Virgenes Municipal Water District/Division 1 Director and Secretary Charlie Caspary and Public Affairs & Communications Manager Jeff Reinhardt; Los Angeles County Fire Department/Community Services Representative Maria Grycan; and Hidden Hills Community Association/Board Member and City liaison Bret Katz and Board Member Alex Werner (Board Member Mitch Jacobs was also in attendance).

Mayor Pro Tem Weber read and presented to Mayor Landon a certificate from Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, who was unable to attend the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Weber, on behalf of the entire Council and staff, then presented a gavel plaque to outgoing Mayor Landon, after which Mayor Landon made his remarks, followed by remarks from the other Council Members and staff. It was pointed out that during Mayor Landon's term as Mayor, among other things, the City contracted with a professional Emergency Services Coordinator, has a CERT up and running, is updating and improving its investment policy, and did some remodeling of City Hall, with new flooring and carpeting.

**D. Selection of Mayor**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Siegel and seconded by Council Member Cohen, it was resolved to nominate Mayor Pro Tem Weber for the position of Mayor. As there were no other nominations, a unanimous vote was cast, naming Mayor Pro Tem Weber as the new Mayor.

**E. Selection of Mayor Pro Tem**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland and seconded by Council Member Landon, it was resolved to nominate Council Member Cohen for the position of Mayor Pro Tem. As there were no other nominations, a unanimous vote was cast, naming Council Member Cohen as the new Mayor Pro Tem.

**F. Remarks by Incoming Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem**

Mayor Weber commented that when he first became Mayor five years ago, he was not as ready as he feels he is now, and that he is looking forward to doing a few things this year, starting with the dedication of the year to Jim Doran and increasing public safety awareness in the City. He added that all Council Members get their turn as the Mayor, and he hopes to continue the great job that all of them have done in the past.

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen extended his congratulations to Mayor Weber and stated that he will be dedicated to helping Mayor Weber in any way possible throughout the year, even though he most likely will not need much help.

### **AUDIENCE**

There were no questions or comments at this time.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### **A. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Report - February**

Captain Patrick Davoren made a few comments, as follows:

there is not a lot of crime in the City; property crimes are up in Southern California, in Los Angeles County, and in the City of Los Angeles, but not in Hidden Hills or Calabasas; he also had the pleasure of accompanying the area City Managers to the recent Sheriff/City Manager Conference, at which City Manager Cherie Paglia had the opportunity to both meet the new Sheriff Jim McDonnell and to take part in a tactical training situation, at which she did very well.

Deputy Robert DeSantis provided the following report:

during the month of February, there were no Part I crimes, no arrests, no collisions, and no noteworthy events; 28 traffic citations were issued, mostly for failure to stop at stop signs; on behalf of the Deputies, it is always a pleasure to serve this City and to keep it as safe as possible; per the City Manager, some complaints were received regarding people walking in the middle of the roadway and not moving for vehicles; this is unsafe and could agitate drivers; they certainly do not want to issue citations for this, but it is a violation of the Vehicle Code; for everyone's safety, be courteous to each other, and walk as close to the side of the road as possible.

Mayor Weber suggested that a notice be put in the City's newsletter regarding this matter. The City Manager stated that Deputy DeSantis would be writing a short blurb that could be placed in both the City's newsletter and the Association's Round-Up.

**B. Los Angeles County Fire Department Report - February**

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

there were 8 responses in February, including 4 good intent, 3 medical, and 1 service call, which was an assist with an odor removal from an outside sewer drain; there were 6 Fire Prevention Bureau inspections, and 4 plan checks; it was a very quiet month.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. City Council Minutes - March 9, 2015**
- B. Demand List**
- C. Disbursement List - February**
- D. Financial/Treasurer's Report - February**

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

**MATTERS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

- A. Report from 3/17/15 Hidden Hills Community Association Board of Directors Meeting**

Community Association Board Member and City liaison Bret Katz informed the Council of the following:

Michael Silberman, who served on the Board before, has been appointed to replace Gina Richards, who recently resigned; he will also take over the duties of Treasurer; Deb Spellman will serve as the Secretary, with Rob Raznick the President, and he himself and Mitch Jacobs serving as co-Vice Presidents; one of the very big changes that has occurred, after a lot of consideration, energy and discussion over a long period of time, was the decision to outsource maintenance for the community; there have been good people working for the community and doing a good job for a long time, and they are sorry to see them leave, but the Board felt this decision was in the best interest of the community and for the overall quality of service being provided; there will be large financial savings, and they will be looking at other matters that were not addressed before, such as water usage, with the help of the new company's hydrologist on staff; the Association is looking at selling all of its vehicles, which will greatly reduce liability; they will be looking to improve the quality of the trails and the plants being used, including the use of drought resistant plants to completely redo the Community Center

area; he and the other Board Members feel this is the right decision (many other communities are also going in this direction), and that in the long run, the look and feel of the community will be improved; the Board also approved a Paws for Cause Dog Walk event to be held on Sunday, 5/31; the cost to enter will be \$10, which will include a t-shirt; a variance was approved for remodeling work at 5550 Penland.

**B. Report from 3/17/15 Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments Meeting**

Council Member Siegel presented the following report:

there were two main items discussed at the meeting that he would like to call attention to; Senator Pavley is promoting a wildlife crossing over the 101 freeway to assist wildlife, such as mountain lions, in crossing over the freeway (some have been killed trying to cross the freeway itself); the crossing is a bit controversial since it is a huge project and very, very expensive; in the meantime, upgrades will be made to the passageway underneath the 101 freeway at Liberty Canyon (the new overpass would be located near Liberty Canyon) to hopefully help and encourage wildlife crossings; this will continue to be discussed for some time; also, the regional bike plan is in its final draft form, and almost complete; the plan will allow cities to seek funding for enhancing, enlarging, and improving bike lanes in the area and through the local mountains.

**MATTERS FROM STAFF**

**Charles Abbott Monthly Report - February**

The report was received and filed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried, it was resolved to adjourn the regular meeting of March 23, 2015 at 8:17 p.m.

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Larry G. Weber, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager