

CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

City Hall

Monday, January 25, 2016

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, January 25, 2016 at the hour of 7:30 p.m. Mayor Larry 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 Jim Cohen Council Member Steve Freedland Council Member Marv Landon Council Member Stuart E. Siegel
Staff:	City Attorney Roxanne Diaz City Treasurer Mike Blazenski City Manager Cherie L. Paglia
Absent:	City Engineer Dirk Lovett

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved that the agenda for the January 25, 2016 regular meeting be approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Weber made the following announcements:

Since he lost a bet with Mayor Pro Tem Cohen regarding the Holiday Bowl, he will honor his agreement to wear a Wisconsin Badger hat (which he then put on) during the meeting (he is a USC fan).

A belated Happy Birthday to Council Member Marv Landon (1/19), and a belated Happy Anniversary to Mayor Pro Tem Jim Cohen and his wife Joanne (1/23).

Happy Birthday to Council Member Stuart Siegel's granddaughter Zoe (who was in attendance), and to Maria Grycan, the City's Community Services Representative from the L.A. County Fire Department.

This year's Valentine's Musicale will be held on Friday and Saturday, 2/5 - 2/6; call the Community Association for more information and for tickets, which are still available.

He is very sad to report the passing this morning of long time former resident Reed Jackson.

The "Hidden Hills Guys Ski Trip" which occurs every February has decided to support a charity this year, the Brain Tumor Awareness Association; so far they have collected over \$25,000, which they are doing in memory of former resident Craig Aaronson, who passed away last year of brain cancer.

Council Member Freedland extended congratulations to Council Member Siegel on the arrival of his new grandson, Hank Eagle.

AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments at this time.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Consideration of Approval of Community Assistance Grant to Calabasas High School/Parent Faculty Club for Support of the *Every 15 Minutes Program*

Mayor Weber introduced Co-Chairman Nancy Yumkas and Fundraising Committee Member Cyndi Bartok of the *Every 15 Minutes Program*, who addressed the Council as follows:

this is a program that is presented at Calabasas High School every other year (alternating with Agoura High School); the program is designed to teach students not to drink, smoke, text, play loud music or do anything that distracts from driving; they work together with the Lost Hills Sheriff Station and the Fire Department to put on the 2-day program, which is very graphic; the entire school is involved; there should be a link to view the program on a computer, and it should also be shown on Calabasas CTV at some point; Hidden Hills has been very gracious and generous in supporting this program in the past; they are again asking for a \$2500 grant, and have completed the City's application form.

Mayor Pro Tem Cohen encouraged anyone who has not seen the program to attend, as he has seen it and can attest that it is definitely very moving and very emotional. Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve a \$2500 Community Assistance Grant to Calabasas High School/Parent Faculty Club for support of the *Every 15 Minutes Program*.

B. Presentation Regarding the City's Financial/Investment Services with Belle Haven/Schwab/Beacon Pointe

Mayor Weber introduced Belle Haven Chief Executive Officer & Chief Investment Advisor Matt Dalton, Schwab Senior Vice President/Financial Consultant Seth Gray, and Beacon Pointe Advisors Senior Vice President David Hopkins. Mr. Hopkins explained that Belle Haven, founded and owned by Mr. Dalton (based in New York), is the fixed income manager that he prefers to work with, and the one that he and Mr. Gray felt would be a great fit for Hidden Hills. Mr. Hopkins added that they all understand the importance of strictly following the City's investment policy to drive the investment selections, and Mr. Dalton is well acquainted with that policy.

Mr. Hopkins confirmed that the City's account was opened today, and that wire transfer instructions have been provided to the City Manager. City Treasurer Mike Blazenski pointed out that the transfer of funds could take several days, as LAIF does not (for protection purposes) allow transfers directly to another institution - the wire transfers can only go back and forth

between the City's account and LAIF. Therefore, a wire transfer will first occur from LAIF to the City's bank account, and then staff will wire transfer the money from there to Schwab.

Mr. Dalton then answered questions from the Council Members and provided the following information:

Belle Haven will make the buy and sell decisions within the portfolio, but everything will be held at Schwab, and overseen by Mr. Gray and by Mr. Hopkins; we will operate within the investment policy guidelines; we manage money for a couple of other cities and a lot of foundations, so work within complicated scenarios quite often; it is really pretty simple and not new to us, which is why Beacon Pointe chose Belle Haven; at this point, we are managing just under \$4 billion; it will take approximately 6-8 weeks for all of the \$5 million to be invested, as we are very methodical; Belle Haven's success is based on the returns we generate, so we want to do a good job and grow the firm; the company's first account was opened in November of 2002, and we are now the top of our category, which is what attracted Beacon Pointe to us; Beacon Pointe spends a good deal of every year looking for those undiscovered managers; they found us about 6-7 years ago, and we quickly became their number one bond manager; the minimum amount for the City's situation would be \$1 million; Belle Haven is a sub-advisor; we work with advisory firms, not individuals directly, because we are focused on returns, not so much on the relationship; he has a long history with fixed income, having been in the bond market for 30 years, starting in Chicago in 1985 and then moving east to take over Belle Haven in 2001; the City's investment policy is restrictive, but doable; the difficulty will be earning a great deal of yield, as everyone knows, interest rates are very low, and he believes they will probably go lower; the biggest Achilles heel to fixed income is inflation; without inflation, bonds have no fear; with oil, metals, and green prices where they are, this is putting a lot of stress on countries (such as Venezuela, Russia, Brazil), and if one of these nations defaults on its debt, money will come to the U.S. for safe harbor, driving the interest rates lower; the City has a safe 1-5 year structure per the investment policy, so the City will not get wildly rich, but won't lose its money; Beacon Pointe and Schwab will handle the reports, but he also is able to generate internal reports that can be shared.

The Council thanked Mr. Dalton, Mr. Gray, and Mr. Hopkins.

PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Los Angeles County Fire Department Reports - October, November and December

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

during the month of October, there were 8 responses, with 5 being medical calls and 3 good intent calls; in November, there were the same amount of calls as the previous month; in December, there were again 8 responses, with 6 being medical and 2 being good intent.

In response to Mayor Pro Tem Cohen, Ms. Grycan explained that a good intent call is one that turns out to be a false alarm, but the person who called thought there might be a problem (for example, someone sees smoke, and it turns out to be someone barbequing in the back yard), as opposed to some calls that are malicious false alarm calls. Ms. Grycan then invited everyone to Fire Station 89 in Agoura Hills on this Saturday (January 30th from 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.) if they were interested in obtaining up to 10 free, already filled sandbags. She added that other stations do have sand and sandbags available anytime, but you have to fill your own.

Ms. Grycan then introduced acting Assistant Fire Chief Anthony Williams, who stated the following:

he may be familiar to some, as he has been in Battalion 5 for six years, and with County Fire for 30 years; he is holding the position right now until it is decided if it is to be permanent; in relation to the give-away of the 10 filled sandbags, the event will also be very educational; many people do not know how to fill bags properly (often making them way to heavy, etc.), so everyone will be given helpful information and educational flyers; there will be a minimum of 1000 bags at each station at any time, and plenty of sand to help people prepare for El Nino; his office is always open, and if there is anything he can help the City with, just let him know; he is looking forward to working with the Council Members, staff, and the residents of Hidden Hills.

B. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Reports - October, November and December

Deputy Robert DeSantis introduced the City's liaison Lt. Patrick Mathers, who was in attendance with him, and then gave the following report:

there were no arrests and no noteworthy incidents in October; 24 citations were issued (22 by the Motors), with 15 of those being hazardous, 7 non-hazardous, and 2 parking; the most frequent citations were issued for failure to stop at a stop sign, with others for no insurance and texting while driving, for which they have zero tolerance and comes with a

very expensive ticket; in November there were no arrests but two Part I crimes, those being thefts from unlocked vehicles; one incident resulted in a wallet being taken from a vehicle near Round Meadow School, with the stolen credit cards being used at local businesses; the other incident occurred on Long Valley Road, where the victim saw a male in a black hoodie enter the vehicle; two wallets, currency and a rosary were taken, with the suspect fleeing in a white sedan; in these types of incidents, the vehicle often has paper plates, which makes it difficult to find the vehicle; residents need to lock their vehicles; 18 citations were issued in November (17 of those by the Motors), with 10 being hazardous, 6 non-hazardous, and 2 parking; the most tickets this month were issued for no insurance and lack of display of license plates; there were no Part I crimes in December, but one noteworthy incident, which involved a transient being arrested on Round Meadow Road for trespassing; surprisingly, there was not much going on in the contract cities over the holidays; 26 citations were issued during the month, with 13 being hazardous, 4 non-hazardous, and 9 parking; failure to stop at stop signs was again the largest number of the citations, followed by no insurance; 2 citations were issued for passing a school bus with flashing red lights, which is considered a special stop and comes with a \$600 ticket for the first violation, \$1600-\$1800 for the second violation, and then a suspended license; if the bus has its stop sign out and the red lights are flashing, you have to stop unless there is an island between you and the bus.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Council Minutes - December 14, 2015**
- B. City Council Minutes - December 28, 2015**
- C. Demand List**
- D. Disbursement List - November**
- E. Financial/Treasurer's Report - November**
- F. Disbursement List - December**
- G. Financial/Treasurer's Report - December**
- H. Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund (7/1/06-6/30/13) and Traffic Congestion Relief Fund Allocations (7/1/06-6/30/11) Audit Report**
- I. City of Hidden Hills GASB 45 Actuarial Valuation**

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, D, E, F, G, H, and I of the consent calendar as submitted.

MATTERS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

A. Report from 1/19/16 Hidden Hills Community Association Board of Directors Meeting

Community Association Board Member and City liaison Bret Katz presented the following report:

Michael Silberman moved out of the community, resulting in his resignation from the Board; everyone very much appreciates what he and his family have done for the community over the years; the Board appointed Cindy Goldstein to replace him, and Board Member Deb Spellman will take over his Treasurer duties; a lot of equipment in the theater has been repaired or replaced with higher quality equipment (at less cost), including a new projector and screen; tickets are now available for the Valentine's Musicales to be performed on February 5th and 6th (he is a member of the cast); resident David Stanley is producing the event, which he thinks will be one of the best; the Board discussed screen planting, and is drafting new proposed language to be published, as required, before approval; some residents want to have tall screen planting in the front yard, but the Board wanted to keep the present look of the community, which allows views of the homes from the street; the rules for the front yard screen planting will remain the same, but the proposed rules would allow higher screen planting along the side yards in that first 25 yards (from the front) where it is now restricted; however, that would not apply to corner lots unless a variance was obtained.

B. Report from 1/19/16 Las Virgenes Malibu Council of Governments Meeting

Council Member Siegel informed the Council of the following:

the Governor has signed a bill that will allow L.A. County to place a new 1/2 cent sales tax measure on the ballot, which will probably occur in November of this year; some years ago Measure R was passed, with this being considered Measure R2; Measure R2 is projected, if passed, to generate over the next 40 years \$296 million for our COG, with \$63 million of that allocated to the L.A. County unincorporated area; the County could use that money for their own projects, or could contribute some to help the cities with their projects; the allocation for Hidden Hills is projected at \$6.2 million, which has been designated on the list as the Mureau Road bridge project; nothing further was discussed in relation to the animal crossing near Liberty Canyon.

Council Member Freedland wondered why the City's allocated money would be designated for a project that is not in the City or in its sphere of influence, and what other projects could possibly be considered. Council Member Siegel answered as follows:

it is very difficult for Hidden Hills to find projects that would be eligible for these funds, which must be used for mitigating traffic congestion; our Measure R funds have been designated for intersection improvements at Long Valley and the freeway onramp, but we have not been able to come up with any other feasible projects at this time for the new funds; he has been discussing this project with the County, and is hoping that the three entities, including the City of Calabasas, can work on this together, as the problem is not just the bridge, but the intersections on both sides of the bridge, including the Mureau/Round Meadow intersection that does affect Hidden Hills; Calabasas will hopefully be able to require some intersection improvements on their side of the bridge when the new dealership is built there, as the trucks can't really negotiate that turn very well, and something like a round-about might work better there; the other thing to remember, is that Measure R2 hasn't even been officially placed on the ballot yet, and when it is, it might not even pass, as it needs a 2/3 vote.

The City Manager pointed out that the City is not locked into spending Measure R2 funds, if the measure passes, on that particular project. These funds come to the COG, and the COG can approve any changes any of the five cities want to make to the proposed list of projects, without getting approval from Metro.

Resident and Community Association Board Member Bret Katz asked if it might be possible to use the funds to improve traffic flow in front of Round Meadow School, and down to the Mureau corner, or even to purchase property to the east side to expand the area. Council Member Freedland pointed out that the City already purchased, some years ago, property from that property owner to widen Round Meadow Road from one lane coming into the City to two lanes coming in. In response to the Council Members, City Attorney Roxanne Diaz stated that it would most likely be possible to purchase property with these types of funds to mitigate traffic if the required findings for public use could be made, but that it is a very long process, one that the City already went through with the neighbors as stated by Council Member Freedland. Council Member Siegel suggested that widening the road further might help, but that does not seem to be the biggest problem, as those going to the school are driving into what acts like a dead end at the gate. He added that if the measure passes, this is certainly something that could be looked into. Council Member Freedland suggested that he might rather see the funds, if available, spent to

have a traffic engineer look at the layout and perhaps conduct a project that might have more impact on the Hidden Hills residents than the bridge project would. Council Member Siegel agreed that would be a good discussion to have if the measure passes, and that there should definitely be enough money to hire an engineer to look into the Round Meadow School traffic, although he still believes that there really is not much real estate there to work with. The City Manager informed the Council that Council Member Freedland and staff, along with the Community Association, School District personnel and the Sheriff are looking into ways to better the traffic problem at the school, including the possibility of a second drop-off area through the ball field.

MATTERS FROM STAFF

A. January 4, 2016 Calabasas Library Commission Meeting Report

The report was received and filed.

B. Consideration of Approval of an Agreement Between Kevin Ryan and the City of Hidden Hills for Emergency Services Coordinator Services

The following report was provided by the City Manager:

before he left, our previous Emergency Services Coordinator Chris Sundlee, Emergency Services Director Gabe Nussbaum, and myself interviewed Kevin Ryan; we are suggesting that the City offer a contract to Mr. Ryan that would be in effect from 2/1/16 - 6/30/16, to coincide with the City's fiscal year; at that time, the City Manager can extend the contract for one year, or return to the Council for further review; Mr. Ryan has a great deal of experience in emergency response (LASD Search and Rescue, EMT Certified, CERT certified, etc.), and has many connections at the Sheriff and Fire Departments; he does not have as much experience in emergency management, but is taking classes and is willing to do whatever is necessary to become more efficient in that area; the contract calls for 40 hours/month at \$50/hour, but does prohibit the City from purchasing any equipment from Ryan Communications, Mr. Ryan's company; Mr. Ryan is in attendance to answer any questions the Council may have.

The Council had several questions, which Mr. Ryan answered as follows:

he lives very close to Hidden Hills, near Topanga and Dumetz in Woodland Hills, so would be able to be at City Hall in minutes in case of an emergency or disaster; he is currently taking classes, mainly on the FEMA website; he has OES search management training, large incident command training, and has run some of the largest searches in Los Angeles County out of the Lost Hills Sheriff Station, so is used to managing a large number of people; he thinks he can be helpful to the City; through the City, he did meet Mr. Sundlee, who continues to be very cooperative and willing to provide advice and assistance whenever asked.

The City Manager added that Mr. Ryan attended the last meeting and was able to meet the CERT members, who were meeting regularly (monthly) with Mr. Sundlee. Mr. Ryan will be continuing those meetings, and trying to increase membership. Council Member Landon pointed out that Mr. Ryan has been working with Mt. View, and will be conducting that community's first CERT drill this weekend, weather permitting. Mr. Ryan explained that he has also helped Mt. View with their radio communications, and is not under contract but will be helping them more in an advisory role on an as needed basis - however, Hidden Hills will be his top priority, and Hidden Hills is where he would be in case of emergency.

As there was no further discussion, upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Cohen, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the Agreement Between Kevin Ryan and the City of Hidden Hills for Emergency Services Coordinator Services.

C. Consideration of Approval of Proposed Proposition A Assignment Agreement Between the City of Hidden Hills and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Transportation Authority (PVPTA) Regarding the Sale of Prop A Funds and Related Resolution

The City Manager provided the following staff report:

over the last several years the City has accumulated \$120,000 in Prop A funds that it is unable to spend in relation to transportation, as they are very restricted funds; the Palos Verdes Peninsula Transportation Authority (PVPTA) has offered to purchase the City's Prop A funds at an exchange rate of 75 cents on the dollar, which would result in a payment to Hidden Hills of \$90,000 in general fund monies that are not at all restricted; each payment will be made in one lump sum; the exchange, which was coordinated by

City Engineer Dirk Lovett, has been approved by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

The Council was very happy with the proposed exchange. Upon MOTION of Council Member Landon, seconded by Council Member Siegel and unanimously carried on roll call vote, it was resolved to approve the Proposition A Assignment Agreement between the City of Hidden Hills and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Transportation Authority (PVPTA) and to adopt by title only Resolution No. 890 entitled: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS ASSIGNING TO THE PALOS VERDES PENINSULA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PVPTA) \$120,000 OF ITS AVAILABLE PROPOSITION A LOCAL RETURN FUNDS.

D. Consideration of a Proposed Ordinance Amending the Municipal Code Regarding the Cultivation and Commercial Activity of Marijuana - Second Reading

City Attorney Roxanne Diaz provided the following information:

this is the second reading of an ordinance that was discussed at the last Council meeting; all the changes that were agreed to at that time have been made; there is no longer a prohibition on cultivation for personal use if one has an ID card, and no prohibition on delivery service; if a delivery is made in the City by a dispensary licensed outside of the City, the City does not have to be involved in issuing any licenses.

In response to Council Member Siegel, Attorney Diaz explained that indoor cultivation has a square footage maximum, while larger areas are allowed for outdoor cultivation; this proposed ordinance covers both indoor and outdoor, but there would only really be a concern with the differences between indoor and outdoor if the ordinance allowed cultivation, which it does not. Upon MOTION of Mayor Pro Tem Cohen and seconded by Council Member Freedland, it was resolved on a 4-1 vote with Council Member Landon opposed, to give second reading to and adopt by title only Ordinance No. 354 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS AMENDING TITLE V OF THE HIDDEN HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO EXPRESSLY PROHIBIT CULTIVATION OF MEDICAL

MARIJUANA AND PROHIBITING COMMERCIAL MEDICAL MARIJUANA ACTIVITY
INCLUDING MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES IN ALL ZONES IN THE CITY.

**E. Consideration of a Proposed Ordinance Amending the Municipal Code Regarding
Water Efficient Landscaping - Second Reading**

Upon MOTION of Council Member Freedland, seconded by Council Member Landon and unanimously carried, it was resolved to give second reading to and adopt by title only Ordinance No. 355 entitled: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIDDEN HILLS AMENDING CHAPTER 10 OF TITLE V OF THE HIDDEN HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADOPT UPDATED WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPING REQUIRMENTS.

F. Charles Abbott Monthly Reports - November and December

The reports were 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 January 25, 2016 at 8:29 p.m.

Larry G. Weber, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager