

**MINUTES  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2003**

Mayor Regan called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Hillsborough Town Hall, 1600 Floribunda Avenue, Hillsborough California.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mullooly, Fannon, Adams, Kasten, Regan

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the August 11, 2003 City Council meeting were approved as submitted.

**The Hillsborough City Council recessed its regular meeting and convened a meeting of the Hillsborough Public Improvement Corporation (HPIC) to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2003 meeting and then reconvene the regular meeting of the City Council**

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

On motion of Councilmember Fannon and seconded by Councilmember Adams, unanimous on voice vote, Consent Calendar items 1 – 8 were approved.

1. MONTHLY CLAIMS AUGUST 1 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2003

The monthly claims for August 2003 were approved.

2. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AS COMPLETE THE SPENCER LAKE FENCE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The resolution accepting as complete the Spencer Lake Fence Replacement Project and authorizing staff to file a notice of completion for the project was adopted.

3. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AS COMPLETE THE WATER TANK CLEANING PROJECT

The resolution accepting as complete the Water Tank Cleaning Project and authorizing staff to file a notice of completion for the project was adopted.

4. RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #1 AND ACCEPTING AS COMPLETE THE EL ARROYO TANK SITE IMPROVEMENTS

The resolution approving change order #1 and accepting as complete the El Arroyo Tank Site Improvements and authorizing staff to file a notice of completion for the project was adopted.

5. RESOLUTION TO ABANDON A RESERVE EASEMENT AT 20 CRYSTAL SPRINGS TERRACE (Chan Residence)

The resolution to abandon the 5' reserve easement crossing through the property at 20 Crystal Springs Terrace was adopted.

6. RESOLUTION TO ABANDON A SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT AT 10 BUCKEYE COURT (Chan Residence)

The resolution to abandon the sanitary sewer easement crossing through the property at 10 Buckeye Court was adopted.

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF NEW BUILDING DEPARTMENT VEHICLE PURCHASE

The resolution awarding a new vehicle purchase in the Building Department to Stewart Chevrolet in the amount of \$23,687.15 was adopted.

8. RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO JF PACIFIC LINERS FOR CLEANING, ROOT REMOVAL, AND VIDEO TAPING OF APPROX. 25,000 FT. OF SANITARY SEWER LINES IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS

The resolution awarding the contract for the cleaning, root removal, and inspection of the mains to JF Pacific Liners in the amount of \$310,855.25, with a contingency in the amount of \$31,085, for a total construction budget of \$341,940.25 was adopted.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

9. REQUEST FOR VARIANCE TO ALLOW REDUCED SIDEYARD SETBACKS FOR A NEW HOUSE AND DETACHED GARAGE, 1915 PARKSIDE ROAD, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hawayek, applicants

City Planner Maureen Morton explained to the City Council that this particular lot met the findings for two variances to allow construction of a new house and detached garage with reduced side yard setbacks. Ms. Morton indicated that the lot at this location is narrower, at 100 feet wide, than the standard lot width, which is 150 feet. Ms. Morton added that the neighbors have been very supportive.

Vice Mayor Kasten asked how large will the new house be. Ms. Morton indicated that this application has not been submitted to the Architecture and Design Review Board since it is waiting for City Council approval. Architect John Stewart indicated that the new house would be approximately 4,400 sq. ft., but was not sure of the floor area ratio percentage.

Mayor Regan asked why couldn't the garage be more centered in the lot. Mr. Stewart indicated that the homeowners were trying to retain some usable open space in the backyard.

Vice Mayor Kasten asked what the neighbors said about the project. Ms. Morton said they saw the plans and were very supportive.

Mayor Regan opened the public hearing. There being no comment the public hearing was closed.

On motion of Councilmember Mullooly, seconded by Councilmember Fannon, unanimous on voice vote, the request for two-side yard setback variances, based on the findings listed in the staff memo for a new house and detached garage at 1915 Parkside Road was adopted.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

10. CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON TOWN'S FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL PROJECTION

Finance Director Edna Masbad indicated at the budget discussion held in May 2003, staff presented City Council a five-year financial project for the Town, pointing out the projected gap between its operating revenues and expenditures. Mrs. Masbad gave a presentation to the City Council regarding the General Fund extended financial project reflecting CALPERS retirement costs under different yield assumptions; and an updated comparative funding report for the public safety tax to include both Fire and Police Departments.

11. COMBINED FIRE SERVICES WITH THE CITY OF BURLINGAME:  
Proposed 90-Day “Coverage Area Study” Commencing on October 1, 2003

City Manager Anthony Constantouros and Fire Chief Dave Milanese presented to the City Council a proposed 90-day “Coverage Area Study” commencing on October 1, 2003, to merge the Hillsborough Fire Department and Burlingame Fire Department.

Mr. Constantouros and Chief Milanese provided a Power Point presentation to the City Council that included information on the following:

- Safety of the Town’s residents and our fire personnel
- Improved coordination of fire response
- Reduction of overtime cost and duplication of management
- Equitable response area coverage
- Cost savings to both cities
- No negative impact on fire insurance rates
- Improved training and proficiency
- Improved quality of paramedic services

Ms. Claire Haggarty indicated that she would have less of a problem with the merger if the fire engines did not need to cross El Camino Real. Ms. Haggarty explained her concern about El Camino Real and the gridlock traffic that can occur. Ms. Haggarty mentioned that she understands this merger could save the community approximately \$1.2 million, but does not understand why the Town needs to close an entire department. Ms. Haggarty pointed out that fire department would not have such an overtime crisis if the department wasn’t down so many firefighters. Ms. Haggarty said she feels that the residents have been uninformed of combined fire services with the City of Burlingame.

Mr. Gregory Hampton, 1805 Elmwood Road, indicated that he lives in fire station 31’s district for emergency responses. Mr. Hampton’s family has lived in Hillsborough for 41 years and was also the Chair of the Firefighter Restoration Fund. Mr. Hampton informed the City Council that he has complete confidence with this plan, and that it has been approached thoughtfully and incrementally. Mr. Hampton indicated that two doors up from him an older gentlemen was drowning in his pool, and Fire Station 32 was up at Fire Station 33 training, and within 2 minutes an engine along with a Battalion Chief arrived on the site. Mr. Hampton said this shows that this overlapping can have a good outcome. Mr. Hampton added that the words 90-day study is the first step in making an appropriate decision.

Ms. Shannon Wong, 1810 Brookvale Road expressed concern that the safety of the citizens must be kept as the highest priority. Mrs. Wong indicated that it was her father who was in the pool in which the fire department responded. Mrs. Wong said that there are many residences in Town with swimming pools and the possible gridlock on El Camino makes her nervous for those who live close to El Camino.

Mr. Paul Saffo, from the Tobin Clark area, a member of the San Mateo Sheriff’s Reserve, supports the process so far, and encourages the 90-day study. Mr. Saffo indicated to the City Council that this would not only have a huge impact on the Town, but all of San Mateo County. Mr. Saffo would also like to encourage the City Council the reach out more to the citizens.

Councilmember Mullooly indicated that this study has been going on for quite some time and much of the information has been presented at Council meetings and posted in the newspaper. Mrs. Mullooly added that she lives close to Station 31 and also has a pool. If this merger goes through, she is looking forward to a better and stronger department. Mrs. Mullooly believes a lot of work has gone into this and not with the intent to just save money, but to provide better service. Mrs. Mullooly looks forward to the Hillsborough and Burlingame study.

Vice Mayor Kasten said that he believes that a lot of work has gone into this study to get both cities this far. The 90-day trial period with the forecast from both fire departments going into this study with eyes wide open will help them to gather the necessary information.

Councilmember Fannon believes there is a high potential to have improved quality for both fire departments. Mr. Fannon is enthusiastic about the possible outcome of the study.

Mayor Regan indicated that the high volume of paramedic calls in Burlingame will help keep the skills of the Hillsborough Paramedics up to a level to maintain efficiency to the communities.

Councilmember Mullooly referred back to the comment about El Camino Real and pointed out that there are fire engines on either side of El Camino, and along with the help of both police departments, it should not be an issue.

On motion of Councilmember Mullooly, seconded by Councilmember Adams, unanimous on voice vote, the City Council directed staff to implement a 90-day “Coverage Area Study” on October 1, 2003 to evaluate combined fire services with the Town of Hillsborough. The study will involve closing Hillsborough’s Floribunda Fire Station and servicing fire calls from the California Drive Fire Station and other stations; and,

On motion of Councilmember Mullooly, seconded by Councilmember Adams, unanimous on voice vote, the City Council asked that monthly updates to the City Council on the status of the “Coverage Area Study” at the City Council meetings of November 2003 and December 2003; and,

On motion of Councilmember Mullooly, seconded by Councilmember Fannon, unanimous on voice vote, the City Council required that the evaluation data on the “Coverage Area Study” be used to decide on whether to pursue a combined fire department with the City of Burlingame by the conclusion of the 90-day study period.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no comments.

#### **CITY COUNCIL ITEMS:**

Councilmember Mullooly announced that the Blue Angels would arrive at SFO, October 6<sup>th</sup>, instead of Oakland airport and that there might be increased air traffic noise during that time.

Mayor Regan asked what was the status with the corporation yard and residents, and if there were any upcoming meetings. Councilmember Fannon said Mike Meloni is working on a meeting for next month.

Vice Mayor Kasten said he saw that residents were responding to the backflow reimbursement.

#### **ADJOURN:**

Mayor Regan adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.