

**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2013**

**SPECIAL MEETING:**

Mayor Benton called the special meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. at the Hillsborough Town Hall, 1600 Floribunda Avenue, Hillsborough, California.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Benton, May, Chuang, Christianson, Royse

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no public comments.

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of case: Newpath Networks, LLC; Crown Castle NG West Inc. v. Town of Hillsborough, San Mateo Superior Court Action. No CIV518695

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of case: Town of Hillsborough v. Singh, San Mateo Superior Court Action No. 515919

**C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of case: Jerrold Rosenblatt vs. City of Hillsborough, et al, United States District Court for the District of California Civil Action No. C 12 5210

**D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Section 54956(d)(2) of the California Government Code: One potential case

**E. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE**

Government Code Section 54957

**ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION**

**REGULAR MEETING:**

Mayor Benton called the regular meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. at the Hillsborough Town Hall, 1600 Floribunda Avenue, Hillsborough, California.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Benton, May, Chuang, Christianson, Royse

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION:** Mayor Benton reported out that the City Council approved and authorized the City Manager to execute on behalf of the Town the settlement agreement for the unfiled claim and the settlement agreement for the filed claim.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the March 11, 2013 City Council meeting were approved as submitted.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

- Councilmember Marie Chuang thanked Central County Fire Chief Don Dornell for his service to the Town and stated that he would be truly missed. She presented Chief Dornell with a Resolution of Appreciation. She reported that he was also recognized at the Monday, April 1, 2013 Burlingame City Council meeting where he was presented with proclamations from Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Senator Leland Yee, Senator Jerry Hill and Assemblyman Kevin Mullin. Chief Dornell thanked the Mayor and Councilmembers for the great experience he had with the consolidation of the Hillsborough and Burlingame Fire Departments. He stated that the fire department merger was successful because of the trust of the two City Councils to take the steps needed, the commitment to the communities, and the men and women of the Central County Fire Department who have provided professional service to the public above anything else these past nine years. He wished everyone the best.
- Mayor Benton introduced Hillsborough Schools Foundation (HSF) President Lana Guernsey. She provided a brief presentation on HSF. Ms. Guernsey thanked the City Council. She stated that since 1980 HSF has ensured excellence in the #1 best performing school district in California by providing funding for the Hillsborough public schools. She added that there are more than 200 active volunteers raising money and coordinating events for HSF. She reported that last year HSF received \$3.4 million in donations to provide critical funding to support all areas of the schools' curriculum. Ms. Guernsey encouraged everyone to continue to contribute to HSF. She announced that the HSF Fun Run will be held on Sunday, June 2, 2013. She reported that HSF's fiscal year will end on Sunday, June 30, 2013, and hoped that everyone will make a donation so that HSF can reach \$3.4 million in donations again this year.

## **INFORMATION:**

### 1. WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES, THE TOWN'S AESTHETIC CHARACTER AND PROPOSED STATE LEGISLATION

Mayor Benton reported that last year, a contractor advised the Town that it intended to install wireless antennas on simulated light poles and telephone poles in the public rights-of-way. He stated that the Town offered to work with the contractor only to be told that the contractor did not need Town permission and, further, it could determine independently where to place its poles. He further stated that in checking with the Town's counsel, the Town was advised that the contractor might have increased freedom about these matters due to new legislation. He added that the Town instituted a moratorium for 12 months to study the matter and update its ordinances.

Mayor Benton reported that in the fall of 2012, the contractor advised it had received California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) certification that it was exempt from any California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements, but this was a decision made at the staff level and without notice to the Town. He stated that in December 2012, the Town sued the CPUC to overturn the staff decision, and in late December 2012, the contractor sued the Town to have the moratorium set aside.

Mayor Benton reported that in January 2013, the CPUC agreed to bring the issue of the staff's CEQA decision to the full Public Utilities Commission for a final decision. He stated that the Town will have an opportunity to present information concerning the likely impacts of this project. He further stated that based on the CPUC's commitment, the Town has dismissed the lawsuit challenging the staff's decision. Mayor Benton reported that in January 2013, the Town filed a cross-complaint against the contractor and the company that would be leasing the new antenna system, Verizon Wireless, and that this lawsuit is now pending and does not yet have a trial date.

Mayor Benton stated that in the last 20 days, there have been new developments in state legislation regarding wireless communications facilities. Mayor Benton introduced Assistant City Attorney Mark Hudak. Mr. Hudak stated that it was important to recognize that the Crown Castle v. Town of Hillsborough case is not an isolated occurrence, as it is one of many court cases being filed by Crown Castle against cities, but there are issues

unique to the Town and the Town's residents that the Town is pursuing in the Town's case. He reported that the new Assembly Bill 162, if passed, would further reduce the Town's control of wireless carriers and that the wireless providers are using the legislative process to take away control from local governments.

Mayor Benton introduced Jonathan Kramer, the Town's special counsel on wireless communications. Mr. Kramer explained that he was assisting the Town with the process of revising the Town's wireless ordinance and looking for community input. He stated that there are significant updates at the Sacramento level. Mr. Kramer provided a Power Point presentation on wireless communications facilities and the Town's aesthetic character. He defined the meaning of such terms as macrocell, DAS, 3G, 4G, FCC, CPUC, and JPA (Joint Pole Administration). He stated that Verizon Wireless is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC)-licensed wireless carrier; the largest U.S. 4G LTE network; serves end-user customers; uses macrocell, microcell, and Distributed Antenna System (DAS) technology, and uses one "large" site per coverage area. He stated that Crown Castle is a CPUC-licensed telephone company, the largest U.S. DAS provider, only serves wireless carriers, uses DAS technology, and uses 8 to 12 "small" nodes per coverage areas. He provided photos of macrocell cells, which use larger but fewer sites, and DAS nodes, which use smaller but more sites.

Mr. Kramer stated that on March 21, 2013, Assembly Member Chris Holden of the Pasadena area proposed sweeping changes in state law regarding wireless site collocations and time limits to approve wireless communications facilities. He reported that the main elements of Assembly Bill 162 (AB 162) are that wireless site collocations must be approved if the tower does not vertically increase by more than 10 percent, but with a loophole that would allow greater than 10 percent increases in nearly every case. He also reported that the wireless communications facilities must be approved if the antenna array does not horizontally expand by more than 20 feet, but with a loophole that would allow greater than 20 foot increases in nearly every case. He stated that AB 162 requires that wireless site collocations must be approved if the number of equipment cabinets does not exceed four, or one new building. He explained that according to AB 162 collocations would include "equipment and network components, including towers, utility poles, transmitters, base stations, and emergency power systems that are integral to providing wireless telecommunications services". He reported that AB 162 states that "A local government shall not require proof of gap in coverage as part of the approval of an eligible facilities request."

Mr. Kramer reviewed the time limits to approve wireless communications facilities. He reported that AB 162 cuts the time limit in half as it proposes that "The failure to act on an eligible facilities request within 45 days of receipt of a request shall be deemed an approval of the request. The 45 days shall be tolled if the request is determined to be incomplete. If the request is determined to be incomplete, the local government shall comply with subdivision (c) of Section 65943 of the Government Code." He added that this proposed legislation will affect all jurisdictions in the state. He reported that the existing federal shot clock allows for a 90-day time limit for approval of collocations, requests are not deemed approved on expiration, and tolling for reasons other than incompleteness is permitted.

Mr. Kramer reviewed the significant changes in laws, regulations, court rulings, and federal guidance for wireless communications facilities since 2006, including state law changes to wireless site collocations, "significant gap" and "least intrusive means" analysis, and wireless siting rulings regarding the public right-of-way. He also reported that there have been court rulings regarding facial challenges to telecom and wireless ordinances, FCC regulations requiring rapid processing of wireless site applications, and federal law changes to wireless site collocations. He stated that there are now upgrades from 2G (second generation) to 3G (third generation) and 4G (fourth generation) upgrades, WiMax and Wi-Fi integration, and changes to the physical configurations of wireless sites, especially in the public right-of-way.

Mr. Kramer explained that the Town adopted the wireless siting moratorium in September 2012 to allow the Town adequate time to carefully consider possible changes to Hillsborough Municipal Code Chapter 15.32 based on new laws, regulations,

court rulings and technology. He pointed out that the Town cannot regulate on the basis of health concerns. He reported that the Town has sought input from residents at this meeting and the two previous City Council meetings, and has sought input from the wireless companies earlier today, which will help staff craft an ordinance that will be best for everyone's interest. He stated that he will incorporate the input received from residents and the wireless carriers into the Town's ordinance on wireless regulations. He reported that the amended ordinance will be brought to the City Council for consideration and adoption at a future City Council meeting which will terminate the existing wireless siting moratorium.

As a guide for residents, Mr. Kramer provided a list of questions regarding cell phone service, community aesthetics, and the Town's ordinance.

Mayor Benton asked for comments from the public.

Hillsborough resident Jim Arbeed thanked the City Council for the opportunity to speak. He stated that he is a realtor with Coldwell Banker and that he depends on cell phones, but that cell service with AT&T in Hillsborough is adequate. He further stated that his parents moved to Hillsborough from San Francisco because of the Town's beautiful, idyllic setting. He added that the proposed cell towers will set a precedent and impact the character of the Town. He commented that in the real estate buyer's mind, perception is reality which can affect the marketability of a property. He reported that there is a property on the market near a PG&E substation that is still on the market. Mr. Arbeed commented that the Town has strict planning regulations such as the floor area ratio, and that the Town should be able to control the aesthetics of wireless communications facilities in Hillsborough like CC&Rs (Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions) for a condominium. He stated that the Town should maintain the Town's rural setting by not allowing the proposed cell towers. He added that property values would drop if the cell towers were allowed in Town because his experience has been that such things as PG&E transmission lines, asbestos, or flood zones can really spook a buyer from purchasing a property.

Leon Beauchman, member of Joint Venture Silicon Valley's Wireless Communications Initiative Committee, reported that Joint Venture works to bring the public and private sectors together to improve the wireless infrastructure. He stated that smart phones and other mobile devices have created a coverage and capacity issue. He reported that the City of Palo Alto had a issue similar to Hillsborough and that Palo Alto held public meetings to gather feedback and received comments overwhelmingly that the residents wanted better coverage, and that Palo Alto recently approved a project to install 82 DAS sites. He stated that Joint Venture looked at homes 1/8 and 1/2 mile from wireless facilities and learned that the asking and sale price of those homes were not affected by their proximity to wireless facilities and had no correlation or effect on the properties' values. He reported that 30 percent of all calls are made on cell phones. He stated that Joint Venture Silicon Valley's Wireless Communications Initiative Committee is available to offer their services to the Town. He added that wireless communications drives Silicon Valley's economic vitality.

Mr. Kramer asked Mr. Beauchman for a copy of the reports on real property and smart phone use. Mr. Beauchman replied that he would provide Mr. Kramer with a copy of the reports.

Hillsborough resident Kim Black stated that he is concerned about the health risks to children from emissions from the cell towers. He reported that he woke up with a burning feeling inside and out when a smart meter was installed at his home. He urged everyone to not look at the emission studies done by the corporations. He stated that the 1997 report on emissions should be revised and that the Town should also conduct its own research on emissions from cell towers.

Hillsborough resident Angelina C. Laubsch stated that she is also concerned about the health effects, especially on children, and that according to scientists' conclusions the 24/7 emissions from smart meters and cell antennas has a cumulative effect that can lead to cancer, neurophysiological problems, cardiovascular disease, and Alzheimer's

disease. She stated that children's skulls are much thinner and are more at risk for brain damage. She added that health is the most important wealth. She commented that she did not want to live near a cell tower. She reported that in India, 300 cell towers were dismantled because of their health risk. She stated that the laws are protecting cell companies and not protecting people's health from the perverse harm.

Hillsborough resident W.J. Spitz stated that a proposed 45 foot wireless communications facility will be located a half block away from his home. He reported that his AT&T cell phone works wonderfully. He commented that he does not want to get sick from the proposed cell tower and that the cell service providers just want to make money. He stated that the proposed cell towers are not needed, and he urged the Town to do everything to keep them out. He also stated that his wife has Alzheimer's disease.

Hillsborough resident David L. Weinberg stated that he attended last month's meeting and commented that the future is in wireless communications whether we like it or not. He also stated that the Town should work towards keeping its values, but to stay cutting edge, the Town needs to keep changing. He further stated that the Town should work through the ordinance with the whole concept of communications in mind. He added that existing utility poles could be utilized for wireless communications facilities. He asked that the City Council look at the whole picture.

Hillsborough resident Rami Eldhatib asked if there were any efforts against AB 162 currently under way in Sacramento. Mr. Kramer replied that this is a new piece of legislation and that other communities have voted in opposition of AB 162. He added that a resolution opposing the new legislation would need to be adopted as an agenda item. Mr. Eldhatib stated that the proposal by Crown Castle to install cell towers in Hillsborough would have a tremendous adverse effect on property values with the perceived health risks from the emissions from the cell towers. He reported that his eight-year-old child has brain inflammation and that he feels that EMF (electromagnetic fields) and radiation have been a major cause of his child's health problem. He thanked the City Council for fighting so hard on this issue and encouraged them to take it as far as possible legally and by lobbying. He stated that a committee of three to five people should be formed to raise funds to take the issue all the way as he believes that there are health risks, especially to the children.

Hillsborough resident Norman Book III stated that he has cell service with Sprint and that service inside his home is good, but not very good outside. He added that he has a microcell to improve cell coverage in his home and suggested that a \$100 to \$200 microcell could be the solution for better cell coverage rather than the installation of cell towers throughout Hillsborough. He stated that the cell towers would reduce property values. He thanked the Mayor, Councilmembers and fellow residents for showing interest against the proposed wireless communications facilities issue. He commented that he is concerned about aesthetics. He stated that the Town should offer long-term leases with reasonable rates for the wireless carriers. He further stated that there is now the opportunity to underground all the utility wires in Hillsborough and that he is willing to contribute to a fund to get this project going. Mr. Kramer stated that according to a federal court case, having a microcell in a home cannot be considered when determining carrier coverage.

Hillsborough resident Christine Giusti reported that she has cell service with Verizon and that she has excellent service inside and outside her home. She stated that cell service coverage is extremely important, but aesthetics and health risks are more important.

Hillsborough resident Libby O'Leary reported that she has cell service with AT&T and the service is fine inside and outside her home. She stated that aesthetic value is extremely important and that the City Council should seriously consider aesthetics in the ordinance. She questioned the property value report regarding the distance of 1/8 of a mile as 600 feet is far, not like the proposed cell towers in front of homes in Hillsborough, which will dissuade a lot of buyers and decrease the value of homes. She added that the proposed cell towers will have a significant impact on the aesthetics of Hillsborough.

Hillsborough resident John Shupe left written comments on the Speaker's Form. His written comments included that "protecting the Town's aesthetics is more important to him than the quality of the cell phone reception". His written comments also included that the "Town's goal should be to maximize its ability to control and direct Crown Castle and similar company efforts, while staying within the letter of the applicable law, so as to minimize claims".

Hillsborough resident Linda Lynch also left written comments on the Speaker's Form. Her written comments included that the "importance of wireless service inside and outside is not a big deal, certainly not in comparison to what the cell towers and facilities will look like." Her written comments also included that the "importance in protecting community aesthetics is absolutely key!" She noted that the Town "can do without our "fast" service and our cell phones, if that is what is necessary to keep those ugly towers and associated facilities!!" She also noted that she would like to see in the Town's wireless communications facilities ordinance "a reasoned and sensible means of determining where the new sites should be placed, what the equipment should look like, and whether the equipment can be put in less intrusive areas". Her last written comment asked about lobbying efforts and other town's or city's hearings and lobbyists.

Hillsborough resident Kaarin Hardy stated that the Town should vigorously defend the Town's ability to decide on the coverage issue of how much the Town wants and where the Town wants the wireless communications facilities.

Hillsborough resident Julie Baumann stated that there is no doubt that the installation of the wireless communications facilities will have an impact on home values because the wireless communications facilities will be a huge deterrent for home buyers because of health concerns and aesthetics.

Hillsborough resident Ada Regan stated that she is glad that the City Council is fighting for the Town's residents. She further stated that the Town picked up on the surreptitious way Crown Castle acted in such an underhanded way with their proposal and how they rushed things through. She added that the wireless carriers have no respect for the community and the people they pretend to serve.

Hillsborough resident Kelly Miller-Bailey thanked everyone for attending this meeting. She stated that there is 200 acres of Town-owned open space, PG&E land and Crystal Springs land available, and that environmental studies should be conducted on the feasibility to install the wireless communications facilities there. She commented that the regulating agencies are not protecting the Hillsborough community. She reported that residents are upset because the wireless companies are not working with the Town to come up with a solution that works for everyone. She stated that a home is the biggest investment and that the cell towers placed in front yards would have a negative impact on property values. She further reported that the wireless companies are free to do what they want and residents are not happy about the proposed 45 foot cell towers. She added that the installation of the antennas near homes could result in a 20 percent property value decrease. She stated that she is afraid of the precedence that Crown Castle is setting as the equipment and utility boxes could be modified without the Town's approval. She further stated that Crown Castle's proposal to install the cell towers have been imposed upon the community in violation of residents' rights. She added that the regulating agencies should be protecting the community. She asked the City Council to please help the community as all that the community wants is a partnership with the wireless companies and for them not to install the cell towers in front yards.

Hillsborough resident and Hillsborough Schools Foundation's President Lana Guernsey stated that she has service with AT&T and has mediocre coverage. She further stated that installation of the proposed cell towers will have a negative impact on property values. She reported that there is a financial benefit to the Hillsborough public schools with the growth in Hillsborough's property values. She explained that a one percent decrease in Hillsborough's property values would be a \$130,000 loss of funding to the Town's public schools.

Mr. Kramer stated that he encouraged written comments from residents as they will be evaluated and will be part of the public record. Mr. Schwartz added that comments can be dropped off at Town Hall or emailed to pw@hillsborough.net.

Hillsborough resident Don Anderson stated that he is a 40-year resident of Hillsborough and that the issue is that the proposed wireless communications facilities are being jammed through residents' throats. He commented that Crown Castle has done a hideous job with their proposed project in Hillsborough. He stated that the Town should achieve a great and long lasting plan to avoid going through this idiotic and mundane process in the future.

Hillsborough resident Steve Pace left a copy of an article by Russell L. Blaylock, M.D., on evidence supporting damage to the brain from cell phones.

Mayor Benton thanked those that spoke and stated that everyone's comments will be important when revising the Town's wireless communications facilities ordinance in the community's best interest.

Councilmember Christianson also thanked those that spoke for their concise and thoughtful views.

Vice Mayor May thanked the residents for attending the last three City Council meetings and for expressing their concerns in the public forum. He also thanked staff for all their work on the issue.

Mayor Benton thanked the wireless carriers for attending the meeting and hearing the public's comments.

Mayor Benton called for a five minute break.

Mayor Benton reconvened the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Items 5, 6, 8 and 10 were removed for discussion. On motion of Councilmember Royse, seconded by Councilmember Chuang, and unanimous on voice vote, Consent Calendar items 2 - 4, 7 and 9 were approved.

2. MONTHLY CLAIMS: MARCH 1 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2013

The monthly claims for the month of March 2013 in the amount of \$2,228,931.67 were approved as submitted.

3. QUARTERLY TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 2013

The Treasurer's Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2013, was approved.

4. QUARTERLY INTEREST RATE PRODUCTS (SWAP) REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 2013

The Interest Rate Products (SWAP) Report for the quarter ended March 31, 2013, was accepted.

5. RESOLUTION ADOPTING BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012/2013

Councilmember Christianson asked if the additional appropriation for the Building Department was for regular employees. Finance Director Edna Masbad replied that the positions referred to in the resolution included CSG consultants for plan check inspections services which are covered with revenues from construction permits and plan check fees resulting from an increase in permitting activities.

On motion of Councilmember Christianson, seconded by Vice Mayor May, and unanimous on voice vote, the resolution adopting budget adjustments for fiscal year 2012/2013 was adopted.

6. APPROVAL OF HILLSBOROUGH SCHOOLS FOUNDATION'S NEW FUN RUN SIGNS

Councilmember Christianson asked if the Town's ordinance allowed for lawn signs in Hillsborough. City Manager Randy Schwartz replied that lawn signs are allowed, but staff will be revising the Town's ordinance regarding fundraising event signs and will seek City Council direction at a future City Council meeting.

The Councilmembers, Mr. Schwartz, Assistant City Manager Kathy Leroux, and City Clerk Miyuki Yokoyama discussed the Hillsborough Schools Foundation's Fun Run lawn signs.

On motion of Councilmember Christianson, seconded by Vice Mayor May, and unanimous on voice vote, the artwork for the new banner and lawn signs for the Hillsborough Schools Foundation's Fun Run were approved.

7. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH RICHARDSON CONSULTING FOR CONTRACT PLANNING SERVICES

The resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Richardson Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 was adopted.

8. RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE SANITARY SEWAGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH, CITY OF SAN MATEO, CRYSTAL SPRINGS COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT, AND THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Vice Mayor May asked if the City of San Mateo will now help the Crystal Springs Sanitation District pay for its share of the improvements to the Crystal Springs / El Cerrito trunk line. Director of Public Works Paul Willis replied that the Crystal Springs County Sanitation District's financial participation will be 37 percent. He reported that the City of San Mateo will be going to their City Council in May 2013 to discuss options for the Crystal Springs Sanitation District share and responsibility.

City Attorney Norm Book explained that the sole purpose of the amendment is to reimburse the Town for design and environmental work. He added that there is language in the amendment that could be construed as going beyond the reimbursement issue, which would need clarification by the Town's legal counsel.

On motion of Vice Mayor May, seconded by Councilmember Royse, and unanimous on voice, the resolution approving the amendment to the Sanitary Sewage Agreement, subject to City Attorney approval, between the Town of Hillsborough, City of San Mateo, Crystal Springs County Sanitation District, and the County of San Mateo, and authorizing the City Manager to sign the amendment on behalf of the Town was adopted.

9. RESOLUTION AWARDED THE VIEW HAVEN – BLACK MOUNTAIN STORM DRAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT TO EPS, INC. (DBA EXPRESS PLUMBING)

The resolution awarding the contract for the View Haven – Black Mountain Storm Drain Replacement Project to EPS, Inc. (dba Express Plumbing) in the amount of \$133,700, allocating funds from the Miscellaneous Storm Drain Repairs Project, CIP #807.47, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the Town and to approve a 10% contingency, if needed, was adopted.

10. RESOLUTION INCREASING URS CORPORATION'S CEQA SERVICES CONTRACT AMOUNT FOR THE PDM-08 PROJECT

Mayor Benton reported that the last paragraph of the resolution was amended to include the wording “increasing the cost” for CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) preparation professional services.

On motion of Mayor Benton, seconded by Vice Mayor May, and unanimous on voice, the amended resolution increasing the URS Corporation contract for CEQA preparation professional services from \$51,000 to \$57,500 was adopted.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

11. REPORT ON COMMUNITY RELATIONS ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2013-2014 GENERAL FUND BUDGET

City Manager Randy Schwartz stated that the Town’s budget has historically included funds used to assist the non-profit organizations, Human Investment Project (HIP) Housing, Shelter Network, San Mateo County Jobs for Youth, Peninsula TV, Sustainable San Mateo County, and Housing Endowment and Regional Trust (HEART) of San Mateo County. He reported that these non-profit organizations are scheduled to receive the same amount as the last fiscal year, except for HIP Housing, who requested an increase. He stated that the \$2,500 donation to HIP Housing will be in keeping with similar donations from other jurisdictions within San Mateo County.

Vice Mayor May asked if there were any restrictions on how the organizations receiving funding assistance from the Town use the funds. Mr. Schwartz replied that the funds are to provide services that directly or indirectly benefit the Town’s population or local government in general. He added that he will include in the 2013-2014 budget presentation, a description of the benefit to the Hillsborough community from each non-profit organization that receives funding assistance from the Town.

Councilmember Royse asked if staff checked the non-profit organizations’ charitable accountability. Mr. Schwartz replied that he will provide a report to the City Council on each non-profit organization’s charitable accountability.

The Councilmembers, Mr. Schwartz and Assistant City Manager Kathy Leroux further discussed the non-profit organizations receiving funding from the Town.

Mayor Benton thanked Mr. Schwartz and Ms. Leroux.

**DISCUSSION:**

12. GERI LANE GATE RESTORATION AND LANDSCAPE PROJECT UPDATE

Public Works Superintendent John Mullins provided a Power Point presentation on the Geri Lane Gate Restoration and Landscape Project. He reported that in early February 2013, the Public Works Department began conducting an outreach program with nearby residents to discuss options and ideas to improve traffic flow by installing a traffic island at the Geri Lane, Eucalyptus Avenue and Forest View Avenue intersection. He stated that 11 letters from residents have been received. He added that the Public Works Department has decided to postpone the traffic island installation, and will present the traffic island installation project at the August 2013 City Council meeting.

Mr. Mullins reported that Hillsborough Beautification Foundation (HBF) is developing a project to restore the historic gates and columns at the entrance to Geri Lane, and rehabilitate the landscaping around the gate and column structures. He stated that while studying the drainage conditions at the intersection, it was discovered that there were poor drainage conditions at that location. He further stated that the Public Works Department is looking at improving the storm water and traffic flows in the intersection in conjunction with the HBF project currently being designed. He reported that HBF will be coordinating their gate improvement project with the Town’s storm water improvements and traffic island project, and that HBF has offered to include traffic island landscaping into their project. He provided diagrams of the proposed new landscaping project and intersection reconfiguration with and without the island.

The Councilmembers, Mr. Mullins, and Director of Public Works Paul Willis discussed the proposed changes to the Geri Lane, Eucalyptus Avenue and Forest View Avenue intersection.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

South San Francisco resident Carlos Martin announced that he will be a candidate for the South San Francisco City Council and that he currently is the Vice Chairperson of the South San Francisco Planning Commission. He commented that he was really inspired by this City Council meeting with the appreciation of the retiring Central County Fire Chief, the success of the Hillsborough public schools, and the input from residents about the proposed wireless communications facilities. He reported that South San Francisco has over 100 biotech companies with many of the executives living in Hillsborough, and that the well-being of Hillsborough residents often depends on the biotech community. He stated that his platform for running for South San Francisco City Council will be employment opportunities and environmental protection. He added that he looks forward to campaigning for the November 2013 South San Francisco City Council election. He thanked the City Council for their time.

**CITY COUNCIL ITEMS:**

Mayor Benton announced that he will be attending the C/CAG Annual Retreat on Thursday, April 11, 2013, with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) presenting a draft of Plan Bay Area.

Mayor Benton announced that the Joint Venture Silicon Valley Network will be holding a wireless communications meeting on both April 11, 2013, and April 12, 2013. City Manager Randy Schwartz announced that staff will be attending the Friday, April 12, 2013 meeting from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and will report back to the City Council.

Mayor Benton announced that former City Manager Anthony Constantouros' retirement celebration will be held on Friday, April 12, 2013, at the Carolands Chateau and that he will be presenting Mr. Constantouros with a resolution of appreciation.

Mayor Benton announced that the ABAG General Assembly will be held on Thursday, April 18, 2013. Councilmember Royse stated that he will be attending.

Mayor Benton announced that the Hillsborough Citizen of the Year / Community Care Award reception will be held on Friday, April 26, 2013. Mayor Benton, Vice Mayor May and Councilmembers Christianson and Royse announced that they will be attending.

Mayor Benton announced that the Council of Cities Dinner/Meeting will be held on Friday, April 26, 2013, in the City of San Bruno and that he will be attending.

Mayor Benton announced that the Employee Service Award Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013. Mayor Benton and Councilmembers Chuang and Christianson announced that they will be attending.

Mayor Benton announced that former Central County Fire Chief Don Dornell's retirement celebration will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2013, at Dominic's at Oyster Point in South San Francisco.

Mayor Benton announced that Hillsborough Beautification Foundation's Celebrate May will be held on Thursday, May 2, 2013.

Councilmember Chuang announced that the next Hillsborough Reads Book Club event will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall with guest speaker Joseph Di Prisco, author of *All for Now*.

Councilmember Chuang announced that the next Hillsborough Neighborhood Network (HNN) quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2013, with a guest speaker

from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) discussing surviving an earthquake in Hillsborough.

Councilmember Royse reported that he attended the Friday, March 15, 2013, Council of Cities Dinner/Meeting in the City of San Mateo and that the topic of discussion was the escalating crime in San Mateo County. He also reported that a Councilmember from South San Francisco reported that the San Francisco Bay Ferry that serves San Mateo County needs to increase ridership at the new South San Francisco ferry terminal.

Councilmember Chuang reported that she also attended the Friday, March 15, 2013, Council of Cities Dinner/Meeting, and that during the panel presentation on Community Crime Prevention it was recommended that residents call 9-1-1 for any suspicious activity. She added that the Hillsborough Police Department has done an excellent job of using social media to catch burglars.

Councilmember Royse reported that he attended the Grand Boulevard Task Force meeting on Wednesday, March 27, 2013, and that infrastructure needs, costs and funding, and traffic flow for the El Camino corridor were discussed.

Councilmember Royse reported that he attended the South Bayside Waste Management Authority (SBWMA) Blue Ribbon Task Force Meeting on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, and that governance issues were discussed.

Mayor Benton announced that he attended the Eighth Annual San Mateo County Appreciation Breakfast on Thursday, April 4, 2013, which honored local community leaders for employing people with disabilities.

Councilmember Christianson reported that she attended the Peninsula Traffic Congestion Relief Alliance meeting on Thursday, January 24, 2013, and that the Alliance's budget of \$3 million budget and the shuttle services contract extension were discussed.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Benton adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m. in memory of Larry Onderdonk, who served as Financial Advisory Committee Member and Chair from July 1994 through December 2006.