

Castaic Area Town Council Meeting Minutes September 21, 2016:

1. Call to order 6:34 pm. Roll call: All present except Jessica, Dawn and Lloyd.
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Invocation
 - c. Approval of Agenda. Motion to approve: First and Second. Vote 7/0/0

Hearing session:

1 request to speak. 12 guests.

Mike Richter: Resident of Castaic. Sent letter to CATC, requesting assistance for beautification via trash clean up. Trash problem on freeway entrances is bad. Caltrans advised him to keep off highways, due to safety issues. The Old Rd. is also bad. He asked for our assistance in helping with a clean up day.

Request will be passed to our Beautification Committee.

2. Special Reports:
 - a. Rosalind Wayman: Has special guest from LA Sheriff's office regarding Pitchess Detention Center moving inmates with psychological issues into the prison. Transfer of 320 prisoners from Twin Towers in LA to Pitchess.
 - i. Tim Belavich, psychologist for LA Jail. These prisoners are mental health patients and are considered the healthier ones. They are on psychological drugs. They're at the level where they can hold jobs. In June, 75 patients were transferred as a test run and they've had a positive response. They would like to start the net transfer = 80 inmates per transfer. They'll do this four times for a total of 320 inmates.
 - ii. Dave Rush, Captain at Pitchess. These prisoners will be in four dorms. Each holds up to 96 inmates. The existing inmates will be transferred out and the new ones brought in.
 - iii. John Kunak questions:
 1. Q: What is the type of patient.
 - a. A: The inmates are low risk. The risk of for them to be in the General Population (GP) where they can be harmed by GP inmates.
 2. Q: We have had escapes and the inmates have come into our neighborhoods and we have schools nearby. What is the risk to us?
 - a. A: The level of security of these inmates ranges from 4 to 7 (out of 10). 8's are considered dangerous and there are no 8's. They will not have jobs to the outside and the only time they'll leave the dorm area is for court or if they are being transported. There are no sexual violent predators.

3. Q: Should the community be concerned?
 - a. A: No additional concern compared to the inmates already there. Everything is centrally located, so they won't leave the area.
 4. Q: Visiting time?
 - a. A: Same as regular inmates.
 5. Q: Will there be doctors and nurses?
 - a. A: There are 4,000 mentally ill inmates in the system. 700 are severely mentally ill. The others are moderate, which is where this group is coming from. They will continue treatment. Pitchess will hire 13 positions of outside staffing to take care of the inmates psychiatric needs.
 6. Q: Why do you want to bring them here vs staying at the Twin Towers?
 - a. A: This is a better place for them to receive treatment. They have outdoor nature and more space.
 7. Q: You will still need staff at the Twin Towers, so will this duplicate staff and create more costs?
 - a. A: There will not be an increase in staff. They were previously approved for extra staff, so instead of hiring them to be at the Twin Towers, they will come to Pitchess. There is also a limit of 320 inmates maximum and there are no plans to increase this number.
 8. Q: In the future, can you let us know about things like this ahead of time. We just heard about it this week and the Supervisors were planning to vote, prior to our meeting.
 - a. A: Yes, we'll do that.
- iv. Bonnie Nikolai questions:
1. Q: Are you planning to transfer inmates out to make room for the new ones?
 - a. A: Yes.
 2. I think it's great for the patients and I support the project.
- v. Greg Kimura questions:
1. Q: If an inmate escapes, what extra precautions are needed?
 - a. A: No extra precautions are needed. They are not any more dangerous than a regular inmate.
 2. Q: If an inmate does escape, what will happen if they're out for let's say 48 hours without medication?
 - a. A: Nothing special is needed. They will not be an additional danger to the community.
 3. Q: How will is the transfer planned?
 - a. A: Groups of 80 will be brought up. The inmates will settle in for 2-3 weeks, then assessed. If all is okay, new inmates will be

brought in (another group of 80). The process continues until all 320 are transferred in.

vi. Flo Lawrence questions:

1. Q: They are being transferred here, because they'll receive better care?
 - a. A: Yes.
2. Q: Will they mix with the GP?
 - a. A: No.
3. Q: If they do mix with the GP, which side is at risk?
 - a. A: They are at risk from being harmed by someone in the GP.
4. Q: Is there a higher security facility currently at Pitchess?
 - a. A: Yes, but this group will not have any 8's.

vii. Jim Idleman questions:

1. It seems like a good idea, because it gives the inmates an opportunity to have a safer place.

viii. John Kunak question:

1. Q: Do you still have the siren (escapes)?
 - a. A: Yes.

ix. Bonnie Nikolai question:

1. Q: If an inmate gets into trouble, will they be sent back to the Twin Towers?
 - a. A: Yes. We consider this as a privilege of good behavior. The best inmates will be allowed to be part of this program.

x. Flo Lawrence questions:

1. Q: Can a resident ask for a tour of the facility to see the security?
 - a. A: Yes, we encourage it. We invite the Town Council to take a tour. Check with the Commander's Office.

xi. Rosalind's presentation:

1. A few months ago, there was a complaint about the unsightly storage of things on the Old Rd. Three violations were given to correct the problem.
2. Kelly Quick: There are homeless encampments north of where the Old Rd. ends. I'm concerned about them being there.
3. Deputy Rooney: I visited the site and gave recommendations to them about who to see to help get them back into housing.
4. Kelly Quick: I am concerned that there is a risk for fire. There is only one way in and out. They also are making a mess with their trash. It's also very unsanitary. There is also a man near the library living in a tent.
5. Deputy Rooney: He was already arrested and was found to have priors.
6. Vickie Raymundi: The tent is still there.
7. Rosalind: I will call to have it removed.

3. Community Reports and Presentations:

- a. Public safety

- i. LA Fire Dept – Stephanie English
 1. August Report
 2. Fire station 143 to open October 1st. Nov 30 Dedication Ceremony 11:00.
 3. Santa Ana winds coming this weekend. Potential for a dangerous fire. Be prepared.
 4. Get on Nixle. Town Council Board needs to be on Nixle, so we can spread the word quickly if there's a fire.
 5. John Kunak: Why are there so many fires in the Newhall Pass?
 6. Stephanie: Sparks from trucks – chains dragging or tires overheating. People throwing out cigarettes. There is so much fuel out there and when it's dry, it goes up quickly.
- ii. LA Co Sheriff – Deputy Rooney and Lieutenant Wanie
 1. August Report
 - a. Highlights: One assault on Lake Hughes Rd at a gas station. Resident was asked for money and he fought off the person.
 2. Drug awareness program. Parents of teenagers should get a kit to do a drug test. They are available at the Val Verde YAL. Also, you can get advice on how to talk to your kids about drugs.
 3. Flo Lawrence: Regarding the homeless problem, what is the next step?
 4. Deputy Rooney: There is a program called Bridge to Home that was already offered to them. A notice to the property owner was also given.
 5. Flo Lawrence: They are using drugs back there.
 6. Deputy Rooney: Yes, we know and we're working on it.
 7. Sandia Ennis: If there is a neighbor making too much noise, will the Sheriff come out?
 8. Deputy Rooney: Yes, they will.
 9. Sandia: What does it take to stop them? Neighbors have already called the Sheriff. Also, this happens every weekend.
 10. Deputy Rooney: There are no time restrictions. It's based on us hearing it, the distance and the loudness. We give them a warning the first time and if we have to come back, we give them a ticket. We recommend you and your neighbors call the sheriff and email.
 11. John Kunak: I saw a beat up car in the median on Hillcrest. There were cones around it. When I called the Sheriff's dept., they told me to call the CHP.
 12. Greg Kimura: My problem neighbor was going through my trash this morning. I have credit card offers and other things that gets thrown out. You know about the problems my neighbors and I have had with this guy. Can we do something about this?
 13. Deputy Rooney: Yes, we received your email. Someone can take something from your trash bin as long as you've put it out on the curb.

If it's the recycle bin, they can be cited for stealing, since that's the property of the trash company and it has value. I recommend that you shred your papers.

14. Greg Kimura: I have a lot of this junk mail. I don't have the time to shred it and store it.

15. Deputy Rooney: We have shred days, where you can bring documents and we'll shred it.

iii. LA Co Sheriff Parks – not here

iv. CHP – Officer Oakes and Mike Reardon

1. August Report

2. Last month's accident – status update. We found out he was a victim of PTSD.

3. Juvenile on 5 freeway near Vista del Lago 8/31. A suicide

4. Child safety seat month. CHP will show how to install and inspect car seats. Call for an appointment.

5. Rear facing seats are recommended for young children

6. 800-tell chp is our non-emergency line. Calls go to Sacramento and are sent to each station.

7. This is my last night here. I've taken a transfer to San Diego to be closer to family. Thank you for having me at your meetings.

8. Mike Reardon, CHP Recruitment Department. We are hiring 600 officers/year to fill holes. Also hiring other positions. Have interested parties contact us.

9. Only 1.7% of applicants complete training and become an officer.

10. The process takes 1 to 1 ½ years to complete

b. Parks and Recreation

i. Castaic Library – Vickie Raymundi

1. August Report

2. Many programs coming up. See schedule at the library

ii. Castaic Lake Report – not here

iii. Castaic Regional Sports Complex – not here

iv. Parks and Recreation Measure on November Ballot

1. Bonnie Nikolai:

a. 1.5 cents per sq. foot parcel tax

b. > \$30M for parks

c. Measure A. Same name as old one, which is currently active and expires in 2019

d. Project Cost Estimates (PCE) sheet. Error under Deferred Maintenance. Should be \$2M not \$2B

e. No end date (sunset) if approved

f. The list of projects on the PCE are not in the order of when they'll be done.

- c. Castaic High School Ad-Hoc Committee
 - i. Report – Flo Lawrence
 - 1. Color brochure was made for the high school.
 - 2. Money still there for the school
 - 3. Hart Board will vote on Oct 5th. Open in 2019 with two classes and a complete school?
 - 4. Recommend we choose stakeholders (current 7th grade class). Select school colors, mascot, principal, etc.
 - d. Land Use Committee Standards
 - i. New Projects Report – nothing new proposed
 - e. Beautification Committee – Dawn Faulconer
 - i. Dawn not here, but she did receive inquiries and is working on them.
 - ii. Recommend Dawn look into community clean up day.
 - f. Election Committee – Matt Gill
 - i. Deadline to apply to run, October 8, 2016. Committee must receive by this date. \$50 fee for each applicant.
 - ii. November 12th is election day.
4. Correspondence/Council Information/Discussion
- a. Letter from Chiquita Canyon clarifying rumors about trash from Sunshine Canyon coming to Chiquita Canyon. Many rumors out there and letter sent to board members to provide facts.
 - b. Greg Kimura: We should invite someone from the county to speak to us about Measure M. This is the ½ cent sales tax increase for LA County. Money to be used to repair/improve all modes of transportation for the next 40 years.
 - i. Measure M will provide funds to extend the HOV lane to Lake Hughes Rd. If Measure M is passed, a study will be done to assess the need for the extension and how far north it should go.
 - ii. We can invite Dave Perry from LA County. He is involved with Measure M.
5. Consent Calendar
- a. Minutes to CATC Regular Meeting, August 17, 2016
 - b. Minutes of the CATC Planning Meeting, September 7, 2016
 - c. Treasurer’s Report: July and August
 - d. Motion made to approve items, except to table Treasurer’s Report. First and Second. Vote to approve 7/0/0
6. Items for possible discussion – none

Meeting adjourned 8:34 pm