



Avalon City Council Weekly Update 1-10-14

Nuisance Bird Abatement/Falconry Services

I have been working with Rocky Post and Cynthia Shelton of On The Wing Falconry this week to finalize the proposed contract for the three-way partnership (City of Avalon, Santa Catalina Island Company and Chamber of Commerce) for falconry services. I have sent the proposed contract to the City Attorney's office for review. Depending on his revisions/recommendations, it is possible that we could enter into this agreement sometime next week, and commence services with On The Wing Falconry shortly thereafter.

Law Enforcement

On January 2, 2014, Sheriff Deputies arrested a juvenile for the theft and vandalism of Erin Eubanks' golf cart. Yesterday, the Sheriff arrested two additional suspects for their involvement in the crimes. The arrested men are Jonathan Torres, age 19, and Ricardo Ramirez, age 20. The investigation is on-going, but no additional arrests are anticipated. The suspects have been cooperative with investigators, and the facts of the case will be presented to the District Attorney's Office for filing consideration.

2014 Avalon City Council Elections

Today (Friday, January 10, 2014) was the last day to submit completed paperwork with the intent of running for the office of Mayor or City Council Member. The following individuals submitted completed paperwork with the intention of running for Mayor: Bob Kennedy and Anni Marshall. The following individuals submitted completed paperwork with the intention of running for City Council: Burney Ramming, Michael Ponce, Cinde Cassidy, Tim Winslow, Ralph Morrow, Joe Sampson and Alex Sanchez.

Paramedic Services - Los Angeles County

Today I met with Daryl Osby, Los Angeles County Fire Chief, to discuss the City's Baywatch contract for Paramedic services. I explained the City's concerns regarding gaps in available paramedic service and escalating costs built into the contract with consideration for the County's obligation to serve the majority of Catalina Island, which is unincorporated Los Angeles County territory (and not within the jurisdiction of the City of Avalon). It was a positive meeting, and I expect to reconvene with the Chief and/or his designees on this topic in the near future.

Information Technology

Wifi capability has been temporarily installed in the Council Chambers and in key areas in City Hall. Ultimately there will be a permanent installation of wiring/equipment to ensure easy and convenient Wifi access throughout City Hall. Staff met with a consultant on the Council Chamber AV (Audio Visual) Upgrade project, and are identifying key areas to improve. Pat Grady is nearing completion of migrating historical data from individual computers to a more secure server environment.

Planning

The City issued a new obstruction permit to Fineline Construction for their project on Wrigley Terrace. The conditions of the permit are as follows:

- Flashers and a mirror on the construction fencing
- Employees must park personal vehicles on the dirt turn out just below the Middle Terrace Road entrance
- A flagman must be present when any obstruction exists in the roadway during construction hours
- The debris tube down to Middle Terrace Road must be eliminated as soon as excavation inside the bottom level is complete
- All future construction debris will have to be removed via Wrigley Terrace Road (and not from Middle Terrace Road)

Public Works – Street Sweeper:

The mechanics were given direction to finish putting the sweeper's engine back together. The engine should be ready to fire up and test on the bench by the end of next week. Once the bench test is complete, the engine will be re-installed into the sweeper. Separately, we have received a preliminary, high-level estimate for contract street sweeper services from CR&R (Avalon Environmental). We will be evaluating the estimate, as well as determining what role the reconstructed street sweeper should play considering its advanced age and condition.

Respectfully submitted,


Ben Harvey
City Manager
City of Avalon

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