

Winchester-Homeland Municipal Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 12, 2022

Place: Winchester Community Center, 32655 Haddock Street, Winchester

Attendees:

Winchester-Homeland MAC:

- Andy Domenigoni, Chairman; James Horecka, Secretary; Gary Long; Jimmy Sheldrake.
- New board member Thomas Laury.

Ex Officio:

N/A

Members of the Public.

Call to Order: Call to Order by Andy Domenigoni at 6:32 PM.

Flag Salute. Introductions.

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion-to-approve by Laury; second by Long. Approved unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2022:

Motion-to-approve by Long; second by Sheldrake. Approved unanimously.

Presentation: Kan Wang, Assistant Riverside County Assessor - County Clerk - Recorder.

- Mr. Wang informed us of the operations of his department. There are two major operations in on department: The Clerk – Recorder maintains vital records, fictitious business names, certificates of birth, marriage, death. The Assessor deals in property values. He stated that the department focus is on customer service, including ease of use. He brought fliers as well. Also present: Lisa Anderson & Mike Brown
- There are three departments involved in property taxation: The County Assessor, Auditor, and Treasurer/Tax Collector. The heads are elected officials.
- The duty of the assessor is simply to value, fairly and equitably, the value of real properties. They turn that data over to the auditor/controller: They manage the calculations. They turn the final amount to the Treasurer/Tax Collector. He noted that all departments have a customer service facet.
- Mr. Wang fielded questions:
- Q: How is the value of property determined? A: For most properties, they simply add the percentage increase allowed under Proposition 13: 2% per year each year. When property changes hands, the property gets reassessed. The value is then updated to the current fair & equitable level.
- Q: Re Prop 19, do you see many people applying? How long does it take to process? A: Mr. Wang stated that he's only served in his position for a year. Proposition 19 became effective in February of 2022. The law has to do with moving from one county to another. As property value on paper bumps up 2% per year, if you buy property in another county, you can pass forward the base value of the former place. This helps stabilize taxes. It's still being figured out. Things were already rather complex, and are now more so.
- Q (A. Little): Any news on the horizon regarding Proposition 13? A: Not really. Proposition 13 applied to both residential and commercial properties. Some citizens question whether commercial properties ought to be reassessed every few years, which would mean removing those from the protection of Proposition 13.
- Q (A. Little): How are property taxes collected divided up, to schools, etc.? A: That's done by another department.
- All present thanked Mr. Wang.

Old Business:

A. General County update; Robyn Brock:

- The county is revising their short-term rental ordinance. There will be a hearing on Wednesday at the Planning Commission, covering the Third Draft.
- The County Supervisors office is looking for professional interns.
- Q (A. Little): What is the status on SH 79? A: RCTC heads that. Robyn said she'll look into it & report back.

- Q: What does the short-term rentals ordinance cover? A: All aspects. With the boom in short-term rentals, the activity is lacking enforcement. They estimate that number of active STRs is about triple those actually registered. There are issues with party houses, complaints, parking, etc.
 - Q: STR vs B&B? A: A B&B (bed & breakfast) requires Planning Department approval. They tend to be bigger than STRs.
 - Q: Are you dealing with property managers, too? A: Yes: Air B&B, VRBO, Expedia, etc.
 - Q: Comment on the Great Resignation, please. A: About four million people left their jobs in the month of April. The County is now studying how to attract and retain employees.
 - Q (A. Domenigoni): Where is our Draft EIR? A: We should see it on our Board Agenda in June.
- B. Sheriff Department update; Deputy Pendleton:
- Crime stats: April had 312 calls & 1 arrest.
 - Their beat is a very large geographic area. Construction theft is up; its own model of crime.
 - Deputy Pendleton opined on his support of the County Sheriff.
 - Q: What to do about issues at an uninhabited house nearby? A: Call Code Enforcement.
 - Deputy Pendleton reminded us that we all need to take care of our property. If there's an issue on a property, it's really the owner's problem to deal with. Although with some owners, e.g. investor owners, they don't seem to care until the problem grows to where it actually annoys them.
 - Q: How are cities & counties policed? A: Incorporated cities have their own police department, or contract for services with the county sheriff. Cities normally won't cross city lines, unless for a special case. Cities won't pay for an officer to cross boundaries. Unincorporated areas in the County have less government services.
- C. Cal Fire Winchester Station #34:
- No representative present; no report.
- D. EMWD Updates; Phil Paule:
- The majority of California is now in a severe drought, with some areas in an extreme drought. The Colorado River is stressed. Some jurisdictions are imposing heavy water restrictions on irrigation; days/week limits, etc.
 - At present, EMWD does not plan on doing that. We have a significant amount of groundwater to draw from. EMWD is working on another desalination plant. In our service area, the population has doubled since 1990, but the quantity of water imported has remained steady.
 - Please keep conserving. Take advantage of available assistance; rebates for drought-tolerant landscaping, etc.
 - Q (A.D.): Are moratoriums on the horizon to restrict water use or development? A: Unknown; perhaps.
 - Q: How does a place like Sacramento, that doesn't have water meters, cut use by 15%? A: Unknown. Paule also stated that EMWD has vast supplies of recycled water. Still, the state might impose blanket rules over all.
 - Q: What about desalinating sea water? A: Ocean water desalination is very expensive. In our area: We are not the problem: We are the model!
- E. Code Enforcement:
- No representative present; no report.
- F. Assemblyman Kelly Seyarto's Office; Hilder Sam:
- Updated us on various bills, etc.
 - Stay tuned for information on the Joint Veterans Expo (with Melendez).
- G. Senator Melissa Melendez:
- No representative present; no report.
- H. Valley Wide Park & Recreation District; Craig Schultz:
- Shultz noted that Valley Wide parks save some 100 million gallons of potable water per year by using recycled water from EMWD for irrigation.
 - July 4th: There will be fireworks, but there will not be a public event, due to COVID 19.
 - October 14th: Dedication of the First Responders Wall at Diamond Valley Park.
- I. Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians; Lori VanArsdale:
- No representative present; no report.
- J. Land Use update; Cindy Domenigoni: Cindy presented a written report of the WTA LUC activities. Filed into archives. Other news:
- There were three Land Use Committee meetings since the last MAC meeting: April 18th, May 4th & May 11th.
 - The next LUC meeting will be on Tuesday, May 17th, at 3:00 PM, at Cindy's office.

- Regarding the Annexation proposal in Hemet: Our County Supervisor's office sent a letter to LAFCO. If there is anything that may affect the boundaries of Winchester, they asked LAFCO to involve the Supervisor's office as well as Winchester community groups.
- Horecka read from last month's WHMAC Meeting Minutes regarding this matter.
- Q: What about hearings? A: Hearings for such matters are required, and must be announced publicly.
- Robyn advised us all that we express our opinions: Tell your Supervisor!
- "Only registered voters may vote, but anyone can voice an opinion!"

· In the pipeline:

1. "No Worries" RV & Boat Storage. Change of Zone #2100123, Plot Plan 210135.
2. Winchester Community Planning & GPA #1207: The DEIR should be posted soon.
3. Crossroads / Boulder Crossing – TTM #38305 & TPM #38037 – NW corner of Hwy 79 and Domenigoni Parkway: Presently under construction.
4. Matthews Road: Change of zone.
5. SoCal Mulch CUP 200009: Awaiting hearings.
6. RV Storage & Pod Storage PPT 190038.
7. Val Daele Homes: Proposed 164 units on 14.9 acres (south of Salt Creek).
8. Riverside Views TTM 37670 (81 acres at Briggs & Old Newport Road).
9. CUP 210015 – Commercial Cannabis Operation at 31170 Highway 74, Homeland.
10. Winchester Hills Specific Plan – PA#18 (14.9 acres) – Van Daele
11. Off-Highway Vehicle Park: See rivcoparksohv.org
12. CUP 210129 – Commercial Cannabis Operation "The High Class" in Homeland.
13. CUP 210133 Cannabis Cultivation Project

K. City of Hemet update:

- No representative present; no report.

L. City of Menifee update; Doug Darnell, Senior Planner:

- Mr. Darnell was not present this evening.

M. Other Old Business:

- None.

Open Forum:

- A. Little brought up the "Community Benefit Fund." Robyn offered some info; for more, see her.

Next WHMAC Meeting:

The next WHMAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 9, 2022, 6:30 PM, at the Community Center.

Adjournment:

The WHMAC adjourned at 8:04 PM. M:GL / S:JS