

Pierpont Bay Community Council

General Meeting Minutes

Date: February 16, 2021
Location: VIA ZOOM
Time: 7:00 PM
Participants: M. Almeida, T. Foley, R. Hovey, R. Birney, L. Almeida, H. Stern, D. Roundtree + 25 other participants

7:02 PM - Meeting was Called to Order by Council Chair Michael Almeida.

Michael welcomed all the participants.

7:04 PM – H. Stern presented the Secretary’s Report which provided summary of our February Board Meeting. He also wanted to make a correction and clarification to the January Minutes regarding the history of the beach sand maintenance in Pierpont. While the January 2021 guest speaker Joe Yahner, from Public Works stated that the Coastal Commission stopped the City of Ventura from maintaining the beach in 1998, it was in fact Ron Calkins, the City Public Works Director who stopped all Pierpont beach maintenance, not the Coastal Commission.

7:07 PM – T. Foley presented the Treasurer’s Report. He reported that the account balance was approximately \$3,000 and that an additional \$13,000 was received and earmarked for the Light Up South Seaward project.

7:08 PM – State Parks report was provided by Michael Almeida as Tyson Butzke was not available to present. Michael reported that the City’s campgrounds have all reopened. In addition, the lifeguard stations will be put back on the beaches in March and they will be staffed with lifeguards in April/May.

7:10PM – Police Report was presented by guest speaker, Chief of Police Darin Schindler and Assistant Chief David Dickey. He provided greater detail about the VCPD’s three (3) year strategic plan that was outlined in last month’s General Meeting by Mr. Dickey. While more detail on goals and objectives will be provided below, please refer to the <https://cityofventura.ca.gov> website for a copy of the 2019-2022 full Strategic Plan presentation.

- Mission: To protect, serve and problem solve with the Community
- Vision: Great people, providing exceptional service.
- Values: Excellence, integrity, professionalism respect and transparency.
- Goal #1: **Crime Control**- improve response times, achieve a crime clearance rate that is better than the national average and achieve a reduction in aggravated assaults and robberies compared to the previous year.

- **Goal #2: Team Development-** attain a 100% compliance with Police Officers Standards and Training, maintain staffing levels no more than 5% below authorized positions and ensure sworn demographics align with those of our community.
- **Goal #3: Active Partnerships-** increase community outreach and input into operations, decrease community complaints related to vagrancy; and strengthen relationships with community stakeholders.
- **Goal #4: Safe Neighborhoods-** increase collaborative efforts within neighborhoods, reduce fatal and injury traffic collisions compared to annual average from the last 3 years; and reduce auto thefts, burglaries and larcenies compared to annual average from the last 3 years.
- **Goal #5: Efficiency and Accountability-** increase department transparency, track and reduce personnel complaints; and attain a 100% “within department policy” for all use of force incidents.

Crime Stats: D. Dickey reported that there are about 6,500 arrests each year with approximately 1/3 of these arrests dealing with homelessness/vagrancy. Those arrests related to mental health incidents are harder to quantify however, there are around 500 mental detention holds per year and almost 10 incidents per day dealing with mental health issues. 2019 witnessed our city’s lowest crime rate in 20 years and 2020 remained relatively close to this 2019 level with just a slight increase.

There were a few questions from the participants regarding security cameras and safety around the Pierpont Elementary School. The addition of more cameras at Lower Seaward has been put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic and traffic and safety near the elementary is not a widespread issue.

7:45 PM – Our guest speaker Haili Matsukawa of Ventura Water brought two colleagues, Akbar Alikhan, Assistant City Manager and Susan Rungren, General Manager of Ventura Water to present the Ventura water and wastewater plan, which reported on Ventura Waters’ capital investment projects and future rate increases. A more comprehensive narrative on the presentation can be found at <https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/885/Ventura-Water>.

Overall, Ventura Water, in partnership with the Water Commission and financial experts, is proposing a water and wastewater increase in July 2021 to meet the community’s water needs. It is anticipated that residents should expect to see an average monthly increase of \$7.76, on an annual basis, for the next five years representing average annual rate increases of 7% and 6% respectively, for water and wastewater rates. Even with these anticipated rate increases, which has not happened in many years, the City of Ventura should remain competitive with its neighboring peer group. These funds will support \$400 million in critical capital improvements in our water and wastewater systems.

8:15 PM – Our guest speaker Barbara Asbell and Scott Anastasi from Anastasi Development brought their architect Scott Boydston from Rasmussen & Associates to present their latest design schematics for the Seaward @ Harbor project. Any questions or comments can be addressed at upcoming public meetings regarding this project.

No Committee Reports were presented due to time constraints. Mr. Stern reminded all participants that the election for officers of PBCC will be held this upcoming May.

Our next General Meeting will be held on March 16, 2021 via Zoom.

8:36 PM – Meeting was adjourned by Michael Almeida.