



Moraga Civic News

Public Meetings

Town Council

Wednesday, February 22, 7:00pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School,
1010 Camino Pablo

Planning Commission

Tuesday, February 21, 7:00 pm
Moraga Library, 1500 Saint Marys Rd

Design Review

Monday, February 27, 7:00 pm
Moraga Library, 1500 Saint Marys Rd

School Board Meeting

Moraga School District

Tuesday, March 13, 7:30 pm
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate
School Auditorium
1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
www.moraga.k12.ca.us
See also AUHSD meeting page A2

Check online for agendas, meeting notes and announcements

Town of Moraga:

www.moraga.ca.us

Chamber of Commerce:

www.moragachamber.org

Moraga Citizens' Network:

www.moragacitizensnetwork.org



Police Report

Break-in for a basketball?, 2/5/12
An unknown suspect broke into a portable ticket building at Saint Mary's College via a rock thrown through a rear window. The portable was ransacked, but the only thing missing was a basketball. Unfortunately trashing the place caused approximately \$1,500 worth of damage. Apparently the mysterious unknown suspect was unfamiliar with risk and reward equations.

Dry cleaning vanishes, 2/04/12
A usually dapper Via Barcelona resident reported having his dry cleaning stolen off his front porch. Apparently the blue Alex Dry Cleaning Bag was out front at 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 4, but when he went out at 9:00 a.m. on Feb 5 the bag was gone. Approximate value of cleaned and pressed clothing, \$1750.

BBs on the loose, 2/01/12
Accidents happens – that's the thinking behind an Alderbrook Place resident whose window was pierced and shattered by a BB gone wild. The reporting person does not feel that he was in any way a target – the incident just had to be documented for insurance purposes.

Bricks way out of line, 1/30/12
A six foot section of brick sidewalk at the Moraga Skate Park was lifted out of its position sometime during the night. Estimated damage \$250 to show them the straight and narrow. Could this be the work of disgruntled Occupy Moraga Youth?

Burglary, 1/30/12
A Larch Avenue homeowner reported to police that when she came home in mid-afternoon the sliding glass master bedroom door that connects to the backyard had been smashed. An expensive diamond ring and some costume jewelry were taken. Cops managed to collect some fingerprints and the case is under investigation.

Backing into a patrol car, 1/28/12
No physical injuries, unless you count kicking yourself, but an Orinda cop was outside of his patrol car on Moraga Way, writing a ticket, when a white Buick sedan backed out of a parking stall and backed into the side door of the police car. Sheer genius.

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Moraga Splits the Baby in Half

By Sophie Braccini

Nothing as dramatic as King Solomon's judgment happened at the Town Council meeting on February 8, but as council members wrestled to decide which fund to invade in order to pay a \$450,000 note, Council Member Dave Trotter invoked the biblical figure to propose splitting the envelop between the General Fund surplus and the over two million dollars in Palo Colorados Developer Fees the Town holds.

There was no question among them that the remainder of the cost of the 331 Rheem property, which the Town purchased for use as a corporation yard two years ago, should be paid in cash rather than financed; the total of the Town's surplus earns a very modest .38 percent interest and adds up to more than four million dollars. The choice of the fund was not an easy one, since each option has political implications.

Administrative Services Director

Stephanie Hom presented to the Council the mid-year revenue and expenditure report. She also proposed a policy committing net revenues from each fiscal year to the General Fund Reserve and the Infrastructure Preservation and Improvement (IPI) Fund. The Council agreed that the year end surplus be retained in the General Fund Reserve in order to maintain reserves equal to 50 percent of the year's expense, and that any additional net revenue be transferred to the IPI Fund. The reserve just reached the 50 percent target.

"We said a long time ago that we wanted (a reserve) to reach 50 percent of our General Fund expenditure, I think that is a priority," said Mayor Mike Metcalf. The fact that dipping into that reserve would send it below the target, to about 43 percent of expenditures, raised some questions. "We just passed a resolution a few moments ago to reach that 50 percent

goal, if we were to use the general fund reserve we would go below the 50 percent. Doesn't that point us into the direction of using the Developer Funds instead?" asked Council Member Karen Mendonca.

During the public comment period, resident Barbara Simpson warned the Council that using the Developer Fees fund would meet with strong public opposition because that money had always been perceived as being dedicated to recreation. Regarding the reserves she added, "You have a goal of 50 percent, not a mandate of 50 percent; to go below 50 percent is permitted."

"Using the Developer funds is the easy way out and the temptation is always there; and if you continue to do that, the money will not last long," said Council Member Ken Chew. "We don't know when we will need that money. We can rebuild our reserve and take charge of the note."

Trotter agreed, adding that the

Town would probably go back to full strength within two years.

"What is the most important sanctity?" asked Vice Mayor Howard Harpham. "We used the Developer fund once, we should do it again, so we can keep our reserve intact from the beginning."

"I'd like to propose, because we ran about a \$200,000 net revenue last year, (that we) split the baby on it. That way we'll get back to 50 percent within the next audit period," Trotter finally suggested. The Council agreed on a four to one vote, with Harpham the dissenting voice.

A resolution will be brought back to the Council on the consent agenda to pay off the \$450,000 note by taking \$225,000 from the reserve and \$225,000 from the Palos Colorados Developer Fee Fund. At this time the Developer Fee fund amounts to \$2,390,737, and the reserve to \$3,043,898.

Council Honors Campo Athletes

By Sophie Braccini



Back Row: Aaron Havel, Chris Maag, Joe Holden, Jaime Vega, Karl Thornton, Danny Fox, Brett Stephens, Vince Graziano, Wes Brumbaugh, Greg Wiessier, Ilya Lopez, Gabe Samaniego, Jack Phipps; 3rd Row: Jack Simmons, Zack Remotto, Connor Rosenbaum, Nate MacDonald, Joe Mascheroni, Blake Snider, Parsa Bakhtiari, Tim Meir; 2nd Row: Thomas Joyce, Keith Geiger, Drew Gustafson, Adam Hathaway, Kevin Fong, Daniel Johnson, Mason Windatt, J.D. McPhee; Front Row: Brigid Leach, Juliet Farman, Rachel Johnson, Brooke Martini, Carrie Verdon, Mary Orders, Megan Mcmillin, Matt Yok, Nicky Aikawa, Mark Santaguida, Ryan Hoffman, Griffin Piatt Photo Andy Scheck

The whole Campolindo Varsity football team was there, as well as the Varsity Women's Cross Country and Varsity Men's Cross Country teams. It was a very different type of energy for the otherwise somewhat stern bi-monthly Town Council Meeting. The young athletes were there to be honored by the Town for their extraordinary achievements.

First up were the 52 members of the football team. The well-behaved teenagers, in their sports uniforms, listened to the proclamation that retold the tale

of their undefeated season that led them, for the first time in school history, to represent Northern California in the CIF State Championship.

Then came the Varsity Cross Country teams that won the DFAL and NCS championships. Individual proclamations honored Carrie Verdon, who took first place at the State Championship, and Thomas Joyce, 3rd place at State, for their unique achievements. As she stood alone in front of the audience petite Carrie Verdon received, with composure, a loud and boisterous ovation from the football team.

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