

PVP Watch Newsletter – July - 15 - 2018

To Our Friends and Supporters

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US Supreme Court

June 27th the US Supreme Court rendered its decision in the Janus case. As some will recall, the Janus case concerns the mandatory payment of union dues by public employees. The court ruled in favor of Janus thus eliminating mandatory payments of union dues by public employees. It is reported that The Peninsula Unified teachers will now have the option of no longer paying union dues approximating \$1,000 per teacher annually. We wonder how many Peninsula teachers will take advantage of this opportunity?

On a greater scale, union funding of politician’s dominate California and other “Blue” state politics. Few items of interest to the unions move thru state legislatures and local City Councils without union approval. It has been proven that states like California that are controlled by unions have much greater taxes than states without union domination.

Interesting is California AB 2577 which, if approved, would allow a “tax deduction of an amount equal to the amount paid or incurred during a taxable years by a taxpayer for member dues to a labor organization.

PVP Watch encourages residents to follow this one.

Breaking News – Judge Brett Kavanaugh nominated to Replace Justice Kennedy.

General Election

November 6th is the California statewide General Election date and there are issues important to Peninsula residents.

State Assembly – The Peninsula is in District 66 and the current Peninsula representative is Al Murasuchi a Democrat...

Frank Scotto, a well-known South Bay Republican and past Mayor of Torrance is the Republican and an electable

alternative. Murasuchi has, as was anticipated, followed union directions and raised taxes. If you are in favor of excessive taxation, then vote for Muratsuchi.

PVP Watch supports **Frank Scotto**, a supporter of “Prop 13.” For more information, go to www.FrankScotto.com. **Mr. Scotto is endorsed by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assoc. and many South Bay Civic Leaders. We believe Frank Scotto will better serve Peninsula interests of smaller government and reducing taxes than his opponent Al Muratsuchi.**

US Congress – The Peninsula is in the 33rd California Congressional District and the current Peninsula representative is Ted Lieu a Democrat. PVP Watch finds nothing positive about Ted Lieu who supports open borders and allowing unlimited border passage of transients.

The Republican candidate is **Dr. Kenneth Wright** a renowned pediatric eye surgeon and clinical professor at USC. **PVP Watch supports Dr. Ken Wright** and a strong Peninsula turnout will help counterbalance the high Democratic registration in Santa Monica and West LA. For more information go to www.drright4congress.com

RPV – Charter City

The RPV Council at its June 19th meeting wisely decided to delay the Charter City Initiative until a future time. Many concurred that the proposal did not yet satisfy RPV requirements. Better to take the time to “Get It Right” than fail attempting to push thru an incomplete proposal.

RPV – Hospitality Initiative

The details of the “Hospitality” Initiative as well as the “Staff” report are posted on the PVP Watch website (www.pvpwatch.com); go to the Current Issues page. These documents are very informative and this matter is on the RPV Council agenda for Tuesday July 17th. Be sure and read the Kosmont Consulting report beginning on page B1 of the staff report.

Union Backed Initiative - Unite Here Local 11, a labor union, has gathered sufficient signatures to place on an RPV Election Ballot (date to be determined) a new City Ordinance Chapter 5.40 Hospitality Working Conditions that is specifically written to impact Terranea and Trump National Golf.

The union accomplished the task of obtaining RPV signatures by strong arming / intimidating RPV residents. The truth is that Terranea employees are well paid, satisfied and do not want the union. The Initiative is devious and dictates all responsibility to RPV to manage the Union / Terranea employee relationship at apparently no cost to the Union..

As you will find in reading the Staff report the Council has few options for scheduling a vote on the Union Initiative. Presuming the RPV Council schedules a vote on the Initiative, information will be forthcoming that demonstrates that the Union proposed employee benefits allegations are false and untrue. RPV residents will have to vote on whether or not they want to have Unite Here Local 11 union in RPV.

As Terranea completes its 9th anniversary in RPV, Terranea has become a very valued member of this community. Terranea "occupancy" (TOT) taxes (paid to RPV) now exceed \$5 million annually; in addition, other taxes and fees (sales taxes, property taxes, utility fees etc.) are estimated at another \$2 / \$3 million annually that contribute to RPV revenues. In addition, not to be casually dismissed is Terranea's support of local business's in the South Bay.

PVP Watch will continue to Post on this very important matter.

RPV - City Hall, Chaos Continues

As we previously reported with Susan Brooks as mayor, the RPV Council in the past several meetings has implemented a process for the Council to have subpoena powers to summon residents to provide testimony on matters of interest to the Council. It is not clear what the limits of this new subpoena power may be.

The staff report on this matter (May 1 Meeting Agenda, Regular Business Item 1- Page 3 1st para) *Members of the City Council have, themselves, shared with the Office of the City Attorney additional specific articulable facts and circumstances to suspect that, over a substantial period of time, there have been circumstances in which confidential information (known only in the context of a closed session) has been willfully and unlawfully shared outside of a privileged closed session.*

PVP Watch is unaware of what the specifics are in this matter but what we do know is that there has been an ongoing controversy between the current RPV Council and former Mayor Brian Campbell concerning the release of certain records.

The latest on this “caper” is that City Attorney Wynder recently *invited* four (that we are aware of) RPV residents, under threat of Subpoena, to meet with him and as we understand the situation to discuss potential Brown Act violations by former Mayor Campbell. To our knowledge, none of those meetings have yet been held. Question for residents, is this an infringement on civil rights for City Hall to go on a “fishing trip” without a published reason?

April 23, 2018 we made a Public Records request for certain Susan Brooks email message. What we received was about a ¼ inch of repetitive messages mostly sent by Michael Huang. There were eleven attorney billed events totaling about \$2,400. While we are concerned about City costs as anyone, we wonder how these attorney costs were compiled. For whatever reason, costs for this request were included in “Campbell” costs. Hmmm.

Also posted at www.pvpwatch.com / Current Issues page is a report from the RPV City Attorney Wynder relative to billable costs for certain Public Record Requests. The City Attorney’s report is also posted on the agenda for the July 17th Council meeting as Item D. While the report claims former Mayor Campbell to be the “culprit” it seems that the 89 questionable PRR requests by Susan Brooks crony Michael Huang seem to be of no consequence.

CHOA Event at Hesse Park

Mid May the **Council of Home Owner Associations** asked PVP Watch to post notice of a CHOA event that was to be held on May 22nd. PVP Watch was happy to cooperate and PVP Watch subscribers were so notified. CHOA also offered PVP Watch booth space at the event which was accepted. Late in the afternoon on May 22nd we were advised that the invitation had been rescinded. CHOA president Jim Maniatakis was queried as to why the invitation was being cancelled but no answers came forth. No doubt that Maniatakis received direction from Mayor Susan Brooks as Brooks has become quite vehement in her caustic criticisms of PVP Watch and Ken DeLong PVP Watch newsletter editor. Ms. Brooks seems to believe that she is “in charge” and not subject to public criticism of her performance. Compounding the separation of city and public affairs is that CHOA has no affiliation with RPV, collects no contributions from RPV and had paid for use of Hesse Park. Our

observations are that Brooks has made many decisions that are detrimental to the wellbeing of RPV residents and we will continue to advise PVP Watch subscribers whether or not we get invited to CHOA or other events.

Peninsula Water Supply

This is for those Peninsula residents who may not yet be aware our water supplier California Water has begun a construction project to increase water delivery capabilities on the Peninsula. For more information visit www.pvpwaterproject.com.

California Legislature

Food for Thought... Here are some highlights of the just concluded California Legislative session:

- * Passed Cap-n-Trade Tax which increases gasoline cost \$0.63 to \$0.93 cents a gallon and the taxes that go with it. So do the math projection..... $(0.12 + 0.63 = 0.75/\text{gallon} + \text{current } \$3.10/\text{gallon} = \$3.85/\text{gallon})$
- * Proposed increase on a new tax every residence will pay for tap water!
- * A \$3.46 B parks bond to pay for parks in "disadvantaged communities". The debt service alone will be over \$200 million a year. The good news is some money goes to help fix the Salton Sea which should have always been a State responsibility!
- * Law to release any lifer (murder, rape, child molestation, etc.) who is 60 years old and has already spent 25 years in prison! Charles Manson would have qualified if he just waited a few months before dying; and the Melendez brothers that murdered their parents could be released in about 12 years? Victims?... What victims?
- * Requires Tesla to either unionize with the United Auto Workers Union, or forfeit State incentives to buy their electric cars! Maybe political blackmail doesn't count as breaking any law. Unions are loving it. "Watch out solar companies... They may be coming after you next!!!"
- * Reduce from a felony to a misdemeanor the purposeful intent to transmit the AIDS virus to an unknowing partner
- * Give preferential treatment to prisoners convicted of serious crimes that are less than 25 years old because their brains are not mature enough to understand right from wrong
- * A bill to require our true sex be omitted from drivers licenses?
- * Free legal services for illegal immigrants... Of course!
- * Establish safe "injection zones" run by government to oversee people injecting heroin!

Yep, it all passed! You may consider forwarding this so that ALL Californians can be proud of their elected officials.

Suggest everyone check Al Muratsuchi's voting record. There is more than ample justification for replacing Democrat Al Muratsuchi with Frank Scotto.

PVP Watch Welcomes Subscriber Comments

PVP Watch welcomes subscriber Comments. Please send comments to info@pvpwatch.com.

A current email issue is overactive “spam” detectors and we urge everyone to enter info@pvpwatch.com and pvpwatch into their computer address books. This signals your ISP (Internet Service Provider) that you wish to receive PVP Watch newsletters.

Those who have topics of community interest are encouraged to bring those issues to info@pvpwatch.com as well.

PVP Watch Welcomes Contributions

PVP Watch appreciates the financial contributions of the many subscribers who have sent checks to PVP Watch as we remain on the financial support of our many subscribers. Those wishing to make a modest contribution, please send checks to PVP Watch / PO Box 2041 / Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

PVP Watch – Newsletter List

A reminder to ALL PVP Watch subscribers, should you change your email address, don't forget to advise PVP Watch. For those who wished to be removed from the PVP Watch newsletter data base, please notify info@pvpwatch.com.