

# VOTE NOVEMBER 6th

Election Day is fast approaching and we encourage everyone to **Vote as if your way of life depends on it! - - - Because it does!!!!**

Mr. Obama has, during the past four years, clearly demonstrated his lack of leadership and inability to comprehend the responsibilities of being President of these United States. The September 11th (9-11) attack on the US Consulate in Benghazi, Libya wherein the Ambassador and three other Americans were murdered while the White House must have known what was occurring, ignored reality and did nothing to aid their fellow Americans. Furthermore, instructions were given that the cause "*was a random group of dissidents incited by a video*" and Mr. Obama continued that position in a speech at the UN several weeks later when he undoubtedly knew the cause was a planned attack. It seems quite apparent Mr. Obama was trying to hide the problem as this situation again demonstrates why he is unfit to be President of the United States of America.

Back home on the Peninsula we have the Congressional race between Bill Bloomfield, an Independent, and Henry Waxman a 38-year Democrat Congress member. Waxman is a typical "Tax & Spend" liberal and we have him to thank for much of the misguided legislation, including ObamaCare, enacted during the first two years of the Obama administration. Bill Bloomfield is a local (Manhattan Beach) businessperson who will bring some Common Sense to Congress and we urge everyone to vote for Bill Bloomfield.

The Assembly District (now 66th) that includes the Peninsula has redrawn boundaries and is no longer tied to Long Beach thus providing a district that should be more responsive to Peninsula needs. The two candidates are Craig Huey, a Republican and local small business owner and Al Muratsuchi a Democrat and attorney in the State Attorney General office. Mr. Muratsuchi is backed by the CTA (California Teachers

Association) and other public unions. Voters should anticipate that, if elected, he will, like the other Democrat legislators in Sacramento, follow the direction of the CTA. Muratsuchi's campaign strategy is to smear Mr. Huey as Muratsuchi does not have much to offer other than that he is a Democrat who will undoubtedly adhere to party direction if elected. We believe Craig Huey to be a superior alternative and urge all to vote for Craig Huey.

### **Propositions.**

Some highlights. The October 5th PVP Watch Newsletter (posted on PVP Watch website) contained detail on all of the propositions and readers may want to visit [www.pvpwatch.com](http://www.pvpwatch.com) as current highlights on the most contested propositions are posted there.

**Prop 30** - Is an undisguised effort to raise California taxes with an unveiled threat that failure to pass Prop 30 will lead to further cuts to schools. This is an often-used tactic by government, threatening school funding to get voter approval of government schemes. While taxpayers may refuse to "roll" on many government schemes, schools is one area where taxpayers often "bite the bullet" and capitulate to government demands. Interesting, it appears that this time taxpayers are refusing to go for Governor Brown's scheme and Prop 30 is likely to be defeated. An attention-grabbing part of this scenario is that the CTA (California Teachers Association) reportedly, the controlling force in Sacramento demanded that the Governor / Legislature place this proposition on this ballot and is one of the leading financial supporters.

Recent political mailers state that "*every penny*" will go to education when in reality receipts go to the General Fund to be dispensed as the politicians so decide. **We urge a NO vote.**

**Prop 32** – This measure will limit unions and corporation's use of payroll deducted union dues for political purposes. While we don't believe this measure goes far enough in reforming use of union dues, Measure 32 is a good start and when enacted can be subsequently strengthened. Recently had the pleasure of attending a workshop with Gloria Romero as the guest speaker. Ms. Romero is a former California State Senator and her remarks about what occurs in Sacramento were very enlightening. What many had suspected, Ms. Romero confirmed that the CTA is the ruling authority in Sacramento. What is interesting is that Ms. Romero is a Democrat, a college professor and a member of the CTA. Some data presented by Ms. Romero as to why the CTA is doing so much to defeat Prop 32;

- There are about 325,000 teachers in California who belong to CTA.
- On average, members pay about \$100 per month each for nine months.
- Total ~\$292,500,000.

Almost \$300 million in dues, much of which is dispensed to candidates, usually Democrats, who regularly vote as directed. [WE urge a YES vote on Prop 32.](#)

Prop 38 – This is another tax increase to reportedly support schools. Molly Munger is the primary advocate for Prop 38 and last report has spent over \$7 million on this proposition. This measure is an alternative to Prop 30 and the measure that has the greater number (Prop 30 vs. Prop 38) of votes will be the survivor. Of course if the No votes for either measure exceed YES votes both will lose. Prop 38 does limit funds use to schools and deficit reduction; however the tax increases are onerous and will be a detriment to the economy. [PVP Watch urges a NO vote.](#)

### **RPV in Crisis..... The Continuing Saga**

- A surprising development at the October 28th CC meeting was that City Manager Lehr pulled from the agenda a staff proposal for retaining RPV's financial advisor Magis Advisors. Purpose of retaining Magis Advisors was to develop financing plans for the San Ramon flood control project. The fact that final approval from other agencies, specifically the US Army Corp of Engineers, has not yet been received, thus project bids cannot be obtained, therefore all current costs are estimated, it is premature to develop financing plans that likely have no practical substance. It seems to us to be but another staff wind milling effort.

- A recent development is RPV's payroll system. The situation is still unfolding but it appears that oversight and accountability is tricky. Again, so far, the City Manager apparently approves her own paycheck and reportedly has been taking "Administrative Leave" in lieu of vacation time. The City Managers current agreement, approved by the prior Council, provides 80 hours of "Administrative Leave" annually which has no redemption value and terminates at year-end. Conversely, vacation days do have a redemption value and can be redeemed at certain specified intervals. We have many questions as to how the payroll system operates and what controls are in place to monitor vacation time, sick time etc.

- Personnel Assessment. Currently RPV has engaged a consulting firm that is making a jobs / personnel assessment. The results should be interesting. Stay tuned.

- IT Assessment. The IT assessment conducted by NexLevel Information Technology, Inc was scandalous in that NexLevel failed to analyze services provided by PV Net as to performance,

quality and applicability. For instance, PV Net's "home grown" GIS system which is reported to be seriously flawed with questionable results and the PV Net system is substantially more costly than GIS systems used by PVE and RHE. That there was no comparative analysis of the GIS systems, features and or costs makes NexLevel professional capabilities questionable. That the NexLevel firm was determined "best qualified" and essentially hired by staff with cursory approval by the Council makes dubious and illogical conclusions preordained.

- It is appropriate to ask; whom does the City Manager work for and what are her responsibilities? Is she tasked to represent and serve the taxpayers or is her responsibility to be chief cheerleader for RPV employees? While we believe RPV has many fine employees who must be treated fairly, it often seems that RPV staff are unduly pampered. That RPV employees decided to create a union is their right and must be honored. However, taxpayer rights must also be protected and the Council MUST see that the City Manager, senior staff duly represent the residents in union negotiations and employee oversight and management. In that regard an MOU (memorandum of understanding) the precursor to a contract has been "in preparation" for some time and WE THE PEOPLE want to be aware of what is transpiring and believe the MOU and union negotiations to be of public interest, thus open and transparent for all to see and observe.

- RPV MC (Municipal Code) 2.04 and 2.08 respectively define the responsibilities of the Council and the City Manager. Actions this past year have made it clear that these two MC's need serious rewrite in specifying the responsibilities of the Council and the City Manager. It is likely that a Citizens Committee will be formed to evaluate and make recommendations to the Council as to how City Hall might be reorganized to better serve the residents. Anyone interested should make his or her interest known to [info@pvpwatch.com](mailto:info@pvpwatch.com).

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#### PVP Watch – Newsletter List

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#### PVP Watch – Contributions

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The Editorial Committee