As a resident of NHE I attended the Water Board meeting tonight to learn of the security survey. Here are the results. 151 were in favor of 1, 58 we in or 2 and 81 were against. Even though the majority of returned surveys were adding security to give us protection 3 Water Board Members said in no uncertain terms that they would allow us security. These members were Annette Bethany, Ti and Ed Jensen. The only member who voted to give us protection was Monte Cooper. Ms. Bethany told us at the meeting that 239 didn’t respond so she decided that she would want security and lumped that total in the 81 that said no. I challenged the fact and said that wasn’t right, they should not count those at all or split the 2 give half to yes and half to no. Evidently what she wants goes, no other member of the Water Board will stand up to her as far as I can tell except for Mr. Cooper. It is sad that this and said that wasn’t right, they should not count those at all or split the 239 and want security and lumped that total in the 81 that said no. I challenged the fairness of Ms. Bethany told us at the meeting that 239 didn’t respond so she decided they didn’t have to be aware....

THANK

Jan

Danny thanked Pat.
Faith Hernandez from North Hill Estates
I'm extremely disappointed... Thank you for sharing!

Thank Flag
Terri, Cindy, Jan, and 2 others thanked Faith

Brenda Coomes from North Hill Estates
Wow! Very disappointing.

Thank Flag
Terri and Jan thanked Brenda

Debbie Wells from North Hill Estates
Based on what was said by Ms Bethany at the meeting this afternoon about the conditions of our water district facilities we all should be very concerned.
When the responses to the security survey come back 2 to 1 in favor of security and the water board votes for no security this board must be replaced. It is obvious they are not working in the best interest of this community

Thank Flag
Terri, Jan, Torrie, and 3 others thanked Debbie

Teresa Ghinelli from North Hill Estates
Plus, they were rude to the sheriff who came to the meeting. After being asked several times, they finally let him speak but did not even open the crime reports he brought to share,

Thank Flag
Terri, Jan, Debbie, Torrie, and 5 others thanked Teresa

Alexis Kelton from North Hill Estates
How can they assume that a house hold is voting 'no' buy not sending in their ballot?

Thank Flag
Terri, Jan, Carol, and 2 others thanked Alexis

Whitney Sodders from North Hill Estates
The meeting minutes are a document of public record (which is the law) and a copy of the official meeting minutes can be requested by any resident of District #99.

It, unfortunately, is not law to provide all attendees with meeting minutes at the meeting. I believe there is a time frame the board is required to deliver them to the requester, just not sure of the details.

Edited 2d ago
Thank Flag
Danny and Jamie thanked Whitney
I agree, big disappointment! Thank you Pam for being in attendance and providing the information.

Thank  Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), Jill (/profile/5582482/), and 2 others thanked Jamie (/profile/4819641/)

Whitney Sodders (/profile/9947512) from North Hill Estates

Overall facts are that less than 50% of the neighborhood (510 total residents per water board) voted yes. I would hate to force this financial imposition on to residents without even having 50% of the residents voting in favor of the proposal. That just doesn't seem like the "right thing to do".

Thank  Flag

Jamie (/profile/4819641/) and Kathy (/profile/5761358/) thanked Whitney (/profile/9947512/)

Torrie Whittredge (/profile/3101416) from North Hill Estates

Let's see how concerned the water board is about those who are on fixed incomes, or if we are even offered a survey to have our fees increased to fix/replace the aging infrastructure. How many members of this community know there are problems with the well or that the lift station by the freeway keeps loosing power and the board is considering installing a 15 kW generator that runs on natural gas (gas line will have to be installed).... Just sayin

Thank  Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), Debbie (/profile/3101083/), and 1 other thanked Torrie (/profile/3101416/)

Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates

Did they vote no, or did they fall into the category of those who didn't vote therefore their vote was made for them by someone else?

Thank  Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665/) and Pam (/profile/5811727/) thanked Alexis (/profile/10641590/)
Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

We have residents who are willing to pay extra for seniors on a fixed income that truly can't afford it. I would imagine that is not the case for most of our residents. It's also not right in my opinion that many of us to live in fear either as we are sitting targets for the crime that is heading our way. Greenspoint was a nice area once until Northline moved in, now Greenspoint is moving this way. No way to make everyone happy but when the board goes against the wishes of the returned survey that is just wrong. It's ok that we disagree on this but many are moving forward with options to ensure our safety.

Thank Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), Torrie (/profile/3101416/), and 3 others thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

If surveys were not returned someone on the board made the decision that meant they didn't want security. She stated if they didn't return it they were not interested in security. That is totally unfair. In my last two months going to the meetings for this reason the only person who even considered adding security was Mr. Cooper. The others don't want it and were never going to approve it. It's sad those on water board for years can't see the way the area is changing and the need for protection. We have not given up and will continue to fight them with everything we have!!!

Thank Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), and Brenda (/profile/7026651/) thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Brenda Coomes (/profile/7026651) from North Hill Estates

Our neighborhood is changing and we have to make the changes to keep it safe.

Thank Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006/), Carol (/profile/5130601/), Pam (/profile/5811727/), and 1 other thanked Brenda (/profile/7026651/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

Tell that to the Water Board. We all need to ban together and be at the next water board meeting.

Thank Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006/) and Brenda (/profile/7026651/) thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Whitney Sodders (/profile/9947512) from North Hill Estates

Hey Pam - we don't disagree about wanting safety for our community.

I just believe in abiding by the results of the survey and consideration of potential further rate increases of NHE water bills. If less that 50% of the neighborhood total (510) did not vote YES then it should not be passed and other options for protection should be explored that better align with the community's wants and desires.
Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates
How can someone claim that the majority of the neighborhood voted one way over the other when it was stated in the original post (which is all I have to go by as I was not at the meeting) that one individual, Annette Bethany, took it upon herself to make the choice of some 230 residents in our neighborhood?

Unless the ballot that was sent in the mail CLEARLY states that those who do not send in their votes are to be assumed to be against security then their votes should NOT be included for either side.

Thank  Flag
Jan (/profile/1548006/), Torrie (/profile/3101416/), Carol (/profile/5130601/), and 2 others thanked Alexis (/profile/10641590/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates
As I stated earlier I challenged how she could lump those that did not return their survey and include them as no votes was not right. She stated if they didn't return them then they didn't care about security. With the votes that were returned more were in favor of security than were not. In my opinion if for whatever reason the ones not returned should not have been included at all. Go by what did get returned and make a qualified decision based on those numbers. Three board member have stated repeatedly they were against security and those 3 regardless of what returned votes stated voted no. Only one member of board was in favor.

Thank  Flag
Jan (/profile/1548006/), Brenda (/profile/7026651/), Alexis (/profile/10641590/), and 1 other thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Brenda Coomes (/profile/7026651) from North Hill Estates
Well then those 3 board members shouldn't complain about the crime when it gets worse!

Thank  Flag
Jan (/profile/1548006/), Debbie (/profile/3101083/), Pam (/profile/5811727/), and 1 other thanked Brenda (/profile/7026651/)

Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates
Pam, I agree with you in the fact that those who did not respond should have never been considered! I have some experience in voting and if you do not clearly state your side then your opinion is simply null. Under no circumstances have I ever witnessed (or read in this particular case) where an individual(s) opinion was expressed by someone else!! It completely blows my mind how tonight turned out! Do any of the water board members actually live in NHE?!
Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

In a returned survey more than 50% voted for security. It's not fair to lump in surveys that weren't returned. It's a moot point as the board was never going to approve it anyway. In any survey or election you don't get to count surveys or votes that didn't happen, same thing applies here. The board trying to apply the fact that things need repaired or updated had no bearing on us wanting protection. Things wear out and need replaced all the time, part of any business. Those cost get past along to the consumer for those repairs. They have know for sometime that things were wearing out and they currently have funds to cover those things. If not, we will be charged accordingly. Us asking for security doesn't keep them from making needed repairs to the equipment.

Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006/) and Brenda (/profile/7026651/) thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

I believe that all the Water Board members live in NHE.

Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006/) and Brenda (/profile/7026651/) thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates

Then they are aware of how much the neighborhood has changed. Who in their right mind would be opposed to $13/month for the peace of mind to know that there is a licensed police officer in the neighborhood for the majority of the day?! Oh, clearly individuals on the water board who could care less about community safety.

Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006/), Pam (/profile/5811727/), and Brenda (/profile/7026651/) thanked Alexis (/profile/10641590/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

At least 3 of them aren't concerned. We have residents willing to step up to the plate and help seniors that are truly on a fixed income pay for their security fee. So no hardship would be placed on those seniors, so that should not be the excuse used!!! The board gets elected every two years and a house cleaning will be in order.

Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665/) and Jan (/profile/1548006/) thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates

I would even be willing to cover two house holds!

Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006/), Debbie (/profile/3101083/), Pam (/profile/5811727/), and 1 other thanked Alexis (/profile/10641590/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

Thanks Alexis!!
Deborah Jensen (/profile/3339574) from North Hill Estates

Enough with the personal attacks and inaccurate information! Use your energy in a positive way to collect signatures for changing the NHE Civic Club to an HOA so you can hire and pay for the policemen you want. Let the Water Board do what they were elected to do: provide clean water and remove sewage for treatment and release.

Thanked! Flag

You, Whitney (/profile/9947512/), and Kirsten (/profile/11311066/) thanked Deborah (/profile/3339574/)

Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates

Ms. Jensen, taking into consideration that your last name matches that of Ed Jensen, whom was listed in the original post, and according to your profile a family member of yours is Edward (which Ed is very common for) it is presumably safe to assume the 'Ed Jensen' aforementioned is in fact your husband whom DENIED the residents of NHE the ability of peace of mind in knowing an officer is on patrol the majority of the day. Please provide those of us who were able to attend the meeting with your professed accurate information.

Thank Flag

Kirsten (/profile/11311066/) thanked Alexis (/profile/10641590/)

Rhonda Faust (/profile/11358306) from North Hill Estates

Friends, I've lived in this subdivision for 33 of my 43 years. I just want to take a moment to remind everyone that we are neighbors. It's apparent people are passionate about this issue on both sides. Everyone is entitled to their opinion but that should not prevent us from treating one another like neighbors. I respectfully wanted to weigh in on one point. I feel it is compelling that 239 of 510 residents chose to ignore the survey. In my humble opinion, the water board would have been remiss in dismissing that data point. These same vote results would not have enabled our own civic club to take the very action we are denigrating our water board for refusing to take.

Thanked! Flag

You, Tim (/profile/7177704/), and Whitney (/profile/9947512/) thanked Rhonda (/profile/11358306/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

They were remiss in addressing the majority of the returned surveys were in favor of security. So in fairness if half of those in returned surveys came in as yes we would have had 300 or so in favor. In my observation at my few attended meetings I doubt it would have made a difference. They have been adamant all thru this process that they were against adding patrol. If they feel like we are very safe as a community why not take the fence and locks off that surround the area on Lockridge where it looks like the pump and tank are located.
We Need to request the survey from the Waterboard so we can see who voted for vote for it Who voted against it and who did not vote at all. Based on the percentages if we did a petition door to door we would win hands down. I don't understand what is with the Waterboard not supporting the home owners. IF you look at the rest of the Waterboard around us they are the ones that contract with the police.

Linda Fritsche from North Hill Estates
When we vote on local bond issues, it is not assumed that all of the people that abstained from voting, voted "no."

Pam Kimbrough from North Hill Estates
I would imagine the board members who rejected our request last night also turned in a no tithe survey. In my Opinion it is not right for them to vote the way they personally feel. It should have been approved or not approved according to the surveys that were returned. This issue is not dead as far as I am concerned.

Elizabeth Jensen from North Hill Estates
Two issues need to be properly understood in order to make an informed decision:
(1) What exactly is the crime rate and its character in the area? These statistics and their reference sources must be posted publicly.
(2) What is the expected effect in these statistics from the presence of the officer? Based on what reference sources? This also must be posted publicly.

Finally, my name is Dr. Elizabeth Jensen (Ed and Deb's daughter). I run a political action committee focused on informing voters with respect to their special districts (here's the link to yours: http://refpac.org/texas/harris-county/pr... (http://refpac.org/texas/harris-county/precinct-0912-sub-01-2/)). I also represented this precinct and 3 others at the Texas Republican State Convention in Dallas and would like to inform everyone that the Republican
party is moving to craft legislation restricting special districts to limit their activities solely to those within their organizational documents.

David Niccum (/profile/1544224) from North Hill Estates

You are exactly right instead of tabling it for further discussion they just blew us off they're wrong

Thank Flag

Pam (/profile/5811727) thanked David (/profile/1544224)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

People were acting as concerned residents at the Water Board meeting. It is our right as residents that we feel that the survey was never going to be anything other than, rejected. Yes Civic Club Board members were present because they are actually listening to what residents are asking them to do. Crime is getting worse all around us, waiting until we are taken over by crime waves and criminals is just crazy... I hope that no one is ever seriously harmed in NHE but it is a very big possibility that it will happen... If you live on very quite secluded streets that are not off Whitewood and Lockridge perhaps you feel safer... For those of us that don't feel safe its a terrible way to feel... The simple solution in my opinion is to try out the patrol detail for 6 months and see what happens... It would be a contract at anytime that could be removed with 30 days notice. But not to even give it a chance to work knowing that tickets can be written, crime could be hampered and we would have someone watching out for us for 5 days a week would go a long way in making us feel safer...

Thank Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665), Lisa (/profile/1544440), Jan (/profile/1548006), and 2 others thanked Pam (/profile/5811727)

Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates

There may not be crime reported in this area but it doesn't mean that a cop shouldn't be on patrol. The other evening I walked my dog to the park and heard the gentlemen that closes the gates have to get into an argument with a group of four adolescent boys. I wasn't close enough to hear the entire conversation but what I did hear was the gatekeeper tell them it was time to go home because the park was closed.

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Thank Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665), Jan (/profile/1548006), and Pam (/profile/5811727) thanked Alexis (/profile/10641590)

Terri Ferguson (/profile/1543665) from North Hill Estates

Of 510 letters mailed, 271 responses were received which is 53% so a majority of residents did respond. Of the 271 responses 190 were in favor of hiring Law Enforcement for the safety and protection of our water supply and our residents. 190 yes responses is 70% affirmative. The water board disregarded and disrespected what the majority of residents indicated as their choice. Three board members did in fact impose their personal opinion
on the majority of residents that responded. This is a clear failure to represent NHE residents and a misuse of power that will be addressed. These are facts and cannot be falsely labeled as a personal attack or censored. I am disappointed and appalled that the water board was disingenuous by sending out the survey. They clearly never intended to allow NHE residents to have the protection and security that the majority want.

Thank
Flag
Lisa (profile/1544440/), Jan (profile/1548006/), Debbie (profile/3101083/), and 4 others thanked Terri (profile/1543665/)

Pam Kimbrough (profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates
Well said Terri!!! Hope you don't get flagged as I did for a inappropriate comment...

Thanked!  Flag
You, Terri (profile/1543665/), Jan (profile/1548006/), and 2 others thanked Pam (profile/5811727/)

Torrie Whittredge (profile/3101416) from North Hill Estates
Wow Pam... You're kidding me!!!

Thank  Flag
Terri (profile/1543665/), Jan (profile/1548006/), Patsy (profile/4227667/), and 1 other thanked Torrie (profile/3101416/)

Pam Kimbrough (profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates
No I'm Not kidding I was flagged for inappropriate comments. I re read my comments numerous times and did not see anything I felt were inappropriate . I'm sure feelings were hurt but so were the feelings of residents that fought for security patrol.

Thanked!  Flag
You, Terri (profile/1543665/), Jan (profile/1548006/), and 3 others thanked Pam (profile/5811727/)

Monte Cooper (profile/3009902) from North Hill Estates
I would like to clarify some points. First of all, we received 151 responses favoring 1 deputy. We received 58 responses in favor of 2 deputies. Of that 58, 19 also responded to 1 deputy. Therefore, we can only count that 19 responses once. So, total responses were 190 yes and 81 no. In order to change anything in our subdivision, as related in our deed restrictions, we must have 51 percent (majority) response of each section ; section 1, section 2, section 3 and Linwood. It is my interpretation of our deed restrictions that without this majority response, we are unable to change anything that affects the entire neighborhood. If anyone has a different interpretation, please explain. 190 positive responses did not constitute a majority response from the neighborhood. Therefore, the board elected to drop the matter at this time. I personally would like to see us, as a community, address any further issues as a united community rather than any we - they community. Please accept my apologies if I offended any one during this meeting, or with this response.

Thank you all for your continued support and lets unite, rather than scatter.
Elizabeth Jensen (/profile/1896994) from North Hill Estates
I would like to reiterate earlier points to assist the discussion.

Two issues need to be properly understood in order to make an informed decision:
(1) What exactly is the crime rate and its character in the area? These statistics and their reference sources must be posted publicly.
(2) What is the expected effect in these statistics from the presence of the officer? Based on what reference sources? This also must be posted publicly.

David Niccum (/profile/1544224) from North Hill Estates
I need to reiterate my point come on

Torrie Whittredge (/profile/3101416) from North Hill Estates
I'm confused. Is Wild Bird a street in NHE?

Maria Chapman (/profile/6206760) from North Hill Estates
Thank you for the clarification Mr. Cooper. And many, many thanks for those who have invested so much of their own time working on getting statistics, reports, etc. to provide clear and accurate information so those who took the time to vote could make an educated decision.

Regrettably, 'no vote' was assumed to be a 'I do not want security' vote, which is not the ethical way to conduct business. Considering the amount of crime our neighborhood has suffered in the past two to three years and how it increases with every passing day, this decision from the Water Board is very disappointing. Would they reconsider and allow another vote, or at least request those who did not vote by phone or personal visit to reconsider and provide a vote?

Security and infrastructure should be two completely separate issues and treated as such.

Unfortunately, I was not available to attend the meeting due to work but will do my best to attend the next one.

As Mr. Cooper stated, it would be great to address this and any other issue
affecting our neighborhood as a community of concerned residents where those residents not serving on any board or civic club can have their concerns heard in a respectful manner.

On a separate note, we never used to see houses for sale or lease in NHE at the rate we are experiencing now. And the few times houses were for sale, they sold in record times. Not anymore.

Thank Flag
Jan (/profile/1548006/) thanked Maria (/profile/6206760/)

Roxanne Schneider (/profile/1731210) from North Hill Estates
Wow that is disappointing! Maybe they should send the letter out again!
Just a thought and maybe we would have a better response the second time. I was so looking forward to the police patrolling ☹

Thank Flag
Jan (/profile/1548006/) and Pam (/profile/5811727/) thanked Roxanne (/profile/1731210/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates
I agree a lot of people were looking forward to patrol and the fact that we would be able to add the large signs at entrance and exit roads stating that we had security. From what I gathered the main concern was passing along the cost to seniors who truly could not afford the increase. We have many that have offered to pay the security fee for those that truly are struggling if they are seniors living on a fixed income. Many things we could do to offset cost such as a community garage sale, donations from those that could afford it and other things. The battle is not over so don’t give up yet... We want to make a difference for all residents in NHE so that we all feel safe. Needless to say even with security crime will not go away 100%, but if it saves one house from being broken in, one home invasion and any other crime that might be committed in my opinion it is well worth it...

Thank Flag
Jan (/profile/1548006/) and Maria (/profile/6206760/) thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates
Torrie, I see Wild Bird on our site often and I do not believe they are part of North Hills... We have several streets that appear on the NHE Nextdoor page that I am not sure what subdivision they are in...

Thank Flag
Alexis (/profile/10641590/) thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Rhonda Faust (/profile/11358306) from North Hill Estates
I am in agreement with Monte Cooper’s comments above and respectfully appeal to our civic club board, and our water board, to honor the resident assent requirements within our neighborhood bylaws and deed restrictions. I believe only 5 people were given an opportunity to vote on this matter; the water board. Residents were merely asked to respond to a series of survey questions for the water board take under advisement. While our bylaws and restrictions may be challenging to work within, they serve a very important purpose, and were materially relied upon by residents in choosing to build or buy homes in our subdivision. Actions taken contrary to, or in
circumvention of, our bylaws and deed restrictions might successfully be argued by some to be a waiver of those rules on which we all rely. I fear that could be a very slippery slope for our subdivision. The issue in my opinion isn't whether or not to outsource security to the water board or some other third-party, but rather first achieving the required assent of residents to do so in accordance with our bylaws. I also want to thank Amy Vance for reiterating the importance of being neighborly though we may not all agree with one another.

Thanked!  Flag
You, Danny (/profile/2598033/), Amy (/profile/2663226/), and 4 others thanked Rhonda (/profile/11358306/)

Torrie Whittredge (/profile/3101416) from North Hill Estates
Is the water board bound by the NHE deed restrictions? I have to admit I'm unfamiliar with the water board by laws and or rules. Heck, until recently I did not know they held elections and we've owned our home for 24 years. If someone is willing to post our water board by laws or advise where they can be obtained, that may go a long way in understanding how the board is to operate.

Thank  Flag
Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), and Pam (/profile/5811727/) thanked Torrie (/profile/3101416/)

Whitney Sodders (/profile/9947512) from North Hill Estates
Well said Rhonda. I'm sure our board is capable of being creative in determining another path to achieve an increase in HCSO patrols in a manner in alignment with the entire community's desires and financial capabilities.

I look forward to an open minded conversation between residents and NHECC board to hopefully identify an alternate path forward.

Thank  Flag
Kathy (/profile/5761358/) thanked Whitney (/profile/9947512/)

Terri Ferguson (/profile/1543665) from North Hill Estates
Putting the $13 fee on the monthly water bill is the very lowest cost, most efficient way for every resident to benefit from protecting our families and property, including the water plant. Trying any other way is NOT creative it is exponentially and UNNECESSARILY cost prohibitive. The civic club attorney said it would take 2 years and $30,000 just to set up the ability for NHE to contract Law Enforcement. Since the $13 charge would not be attached to a service there is no way for the civic club to collect from non-payers other than legal recourse which would create financial hardship and waste a ton of $$$$$$. The civic club has repeatedly stated anyone that truly couldn't afford the $13 a month cost would receive assistance. Paying $13 a month through water bill ELIMINATES collection costs. Do not place the responsibility of finding a "creative"solution on the Civic Club because they already worked their hearts out to find the BEST, LOWEST COST and ONLY viable solution . The civic club is the only place where you will find an open mind.

Thank  Flag
Jan (/profile/1548006/), Debbie (/profile/3101083/), Torrie (/profile/3101416/) and 4 others thanked Terri (/profile/1543665/)

Rhonda Faust (/profile/11358306/) from North Hill Estates
Terri, your points are heard and they are quite valid. I'm merely arguing that whatever we do should be decided on the assent of NHE residents in accordance with the percentage requirements of our bylaws, and not by a third-party based on their interpretation of a survey. If the required bylaw votes were to be obtained by the civic club I for one would have no objection to the water board or some other 3rd party managing the security contract for cost and efficiency purposes.

Thank  Flag
Terri (/profile/1543665/) and Kathy (/profile/5761358/) thanked Rhonda (/profile /11358306/)

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727/) from North Hill Estates
Thank you Monte for your comments. It was understanding from the attorney that the Civic Club would need 51% of the people to agree for patrol if we did do thru by- laws. He also told us that the Water Board could add the security fee to the water bill and 51% of people did not need to agree for them to do so. I believe this is in the minutes in either November or December that were taken at Civic Club. So in essence the Civic Club would need 51% of the vote but the Water District didn't need that amount to Approve. At that same meeting we were told the Water District could do it without consulting anyone. I will clarify this with the Civic Club Secretary.

The law allows Water Districts to pass on the cost to residents that they serve. If I remember correctly from last night it was stated that those who opposed patrol were on limited income. If others offer to pick up the tab for those that are truly on a fixed income and were aware of this their vote most likely would have been in favor, just my opinion. I appreciate your commitment to allowing us to speak last night and also voting yes. This issue is not over by any means as the safety of our residents at their request is on the minds of those who are trying to make our neighborhood the quality it was once. Your kindness is not overlooked and your attitude toward doing what is best for NHE residents is well appreciated!!!

Thank  Flag
Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), Debbie (/profile/3101083/), and 4 others thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Carol Havemann (/profile/5130601) from North Hill Estates
Our home was broken into twice. Thank God nothing was taken except our peace of mind and now we pay for a security system since 2003 and then a security camera since 2013. The first burglar left the horrible realization that the blood on our curtains was that of a man who is HIV POSITIVE!!! Our grandchildren were afraid that the bad man would break through our door again. Crime is everywhere! It's not just in NHE. I'm not sure why some can't admit that. Our three married children live in the Klein area and all of their subdivisions have paid security. It is seen as a positive and as a "we care enough" to provide protection for our residence. I hope no one else in NHE feels the pain of a burglary. I feel very thankful when I see our volunteers "watching our neighborhood" and I hope one day we see the
Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates

I have been nearly hit by speeding motorist that do not belong in this neighborhood, not at night when it's more difficult to see pedestrians, but in broad daylight! I wear bright clothes to make myself even more noticeable.

I have even gone so far as to "escort" those cutting through. I'll start at Chalie Circle, and drive the speed limit and actually stop at stop signs until the end of Whitewood near Cypresswood. That's about the only option I've been able to come up with on my own that won't get me in trouble. Might take another two minutes out of someone's drive home, but I'm sure the speeders would be irate if we treated their home as they do ours.

Thank Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665), Jan (/profile/1548006), Torrie (/profile/3101416), and 6 others thanked Carol (/profile/5130601)

Terri Ferguson (/profile/1543665) from North Hills Estates

Many months ago the civic club volunteered to go door to door (during a time period when people are afraid to open their door) to allow residents to indicate whether they supported Law Enforcement patrol and the water board told us not to because they would not trust the results. Last night at the water board meeting the civic club asked for the names of the 239 residents who did not respond so that those people could be polled and counted and the water board said no again. We are all neighbors and should be working together for the common good. I have a copy of the letter from the attorney for the water board stating that it is legal to have the cost of Law Enforcement added to the water bill without any vote by the residents. It is my understanding this is due to U.S. Patriot Act/Homeland Security as utility districts have a responsibility to protect water resources from terrorist attack or foul play. There are threats, danger and crime now that were virtually unheard of 20-30 years ago and we are not helping or serving anyone's best interest to deny that fact. There is no legal requirement for the water board to divide the vote by section but the civic club has always wanted every resident to be heard and respected. The water board initially stated the same objective - to not make the decision for NHE but to abide by what the majority of residents wanted. When the majority did support hiring an officer Annette Bethany stated that did not make a difference - it would be the water board that made the decision. We can have another vote and the civic club is willing to do all the work but it won't make a difference because the water board does not respect what our residents want. Board members have a moral obligation to serve the people they represent and our water board has either forgotten that or just doesn't care. Either way I feel that makes them unfit to serve

Edited 1d ago
Thank Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006), Debbie (/profile/3101083), Torrie (/profile/3101416), and 6 others thanked Alexis (/profile/10641590)
Whitney your statement is very misleading. More than 50% voted. The response rate was 53% to be exact. Of those 53% who did respond an overwhelming majority of 70% voted yes. You cannot force people to vote. The outcome should be respected because "it is the right thing to do". 

Thank Flag

Whitney Sodders (/profile/9947512) from North Hill Estates

Terri, I am glad to continue this conversation at a later date outside of social media. I'm dealing with my father being in the hospital AGAIN and do not have the emotion energy nor time to continue this social media banter and defend attacks against me/my statements/ideas.

Please, as adults, let's close this thread and regroup in person as a unified community to discuss as neighbors how we CAN achieve the ultimate goal, "increasing law enforcement presence in NHE", in another manner since this effort was not approved.

My father and grandfather always told me "there's more than one way to skin a cat". I believe whole heartedly this holds true especially with the many intelligent/resourceful residents we have in NHE.

Thank Flag

Cindy Richardson (/profile/1543966) from North Hill Estates

I believe that the people who did not respond either, A. did not receive said letter, B. did not want to respond, or C. got their letter late, after the deadline. We received ours 3 weeks after the deadline so possibly those that received theirs after the deadline didn't not respond because of the passed deadline. I think that if those people were polled in person, that more would be in favor than not. We are given the opportunity to have police officers on a trial basis, so why not give it a try? What is the worse that could happen? $13 is pretty cheap to feel somewhat safe in our own neighborhood. Just stating my opinion.

Thank Flag

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

Thank you Cindy, I also question why anyone would get the survey 3 weeks after the deadline. How sad!!! This may have been the case for many residents that did not return the survey. Either didn't receive or received way after deadline and perhaps thought it was to late to respond. From what I can tell from hearing from residents when they received theirs it looked like they were mailed alphabetically. Not sure why they were not all sent out at the same time or at least within a day or so. I received mine the weekend before the deadline. Some told me they received the survey the
Elizabeth Jensen (/profile/1896994) from North Hill Estates

I would like to reiterate earlier points to assist the discussion.

Two issues need to be properly understood in order to make an informed decision:
(1) What exactly is the crime rate and its character in the area? These statistics and their reference sources must be posted publicly.
(2) What is the expected effect in these statistics from the presence of the officer? Based on what reference sources? This also must be posted publicly.

Alexis Kelton (/profile/10641590) from North Hill Estates

@Elizabeth Jensen is the water board bound by the NHE deed restrictions, I am unfamiliar with the water board by laws and/or rules. If you have access to NHE’s water board by laws or advise where they can be obtained, that may go a long way in understanding how the board is to operate.

Thank you Mrs. Torrie for the inspiration for these questions.

Alexis (/profile/10641590) thanked you

Elizabeth Jensen (/profile/1896994) from North Hill Estates

@Alexis: Looked after the initial inquiry; the TCEQ database does not have those documents posted. Suggest you contact the Board’s attorney. Info is posted on your precinct’s website, scroll to the bottom, here: http://refpac.org/texas/harris-county/precinct-0912-sub-01-2/

Alexis (/profile/10641590) thanked you

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

I’m not sure that Elizabeth Jensen is a current resident in NHE and this is an issue for residents residing currently in NHE. Otherwise all past residents would have a voice in this issue. And in no way am I attacking her or trying to be disrespectful. I would make this comment about any non resident telling us what needed to be done question wise.

Pam (/profile/5811727), and 2 others thanked you
The point I'm making is that for the projected cost of this expenditure, it is responsible to quantify exactly what you expect to get out of it.

Resident Jackie (profile/8106314) thanked Pam (profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates

Residents are expecting peace of mind and knowing we have a officer that is looking out for us. You can't put a price on trying to save one life or a resident put in harms way. We want to keep and quality in our neighborhood. People are moving out because we are sitting ducks. Too much access to NHE. Many are scoping us out, I see this daily as I have 150-180 cars pass my driveway daily in 1- 1 1/2 hour time frame . I count and the amount of thugs cutting thru and looking around is scary. I have been broken into twice and you feel very violated . When residents are asking for a way to feel secure and have patrol it should be a no brainer. But this is my opinion and I don't care if statics are one way or the other. I want to live in a community where my safety and those of other residents are a top priority. Paying 150 a year is a small price to pay in the grand scheme of things.

Jan (profile/1548006), Debbie (profile/3101083), and Carolyn (profile/11245980) thanked Pam (profile/5811727)

Why should we pay additionally when we already have security, just more money out of the pockets of those who may NOT be able to afford the additional cost, isn't that why we pay taxes?

Whitney (profile/9947512) thanked Jackie (profile/8106314)

Jackie what security do we already have in place?

Melissa (profile/5885450) thanked Pam (profile/5811727), Brenda (profile/7026651), and Alexis (profile/10641590)

I just ran out a red Mazda with 4 guys casing the neighborhood I would call the sheriffs but it would take an hour for them to get out here

Terri (profile/1543665), Jan (profile/1548006), Pam (profile/5811727), and 2 others thanked David (profile/1544224)

Jackie your concern is warranted. HARRIS county only has 4 officers that patrol a large area from beltway 8, up to near rayford over to 59. The officer who spoke at water board meeting stated most of the time they are at accident sites in those same areas. They simply don't have funding to
provide areas with adequate policing. By having our own patrol paid for by NHE residents it allows them to add one more officer. Yes in a perfect world it would be nice for the county to have the funds to have adequate officers. We also pay school taxes and we have some of the worse schools in the state with several failing. Sometimes as a community we have to take care of our own. AS STATED IN EARLIER POST WE HAVE MANY RESIDENTS STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE TO PAY THE FEE FOR THOSE RESIDENTS THAT ARE TRULY ON A FIXED INCOME. THOSE RESIDENTS ARE WILLING TO STEP UP TO THE PLATE AND ASSIST. Many good neighbor's helping out so the money should not be a issue for most. It takes on the average over a hour for a officer to respond in NHE, I know as I call when I see suspicious activity. The other nice thing about having patrol beside peace of mind is we can post signs saying we have security. Also our patrol would give us monthly updates what he has done as far as tickets, crime and such. The other positive thing is that they communicate with other hired patrol and have them watch if he sees something that could be criminal activity brewing when he isn't on shift, it's a buddy system. All the neighborhood's around us have 2-3 contracted officers. They are within walking distance of us, crime is everywhere and I can't imagine why any resident doesn't feel the need to protect their family and property. With the increase in crime and several home invasions that have taken place, why risk lives of our residents. You are so entitled to your opinion for being against as those who are trying to protect.

Thank Flag
Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), Jill (/profile/5582482/), and 2 others thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

John Gastmyer (/profile/4925076) from North Hill Estates 1d ago
Sounds like the most economical decision would be to petition the city of Houston to Annex this neighborhood. The city water can repair our aging infrastructure, hpd could patrol the neighborhood, and the city could pick up our trash once a week. Several problems solved. :)

Thank Flag

Pam Kimbrough (/profile/5811727) from North Hill Estates 1d ago
In a perfect world that might work. However, the city most likely if they annexed us it would take years to fix our streets and anything else that so desperately needs done.

Thank Flag
Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), John (/profile/4925076/), and 1 other thanked Pam (/profile/5811727/)

Torrie Whittredge (/profile/3101416) from North Hill Estates 1d ago
@John... And if things keep going the way they are, the state will take over Spring schools...yet another problem solved, Right?!?

Thank Flag
Terri (/profile/1543665/), Jan (/profile/1548006/), John (/profile/4925076/), and 2 others thanked Torrie (/profile/3101416/)

Danny Gonzales (/profile/2598033) from North Hill Estates 1d ago
Jan Skrehot (/profile/1548006) from North Hill Estates 22h ago

I am in favor of patrol and don't need to see any statistics to support what I have heard and witnessed in the past year - gunshots, a murder in the park, reading on the television blog about the park being a haven for drug meetings, multiple speeding cars cutting through...I choose to be proactive rather than reactive. At less than .50 a day, to have the visible presence of patrol makes good common sense for the safety and peace of mind of all residents in our neighborhood. What would reveal the real desire of the residents is going door-to-door, informing residents of the facts, and allowing them to cast their vote in writing at that time. I will volunteer my time to do this. Would anyone else like to do so?

Edited 22h ago

Thank Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006), Torrie (/profile/3101416/), Linda (/profile/5758258/), Pam (/profile/5811727/), and 1 other thanked Jan (/profile/1548006/)

Terri Ferguson (/profile/1543665) from North Hill Estates 22h ago

Well stated facts Jan but it won't make a difference to the water board. We need a new water board that plans properly and isn't fearful of growth. We need a school board that can help guide our schools out of the downward spiral. Thankfully there are people like you who care enough to make it happen😊. And together we will.

Thank Flag

Jan (/profile/1548006/), Torrie (/profile/3101416/), Pam (/profile/5811727/), and 3 others thanked Terri (/profile/1543665/)

Jan Skrehot (/profile/1548006) from North Hill Estates 22h ago

Where there's a will, there's a way to overcome even the greatest of obstacles, so for those who understand and appreciate the value of patrol for our neighborhood, we must stand united and not give up. What we need is a concrete plan of action to move this forward.

Edited 22h ago

Thank Flag

Terri (/profile/1543665/), Debbie (/profile/3101083/), Pam (/profile/5811727/), and 1 other thanked Jan (/profile/1548006/)

Elizabeth Jensen (/profile/1896994) from North Hill Estates 2h ago

To summarize:
a minority of residents have concluded that a police patrol contract (does not actually mean a regular presence as Spring Park Village can tell you) will give them piece of mind irregardless of whether this contributes efficiently, or even materially, to their safety. It is an "experiment" as two regular posters in this thread stated in an earlier thread on the topic. As this "experiment" (without any data) is likely to carry a significant cost, rather than pay for it through their civic club with voluntary contributions, they've
decided that the power of the water board to turn off a resident's water supply is necessary to ensure that there are no free-riders to the experiment's results. The water board's reticence to potentially abuse its power in the conduct of this "experiment" (quotes must be used as there is no data) means that the whole board must be removed except for the one individual who potentially has an ethics problem from voting on this issue as he serves on both the water board as well as the civic club.

Also, I'd like to note that the regular use of a verbal abuse technique called "suppositions" is making this discussion particularly nasty and doing a great job at alienating neighbors...who incidentally are the very people most likely to ensure the safety of yourself and your property.

Anyone consider something crazy like...putting cameras on the water board's properties pointed at Lockridge and Whitewood that are tied directly into the Constable's office and on a website for all to view? Alongside with the intentional dismissal of any data is the fact that no alternatives have thus far been entertained when bringing this topic up with the water board.