CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS, CALIFORNIA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
APRIL 27, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bressette called the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Laguna Hills, California, to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Laguna Hills City Council Chamber, 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tempore Scott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Randal Bressette, Mayor
R. Craig Scott, Mayor Pro Tempore
Melody Carruth, Council Member
Joel Lautenschleger, Council Member
L. Allan Songstad, Jr., Council Member

STAFF PRESENT: Bruce Channing, City Manager; Donald White, Assistant City Manager; Peggy Johns, City Clerk; Greg Simonian, City Attorney; Ken Rosenfield, Public Services Director/City Engineer; Vern Jones, Community Development Director; Steve Doan, Chief of Police Services; David Reynolds, Deputy City Manager; Terry Scortt, Battalion Chief, Orange County Fire Authority; Melissa Au Yeung, Management Analyst; Dan Meehan, Community Services Superintendent; and Sandi Mogan, Deputy City Clerk.

1. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1.1 INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS MASTER MUNICIPAL CLERK DESIGNATION (0140-30)

Mayor Bressette presented a plaque and pin to City Clerk Peggy Johns.

1.2 2-1-1 ORANGE COUNTY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN (0150-20)

The City Council received a presentation on the 2-1-1 Orange County Referral System from Steve Lemler, Orange County Department of Education.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

2.1 LAGUNA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LIAISON (0930-40)

The City Council received an oral report from Laguna Hills High School Student Liaison Jason Brower.

3. MINUTES

3.1 REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 13, 2010 (0410-50)

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CARRUTH, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SONGSTAD, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2010, REGULAR MEETING, AS PRESENTED.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Council Members Carruth, Lautenschleger, Songstad, Mayor Pro Tempore Scott, and Mayor Bressette
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEMPORE SCOTT, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CARRUTH, THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS BE ACCEPTED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS LISTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ITEM NO. 4.7.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Council Members Carruth, Lautenschleger, Songstad, Mayor Pro Tempore Scott, and Mayor Bressette
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

4.1 MOTION TO APPROVE THE READING BY TITLE OF ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS, SAID TITLES, WHICH APPEAR ON THE PUBLIC AGENDA, SHALL BE DETERMINED TO HAVE BEEN READ BY TITLE AND FURTHER READING WAIVED

WAIVED READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS.

4.2 APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER FOR PERIOD ENDED APRIL 27, 2010 (0300-30)

Written report from the Administrative Services Department indicated that, in accordance with Government Code Section 37202, the Assistant City Manager certified to the accuracy of the Warrant Register and to the availability of funds for payment thereof.

APPROVED THE WARRANT REGISTER IN THE AMOUNT OF $946,836.60.

4.3 2010 WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM (0240-50)

Written report from the Public Services Department requested that the City Council adopt a Resolution to formally initiate the annual Weed Abatement Program. The work had been budgeted for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 in the amount of $55,000. Some of these costs would be recovered as an assessment upon the private parcels requiring abatement, if any, and the balance related to the annual clearing of City-owned properties.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2010-04-27-1, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING WEEDS AND RUBBISH ON SPECIFIED PRIVATE PROPERTY TO BE A PUBLIC NUISANCE, COMMENCING PUBLIC PROCEEDINGS, AND SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR MAY 25, 2010.

4.4 PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 3 FOR LAGUNA HILLS DRIVE PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT, CIP NO. 169 (0400-10)

Written report from the Public Services Department indicated that work on the Laguna Hills Drive Pavement Rehabilitation Project, CIP No. 169, began on December 14, 2009, and was being performed by R.J. Noble Company. Work performed in February included traffic control, water quality management, clearing and grubbing, striping and signing, excavation, asphalt concrete overlay, sidewalk replacement, utility adjustments, and traffic loops. The project was substantially complete. The contractor had submitted the third progress payment request for approval. The progress payment was within the Capital Improvement Program Budget for the Laguna Hills Drive Pavement Rehabilitation Project, CIP No. 169.

APPROVED PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 3, IN THE NET AMOUNT OF $282,320.35, TO R.J. NOBLE COMPANY, FOR LAGUNA HILLS DRIVE PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT, CIP NO. 169.

4.5 2010 FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION (0400-10)

Written report from the Community Services Department indicated that the City of Laguna Hills would host its annual Fourth of July celebration at the Laguna Hills Sports Complex on Sunday, July 4, 2010. The special event would be held from 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and included a number of activities in addition to the fireworks show. In 2009 a change was made to the fireworks show which eliminated the low level fireworks in favor of larger aerial shells and increased visibility for those in attendance. Staff recommended to execute an Agreement with Pyro Spectaculars, Inc. for the Program "A" fireworks show for 2010 with a cost of $23,500. Program "A" is the same show that was presented in 2009. The FY 2010-2011 proposed budget included $51,324 for the City's Fourth of July Celebration event, which included a cost of $23,500 for the fireworks show.

AUTHORIZED THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT WITH PYRO SPECTACULARS, INC., APPROVED AS TO FORM BY THE CITY ATTORNEY.

4.6 COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT D09-043 TO FUND TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) STUDIES IN THE SAN JUAN CREEK WATERSHED (0400-10)

Written report from the Public Services Department indicated that the County of Orange (County), as Principal Permittee of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program, had requested the City's approval of Cooperative Agreement D09-043 to fund the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) required development of a Bacteria Load Reduction Plan (BLRP) or Comprehensive Load Reduction Plan (CLRP), bacteriological monitoring, reporting, research, and studies in the San Juan Creek Watershed. Agreement D09-043 provided the cost-sharing mechanism for the County, the Orange County Flood Control District, and the San Juan Creek Watershed cities (Dana Point, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, and San Juan Capistrano). The City of Laguna Hills' proportionate share of this effort was 1.40 percent. The total budget for TMDL activities under this Agreement for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 was $198,389. The Fiscal Year 2010-2011 cost share for Laguna Hills was $2,786.68. Funds for this work were included in the City's NPDES Budget, CIP No. 410.

APPROVED COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT D09-043 TO FUND TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) STUDIES IN THE SAN JUAN CREEK WATERSHED, AUTHORIZED THE MAYOR TO SIGN, AND THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST THERETO.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

4.7 VOLUNTEER CONNECTION DAY AND ARBOR DAY REPORT (0950-25)

Mayor Bressette removed this item from the Consent Calendar to thank and congratulate staff for doing a great job on Volunteer Connection Day. Mayor Bressette reported that there were close to 100 volunteers who painted walls, planted trees, and cleaned up debris along the City's trails.

Written report from the Community Services Department indicated that the City of Laguna Hills hosted its annual Volunteer Connection Day on Saturday, April 17, 2010. Ninety-nine (99) volunteers were welcomed by Council Members, Commissioners, and staff before breaking off into coordinated groups to beautify the City. Projects for this year's event included multiple trail clean-ups, tree planting in recognition of Arbor Day at La Paz Road, between Alameda Avenue and Charlton Drive, and a wall painting project in north Laguna Hills. Approximately 1,500 pounds of trash and recyclables were collected, which included shopping carts, mattresses, and numerous additional large items that were littering the trails and open space areas of the City. The volunteers concluded their work by enjoying a thank you luncheon at the Laguna Hills Community Center. Event expenditures for 2010 totaled $982, which was below the FY 09/10 budget of $1,000. The purchase of trash bags, gloves, and trash grabbers for a total expense of $649, was taken from the City's Department of Conservation Beverage Container Recycling Fund. The resulting general fund impact was $333 for this year's Volunteer Connection Day Event.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR BRESSETTE, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LAUTENSCHLEGER, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Council Members Carruth, Lautenschleger, Songstad, Mayor Pro Tempore Scott, and Mayor Bressette
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

5. PLANNING AGENCY

Mayor Bressette recessed the City Council meeting to the Planning Agency meeting at 7:21 p.m. and reconvened the City Council meeting at 8:34 p.m. All Council Members were present.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

6.1 City Manager

The City Manager made no reports.

6.2 Assistant City Manager

A. 2009-2010 FINANCIAL UPDATE AND BUDGET OUTLOOK (0330-30)

Assistant City Manager White indicated that during last year's budget process the City Council directed staff to prepare a comprehensive budget review, financial update, and budget outlook in April 2010. Mr. White indicated that in the short term, the City was poised to complete this fiscal year, and the current biennial budget cycle in a strong financial position. Mr. White stated that for the year ending June 30, 2010, the City was projecting an operating surplus of over $800,000 and a total fund balance of over $12.7 million. Mr. White indicated that in the mid to long term, the City's financial position was expected to improve. Mr. White stated that the City's unreserved general fund balance was projected to grow to over $16 million by the end of the planning term, with healthy operating surpluses in every year. Mr. White indicated the City did not recommend changes to the current biennial budget.

Barbara Kogerman, Laguna Hills resident, indicated she had several concerns that she hoped the City Council would consider in regards to this issue. Her first concern centered on the full impact on Laguna Hills regarding CalPERS and the amount of increase depending on the type of plan in place. Her second concern was the eight year resource allocation plan assumptions and the relationship between inflation and average interest rates on investments. Third, she wondered about the new overall lower property tax base and its impact in Laguna Hills. And finally, Mrs. Kogerman believed it was optimistic to think that the retail sector was coming back. She stated that perhaps sales tax revenue was down in Laguna Hills because of a difficult business environment and structural changes to retail sales in general, for example, Internet purchases. Mrs. Kogerman urged the City Council to explore some of the assumptions that were built into the budget outlook and to be very moderate in their decisions. She congratulated the City on a very comprehensive review.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCIL MEMBER LAUTENSCHLEGER, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CARRUTH, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Council Members Carruth, Lautenschleger, Songstad, Mayor Pro Tempore Scott, and Mayor Bressette
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

B. SOCIAL NETWORKING (0160-70)

Management Analyst Au-Yeung indicated that the City would like to set up a Twitter account for social networking as a tool for one-way communication with interested parties throughout the City. Ms. Au-Yeung indicated that in the same amount of time it would take to draft a short email, staff could, for example, provide instant notification of road closures, special event reminders, changes to the regular scheduled City meetings, and other emergency notifications. Ms. Au-Yeung stated that based on the planned usage the City anticipated sending out four to ten notifications, or tweets, per month.

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEMPORE SCOTT, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SONGSTAD, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT AND IMPLEMENT TWITTER.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Council Members Lautenschleger, Songstad, and Mayor Pro Tempore Scott
NOES:	Council Member Carruth and Mayor Bressette
ABSENT:	None

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no Other Business.

8. MATTERS PRESENTED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

8.1 Mayor Bressette

A. LAGUNA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL HAWK WRESTLING AWARDS BANQUET (0410-65)

Mayor Bressette indicated that he and Council Member Carruth and Mayor Pro Tempore Scott attended the Hawk Wrestling Awards Banquet on Monday, April 19, 2010. Mayor Bressette reported that Laguna Hills High School had a great wrestling program, and he congratulated each and every one of the team members and coaches.

8.2 Council Member Carruth

A. LAGUNA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL HAWK WRESTLING AWARDS BANQUET (0410-65)

Council Member Carruth reported that Mayor Bressette did a great job at the Awards Banquet. He gave a rousing speech not only honoring those young men who were in the wrestling program, but as City Council was aware, Coach Jarmie would be inducted in the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. This ceremony would take place on Sunday, May 23, 2010, at the Laguna Hills Community Center and might require the Mayor to make another appearance at that event.

9. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this session, Mayor Bressette declared the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Peggy J. Johns

PEGGY J. JOHNS, CITY CLERK

ATTEST:

RANDAL BRESSETTE, MAYOR

APPROVED AT MEETING OF MAY 11, 2010.