
**CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS, CALIFORNIA
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lautenschleger 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

Councilman Scott led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Joel Lautenschleger, Mayor
 Randal Bressette, Mayor Pro Tempore
 Melody Carruth, Council Member
 R. Craig Scott, 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; Ron Blaul, Battalion Chief, Orange County Fire Authority; Melissa Au-Yeung, Management Analyst; and Sandi Mogan, Deputy City Clerk.

1. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

**1.1 MOULTON NIGUEL WATER DISTRICT CONSERVATION INITIATIVES
(0230-35)**

The City Council received and filed a presentation from Robert Gumerman, General Manager, Charles Roy, Superintendent of Customer Services, and Donald Froelich, Board Member, from the Moulton Niguel Water District regarding Water Conservation Initiatives.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

2.1 CITY WAYFINDING SIGNS (0630-50)

Irwin Berg, Laguna Hills, congratulated the Mayor and City Council for the directional signs that had been installed around the City. He found them very helpful and encouraging. Mr. Berg believed the signs were helpful for visitors to navigate their way around the City. Mr. Berg lived on Buckskin Drive and

as the street continued easterly towards Nellie Gail Road and on to Oso Parkway, the street changed to Buckboard Lane. Mr. Berg felt this name change was very confusing. He asked if someone in the City could look into the signage to design a larger sign, or a more creative way to show the distinction between the two streets.

2.2 ANIMAL CARE SERVICES (0200-10)

Valerie Bromberg, Laguna Hills, stated that the City of Laguna Hills had been offered another chance to provide pro-humane animal services to the citizens of Laguna Hills. Ms. Bromberg indicated a meeting had taken place on March 3, 2009, with the Irvine Community Services Manager who had announced that the City Manager of Laguna Hills had been contacted by the Irvine City Manager about a possible Joint Powers Authority (JPA) arrangement for animal shelter services. Ms. Bromberg indicated that Laguna Hills had turned down an offer to provide pro-humane animal services from Mission Viejo. Aliso Viejo ran the numbers and had realized they would get improved services for less than the County would charge and would not be forced to pay for the new County shelter in North Orange County; their citizens would also pay less in licensing fees, thus encouraging more of its citizens to license their dogs. Three cities had voted to join Laguna Hills in a feasibility study to see if a shelter jointly governed by the cities was possible, but instead of moving forward, months went by and then guidelines were created to stop even the study. Now it appeared that the door that was open to possible Irvine shelter services had been quickly and quietly slammed shut. Ms. Bromberg indicated that it was reasonable for Laguna Hills' citizens to be made aware that Laguna Hills could have been part of a new pro-humane Irvine shelter. When economic times improved and the new state-of-the-art Irvine shelter was built, would they ask the question, why wasn't the City of Laguna Hills part of this?

City Manager Channing indicated that a meeting had occurred with the City of Irvine where they were exploring the idea of possibly building a new shelter and creating a JPA for that purpose. Laguna Hills staff had indicated to Irvine staff that if they were going to go down that path, City Manager Channing believed it was important to get every City in South County that might be interested in this effort to join in simultaneously. He also shared Laguna Hills' experience of previously attempting this course of action and the difficulty they had encountered. Mr. Channing indicated that the City of Irvine had called the meeting as a fact-gathering effort only, and that no offer or proposal to provide animal shelter services to the City of Laguna Hills was made by the Irvine City Manager.

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

Laguna Hills High School Student Liaison Lauren Buys was present at the meeting but had another appointment and had to leave before giving her report.

3. MINUTES

3.1 REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 24, 2009 (0410-50)

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMAN SONGSTAD, SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEMPORE BRESSETTE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 24, 2009, REGULAR MEETING, AS PRESENTED.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEMPORE BRESSETTE, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN SONGSTAD, THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS BE ACCEPTED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS LISTED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Council Members Carruth, Scott, Songstad, Mayor Pro Tempore Bressette, and Mayor Lautenschleger
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 MARCH 10, 2009 (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 \$233,440.81.

4.3 GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 66006 – DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES ANNUAL REPORT (0640-15)

Written report from the Administrative Services Department indicated that the City of Laguna Hills had three types of development impact fees that might be assessed on new developments: Public Art Fees, Traffic Mitigation Fees, and Quimby Fees. State Law specified that upon receipt of development impact fees, certain reports were required to be made by the public agency. The staff report detailed the required annual report, pursuant to Section 66006 of the Government Code.

APPROVED THE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES ANNUAL
REPORT PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION
66006.

4.4 PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 1 FOR EL TORO ROAD STREETSCAPE AND MEDIAN ISLAND IMPROVEMENTS, CIP NO. 313 (0400-10)

Written report from the Public Services Department indicated that work on the El Toro Road Streetscape and Median Island Improvements, CIP No. 313, was being performed by ValleyCrest Landscape Development, Inc., and began on January 12, 2009. Work included in this payment was clearing and grubbing and water quality management. The contractor had submitted the first progress payment request for approval. The progress payment was within the Capital Improvement Program Budget for the El Toro Road Streetscape and Median Island Improvements, CIP No. 313.

APPROVED PROGRESS PAYMENT NO. 1, IN THE NET
AMOUNT OF \$3,825.00, TO VALLEYCREST LANDSCAPE
DEVELOPMENT, INC., FOR THE EL TORO ROAD
STREETSCAPE AND MEDIAN ISLAND IMPROVEMENTS, CIP
NO. 313.

5. PLANNING AGENCY

Mayor Lautenschleger recessed the City Council meeting to the Planning Agency meeting at 8:23 p.m. and reconvened the City Council at 8:24 p.m. All Council Members were present.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

6.1 City Manager

A. VACATION LEAVE (0520-05)

City Manager Channing thanked the City Council for granting him vacation time to travel to India for the past two weeks. The trip had been primarily an educational tour and partly a fiduciary effort to verify that the money that had been raised privately and sent to India for the purpose of building education centers and vocational schools was being used for its intended purpose. He indicated the trip had been both an eye-popping and heart-wrenching event. There was an unimaginable amount of poverty in India and people were living in untenable conditions just about everywhere. There were 1.2 billion people living in a country about a third the size of the United States, the population of which is approximately 400 million people. If anyone was interested, Mr. Channing would be happy to share photos of his trip.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no Other Business.

8. MATTERS PRESENTED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

8.1 Mayor Lautenschleger

A. LITTLE LEAGUE OPENING SEASON (0940-30)

Mayor Lautenschleger indicated that he had attended the first day of Little League season on Saturday, March 7, 2009. It had been a great opening day. The number of children who had signed up was slightly down. Soccer was down about 5-10% for the spring program and baseball had been down 20-30%. There had been two gentlemen who spoke at the ceremony who had thanked the City of Laguna Hills for the work that had been done at the Community Center and Cabot Park and at the Laguna Hills High School for the Seniors Program.

B. TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AGENCY (0150-95)

Mayor Lautenschleger indicated that the Transportation Corridor Agency would soon be hosting its Spring Tours, and Mayor Lautenschleger urged everyone to take advantage of participating in this opportunity. The Transportation Corridor Agency was improving the environment in many ways, and this was a great opportunity to see the programs first-hand. Mayor Lautenschleger gave an update on the construction occurring on the 73 and 241 Toll Roads.

8.2 Councilwoman Carruth

A. LAGUNA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL (0930-40)

Councilwoman Carruth was pleased to report that Laguna Hills High School had four scholar athletes this year, the highest number from the football team and a special honor for the school. The students were Jeff Quigley, Brad Refsnyder, Shawn Tucker, and Matt Giovinasso. At the last honor roll, there were 680 students out of an enrollment of just under 1,800 total students. Being on the honor roll meant that the students had to maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or better. Councilwoman Carruth also indicated that in the *United States News and World Report*, Laguna Hills High School was listed for the second year in a row, as having one of the strongest International Baccalaureate programs in the country.

B. NIX NATURE CENTER (0130-10)

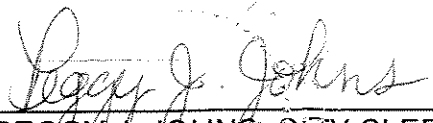
Councilwoman Carruth indicated that springtime was the best time to take a tour of the Nix Nature Center and surrounding hiking trails of what would be a truly beautiful season due to the large amount of winter rainfall. Councilwoman Carruth urged everyone to take the opportunity to visit the Nix Nature Center and nearby trails.

9. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this session, Mayor Lautenschleger declared the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.



PEGGY J. JOHNS, CITY CLERK

ATTEST:



JOEL LAUTENSCHLEGER, MAYOR

APPROVED AT MEETING OF MARCH 24, 2009.