City of Laguna Hills
City Council / Planning Agency
Regular Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, September 10, 2024

<u>General Business Convening at 7:00 PM</u>

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Mayor Wheeler.

Invocation: President of Elders Quorum Mark Shaft of the Laguna Hills Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney

Roll Call of City Council Members

Present:	**Absent**:
Mayor Dave Wheeler	
Mayor Pro Tempore Joshua Sweeney	
Council Member Don Caskey	
Council Member Janine Heft	
Council Member Erica Pezold	

1. Presentations and Proclamations

1.1 Appointment of Laguna Hills High School Student Liaison Dylan Vu for the 2024 Fall Semester.

Mayor Wheeler presented a Certificate of Appointment to Laguna Hills High School Fall 2024 Student Liaison to Dylan Vu.

1.2 Laguna Hills High School Student Liaison Report

The City Council received a report from Laguna Hills High School 2024 Fall Student Liaison Dylan Vu.

1.3 World Alzheimer's Awareness Month

The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring the month of September 2024 as World Alzheimer's Month and Mayor Wheeler presented the Proclamation to Dan Daley, Healthcare Outreach Specialist, Alzheimer's Orange County.

2. Schedule of Future Events

2.1 Schedule of Future Events

Deputy City Clerk McDonald announced the upcoming meetings and events.

3. Public Comments

There were no public comments on non-agendized items.

4. Consent Calendar

A motion to approve the Consent Calendar with Item No. 4.5 and Item No. 4.9 removed by Council Member Pezold, Item No. 4.5 and Item No. 4.8 removed by Council Member Heft, and Item No. 4.6 and Item No. 4.7 removed by Mayor Wheeler, was moved by Council Member Pezold, seconded by Council Member Heft.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

4.1 Waive Reading in Full of all Ordinances and Resolutions on the Agenda

Recommendation: That the City Council waive reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions on the agenda and declare that said titles which appear on the public agenda shall be determined to have been read by title and further reading waived.

4.2 Approval of Minutes for August 27, 2024, Special Meeting

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the City Council Minutes for the August 27, 2024, Regular Meeting.

4.3 Approval of Minutes for August 27, 2024, Regular Meeting

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the City Council Minutes for the August 27, 2024, Regular Meeting.

4.4 Ratification of September 10, 2024 Warrant Register

Recommendation: That the City Council ratify the accompanying Warrant Register for the period from August 16, 2024, to August 29, 2024, in the amount of $408,645.29.

4.10 Resolution Establishing City Council Policy 102-Procedure for Order of Authority

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2024-09-10-2: A resolution of the City Council of the City of Laguna Hills, California, establishing City Council Policy No. 102 regarding a procedure for order of authority.

Items Removed from the Consent Calendar

4.5 Update of City Council Policy 317 - Public Facility Reservation & Use Policy, Related to the Use of City Facilities such as Community Center Rooms, Parks, Athletic Fields, Courts, and Gymnasium

Recommendation: That the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2024-09-10-1: "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Laguna Hills, California, Adopting Updates to City Council Policy No. 317."

Council Member Pezold removed Item No. 4.5 from the Consent Calendar to oppose the item. Council Member Heft removed Item No. 4.5 from the Consent Calendar to request additional information.

Deputy City Manager Reynolds responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation with the discussed minor change to page 13 of the policy was moved by Mayor Wheeler, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney.

Roll Call Vote Result: Approved
Yes 4, No 1, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft
Nays:	Council Member Pezold
Abstain:	None

4.6 2024 Holiday Event Series Update

Recommendation: That the City Council receive and file the report.

Mayor Wheeler removed Item No. 4.6 from the Consent Calendar to request additional information on the item.

Community Services Manager Holland Gannon responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Mayor Wheeler, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

4.7 Proposed First Amendment to Civic Center Office Lease with Fay Blix, an individual dba The Law Offices of Fay Blix, for 24031 El Toro Road, Suite 301, Laguna Hills, California

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1) Approve the first amendment to the lease agreement with Fay Blix, an individual dba The Law Offices of Fay Blix, for 24031 El Toro Road, Suite 301, Laguna Hills, California; and 2) Authorize the City Manager to make minor modifications, as necessary, to the first amendment to the lease agreement and to execute the first amendment to the lease agreement.

Mayor Wheeler removed Item No. 4.7 from the Consent Calendar to allow for discussion on the item.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Ames responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Mayor Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Heft.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

4.8 Award of Public Works Construction Contract for the Laguna Hills Community Center Carpeting Replacement Project, CIP No. 513-B

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1) Award the Public Works Construction Contract for the for the Laguna Hills Community Center Carpeting Replacement Project, CIP No. 513-B, to the lowest responsive bidder, Floor Covering Unlimited, Inc., in the amount of $52,242.88; 2) Find that the Project is Categorically Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Class 1 Existing Facilities, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301; 3) Reject all other bids; and 4) Authorize the City Manager to sign the Public Works Construction Contract.

Council Member Heft removed Item No. 4.8 from the Consent Calendar to allow for discussion on the item.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Ames responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Heft, seconded by Council Member Pezold.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

4.9 Response to the June 20, 2024, Orange County Grand Jury Report Entitled "E-bikes Friend or Foe."

Council Member Pezold removed Item No. 4.9 from the Consent Calendar to allow for discussion on the item.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Council Member Pezold, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

5. Planning Agency

Mayor Wheeler recessed the City Council Meeting, and acting in capacity as Chair, called the Regular Meeting of the Planning Agency of the City of Laguna Hills, California, to order at 7:51 p.m.

5.1 Roll Call of Planning Agency Members

Present:	**Absent**:
Chair Dave Wheeler	
Vice Chair Joshua Sweeney	
Agency Member Don Caskey	
Agency Member Janine Heft	
Agency Member Erica Pezold	

5.2 Public Comments

There were no public comments for the Planning Agency on non-agendized items.

5.3 Approval of Minutes

The Planning Agency Minutes are approved by the City Council.

5.4 Administrative Reports

There were no Planning Agency administrative reports.

5.5 Planning Agency Public Hearings

5.5.1 Conditional Use Permit/Site Development Permit/Master Sign Program (CUP/SDP/MSP) No. 0110-2022, a Request by Monique Lacher, on behalf of Aliso Equities, Ltd. for Approval of a Conditional Use Permit, Site Development Permit, and Master Sign Program Amendment to Construct a New Ralphs Fuel Station in the Alicia Town Center Located at 25594-25632 Alicia Parkway

Recommendation: That the Planning Agency:

1) Conduct a public hearing; and,

2) Find and determine that the proposed project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15332 of Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations (Class 32, In-fill Development Projects); and,

3) Adopt Resolution No. PA2024-09-10-1: "A Resolution of the Planning Agency of the City of Laguna Hills, California, Approving Conditional Use Permit/Site Development Permit/Master Sign Program No. 0110-2022, a Request by Monique Lacher, on behalf of Aliso Equities, Ltd., for Approval of a New Ralphs Fuel Station in the Alicia Town Center, Located at 25594-25632 Alicia Parkway, Including an Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15332 of Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations (Class 32, In-fill Development Projects)".

Chair Wheeler opened the public hearing.

Senior Planner Wuu reviewed the information provided in the staff report, provided a PowerPoint presentation, and responded to Agency Member requests for additional information.

Project applicant and property owner representative Claude Yacole, Aliso Equities, Ltd., provided information on the project and responded to Agency Member requests for additional information.

Project applicant representative, Scott Jones, AO Architects, provided information on the project.

The following individual(s) provided public comments in opposition to Item No. 5.5.1.:
David Pufahl, Laguna Hills Resident

Project applicant representative Brian Estrada, RK Engineering Group, Inc., provided information on the project and responded to Agency Member requests for additional information.

David Pufahl, a Laguna Hills resident, responded to Agency Member requests for additional information.

Project applicant and property owner representative Claude Yacole, Aliso Equities, Ltd., responded to Agency Member requests for additional information.

Project applicant representative, Scott Jones, AO Architects, responded to Agency Member requests for additional information.

The following individual(s) provided public comments in opposition to Item No. 5.5.1.:
Anonymous Speaker

City Attorney Simonian responded to Agency Member requests for additional information

Project applicant and property owner representative, Claude Yacole, Aliso Equities, Ltd. agreed to abide by the revised conditions of approval.

Chair Wheeler closed the public hearing.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation with the addition of condition of approval no. 12a to Resolution No. PA2024-09-10-1 was moved by Council Member Pezold, seconded by Council Member Heft.

Roll Call Vote Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Chair Wheeler, Vice Chair Sweeney, Agency Member Caskey, Agency Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

5.6 Planning Agency Adjournment

Chair Wheeler adjourned the Planning Agency Meeting at 9:10 p.m. and reconvened the City Council Meeting. All Council Members were present in Chamber.

At Council Member Pezold's request, Mayor Wheeler received consensus to take Item No. 8.1 out of order on the Agenda.

Mayor Wheeler recessed the meeting at 9:11 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

8. Matters Agendized and Presented by City Council Members

8.1 Consideration of a Policy to Ban the Installation and Use of Artificial Turf on City-owned properties in the City of Laguna Hills

Recommendation: Council Member Pezold recommends that the City Council direct staff to prepare the policy and return at the September 24, 2024, meeting for final approval.

Council Member Pezold provided information on the item

Laguna Hills High School Student Ava Kornegay, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the item and responded to Council Member requests for additional information

Deputy City Manager Reynolds responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

City Manager Hildenbrand responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

The following individual(s) provided public comments in favor of Item No. 8.1.:
Julianna Kornegay, Laguna Hills High School Student

City Attorney Simonian responded to Council Member requests for additional information

City Manager Hildenbrand responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to direct staff to draft two optional policies, one to ban artificial turf and one to promote the preservation of natural turf, and return to a future meeting for approval was moved by Council Member Pezold, seconded by Council Member Heft.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

6. City Council Public Hearings

6.1 Proposed Update to City's Traffic Violator Apprehension Program Fee

Recommendation: That the City Council:

1) Conduct a public hearing;

2) Adopt Resolution No. 2024-09-10-3: "A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Laguna Hills, California, Updating the City's Traffic Violator Apprehension Program Fee Repealing Resolution No. 2021-10-12-5, and Finding that the Action is Statutorily Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Per Section 15273 of the CEQA Guidelines and Public Resources Code Section 21080(B)(8)."

Finance Director Hendrickson reviewed the information provided in the staff report and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

Mayor Wheeler opened the public hearing and upon seeing no one rise, closed the public hearing.

A motion to approve staff's recommendation was moved by Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, seconded by Council Member Caskey.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

7. Administrative Reports

7.1 Proposed Reader Board at the Corner of Alicia Parkway and Paseo de Valencia

Recommendation: That the City Council:

1) Approve the conceptual design of the proposed reader board at the corner of Alicia Parkway and Paseo de Valencia;

2) Establish CIP No. 318 for the proposed project;

3) Authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget by allocating $525,000 from the General Fund Reserves into CIP No. 318; and

4) Authorize City staff to develop construction plans and documents.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Ames reviewed the information provided in the staff report, provided a PowerPoint presentation, and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to table the item to the next regular meeting was moved by Council Member Caskey, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney.

Result: Tabled
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

7.2 Proposed Street Name Sign Replacements

Recommendation: That the City Council:

1) Approve one of the proposed conceptual street name sign designs;

2) Authorize City staff to develop bid documents for the procurement and installation of the street name signs Citywide; and

3) Authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget by transferring $200,000 from General Fund Reserves to CIP No. 153.

City Manager Hildenbrand responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to discuss the proposed conceptual street name sign designs and table the discussion on the traffic signal mast arm signs to a future meeting was moved by Council Member Pezold, seconded by Council Member Heft.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

Public Works Director/City Engineer Ames reviewed the information in the staff report, provided a PowerPoint presentation, and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to approve option 2 of the proposed conceptual street name sign designs was moved by Council Member Pezold, seconded by Council Member Heft.

Result: Approved
Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0

Ayes:	Mayor Wheeler, Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney, Council Member Caskey, Council Member Heft, Council Member Pezold
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

9. City Council Member Committee Reports

9.1 Committee Assignment Reports

There were no reports from City Council Members on the City Council Committee Assignments.

10. City Council Member Comments

Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney
Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney provided comments on the ongoing Airport Fire.

Mayor Wheeler
Mayor Wheeler provided comments on 9/11 and called for a moment of silence.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the City Council at this session, Mayor Wheeler declared the meeting adjourned in honor of those lost on 9/11 at 11:04 p.m.

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Jennifer Lee, City Clerk

ATTEST:

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Dave Wheeler, Mayor

Approved at meeting of September 24, 2024.