

**City of Laguna Hills
City Council / Planning Agency
Regular Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, October 8, 2024**

General Business Convening at 7:00 PM

Call to Order

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

Invocation: Bishop Alejandro Rubalcava of Laguna Hills Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Caskey

1. Presentations and Proclamations

1.1 Laguna Hills High School Student Liaison Report

The City Council received a report from Laguna Hills High School 2024 Spring Student Liaison Alternate Forrest Frey.

Roll Call of City Council Members

Present:

Mayor Dave Wheeler
Mayor Pro Tempore Joshua Sweeney
Council Member Don Caskey
Council Member Janine Heft
Council Member Erica Pezold

Absent:

2. Schedule of Future Events

2.1 Schedule of Future Events

City Clerk Lee announced the upcoming meetings and events.

3. Public Comments

The following individual(s) provided public comments on non-agendized items:

Michael Ross, Laguna Hills Resident
Kevin Bonny, Laguna Hills Resident
Craig Talbot, Laguna Hills Resident

Sheldon Kawahana, Laguna Hills Resident
Raymond Paya, Laguna Hills Resident
Susann Fiumani, Laguna Hills Resident
Patrick O'Fallon, Laguna Hills Resident
Victor Lanfranco, Laguna Hills Resident
Moses Yang, Laguna Hills Resident
Neel Patel, Traffic Commission Vice Chair
Russell Almquist, Laguna Hills Resident

City Attorney Simonian provided legal information on sober living recovery homes and street vending and signage.

4. Consent Calendar

A motion to approve the Consent Calendar with Council Member Pezold removing Item No. 4.7 was moved by Council Member Heft, seconded by Council Member Caskey.

Result: Passed

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 September 24, 2024, Special Meeting

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the City Council Minutes for the September 24, 2024, Special Meeting.

4.3 Approval of Minutes for September 24, 2024, Regular Meeting

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the City Council Minutes for the September 24, 2024, Regular Meeting.

4.4 Ratification of October 8, 2024 Warrant Register

Recommendation: That the City Council ratify the accompanying Warrant Register for the period from September 13, 2024, to September 26, 2024, in the amount of \$264,099.54.

4.5 2024 Summer Event Series Post-Event Report

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

4.6 2025-2027 Memorial Day Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K Event Management Services Agreement

Recommendation: That the City Council approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement with Spectrum Sports Management, Inc., for event management services for the 2025, 2026, and 2027 City of Laguna Hills Memorial Day Race Events.

4.8 Approval of Parcel Map No. 2022-189 for Laguna Hills Plaza Shopping Center, 24791-24901 Alicia Parkway

Recommendation: That the City Council approve Final Parcel Map No. 2022-189, a portion of Vesting Tentative Parcel Map (VTTM) No. 2022-189, for the property located at 24794-24901 Alicia Parkway, subject to minor revisions as may be required by the City Engineer and City Attorney.

Items Removed from the Consent Calendar

4.7 Approval of Four Professional Services Agreements to: 1) Ascent Environmental, Inc.; 2) De Novo Planning Group; 3) Dudek; and 4) LSA Associates, Inc., for On-Call Environmental Review Consulting Services

Recommendation: That the City Council approve four Professional Services Agreements with the following consulting firms: 1) Ascent Environmental, Inc.; 2) De Novo Planning Group; 3) Dudek; and 4) LSA Associates, Inc., for On-Call Environmental Review Consulting Services, in the total not to exceed contract amount of \$500,000 each for a term of five (5) years, respectively, and authorize the City Manager to execute each of the four proposed Professional Services Agreements.

Council Member Pezold removed Item No. 4.7 from the Consent Calendar to request additional information.

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

A motion to continue the item to the October 22, 2024, regular meeting was moved by Mayor Wheeler, seconded by Council Member Pezold.

Result: Passed

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

There were no separate Planning Agency Business Items for this meeting.

6. City Council Public Hearings

There were no City Council public hearings.

7. Administrative Reports

7.1 City Manager

7.1.1 Discussion on a Potential Change to the Start Times for Closed Session Meetings and the General Business Session of Regular Meetings for the City Council

Recommendation: That the City Council discuss and direct staff to draft an ordinance to implement a change to the start times for Closed Session meetings and the General Business Session of regular meetings for the City Council.

City Manager Hildenbrand provided information on the item and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

City Attorney Simonian responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

A motion to direct staff to draft an ordinance to implement a change to the start time of the General Business Session of regular meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., for first reading at the October 22, 2024, regular meeting was moved by Council Member Pezold, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney.

Result: Passed

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

7.1.2 Exploring the use of City-owned property at the Former Globe parcel (APN: 616-022-04) as a possible location for a Digital Freeway Billboard

Recommendation: That the City Council receive the presentation regarding digital freeway billboards and provide direction to staff.

City Manager Hildenbrand provided a PowerPoint presentation on the item and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

The following individual(s) provided public comments on Item No. 7.1.2:
Neel Patel, Traffic Commission Vice Chair

A motion to direct staff to prepare a draft RFP and return for City Council review was moved by Council Member Heft, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Sweeney.

Roll Call Vote Result: Passed

Yes 4, No 1, Abstained 0

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

7.2 Award of Public Works Construction Contract and Award of a Professional Services Agreement for the Arterial Pavement Rehabilitation Project – Paseo de Valencia & La Paz Road, CIP 104/109, and Curb Ramp Replacement Project – Alicia Parkway

Recommendation: That the City Council:

- 1) Award the Public Works Construction Contract for the Arterial Pavement Rehabilitation Project – Paseo de Valencia & La Paz Road, CIP 104/109, and Curb Ramp Replacement Project – Alicia Parkway, to the lowest responsive bidder, Hardy & Harper, Inc., in the amount of \$5,565,584.00;
- 2) Award a Professional Services Agreement to GMU Geotechnical, Inc. for pavement testing and observation services in the amount of \$90,000;
- 3) Find that the Project is Categorically Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Class 1 Existing Facilities, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301;
- 4) Reject all other construction bids;
- 5) Authorize the City Manager to sign the Public Works Construction Contract with Hardy & Harper, Inc. and the Professional Services Agreement with GMU Geotechnical, Inc.;

- 6) Authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget to recognize revenue and expense in the amount of \$200,000 from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021;
- 7) Authorize the Finance Director to transfer \$336,350 from CIP 101 into CIP 104; and
- 8) Authorize the Finance Director to amend the budget by allocating \$3,000,000 from the General Fund Reserves into CIP No. 104.

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

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

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

Result: Passed

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

8. Matters Agendized and Presented by City Council Members

There were no matters agendized by City Council Members.

9. City Council Member Committee Reports

9.1 Committee Assignment Reports

The City Council received reports from City Council Members on the City Council Committee Assignments listed in the staff report.

10. City Council Member Comments

Council Member Pezold

Council Member Pezold expressed concerns regarding rust on railings and trash cans and the maintenance of water fountains at parks in the City.

Council Member Pezold shared an idea to create a ballfield at Costeau Park.

Council Member Pezold requested updates on cameras at Stockport Park and the

lighting of the LH on the Hill.

Council Member Pezold requested that money she has saved by not traveling for the past five years be allocated to planting dwarf cypress trees throughout the City to clean the air and abate traffic noise.

Council Member Pezold provided comments regarding sober living recovery homes.

Council Member Pezold expressed her concerns about a sign on Paseo de Valencia.

Council Member Caskey

Council Member Caskey reported on the recent Parks & Recreation Commission community workshops regarding park improvements.

Council Member Caskey provided comments regarding sober living recovery homes.

Council Member Heft

Council Member Heft provided comments regarding sober living recovery homes.

Council Member Heft reported on the City's 3rd Annual Heritage Day Fall Festival.

Mayor Wheeler

Mayor Wheeler requested a discussion regarding sober living recovery homes be agendaized for a future meeting.

Mayor Wheeler requested a discussion regarding increasing the mailing notification radius for public hearings be increased be agendaized for a future meeting.

Mayor Wheeler announced a City Council Workshop will be scheduled for October 22, 2024.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the City Council at this session, Mayor Wheeler declared the meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

Jennifer Lee, City Clerk

ATTEST:

Dave Wheeler, Mayor

Approved at meeting of October 22, 2024.