

**CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS
CITY COUNCIL/PLANNING AGENCY**

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday, September 14, 2021**

GENERAL BUSINESS - CONVENING AT 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pezold.

INVOCATION: Mayor Pro Tempore Sedgwick

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro Tempore Sedgwick

ROLL CALL OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Erica Pezold	Mayor	Present	
Don Sedgwick	Mayor Pro Tempore	Present	
Janine Heft	Council Member	Present	
Dave Wheeler	Council Member	Present	

1. PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1.1 Appointment of Laguna Hills High School Student Liaisons Rena Cohen and Grant Dettman for the Fall 2021 Semester

Recommendation: Mayor Pezold presented a Certificate of Appointment to Laguna Hills High School Student Liaison Grant Dettmann.

Mayor Pezold received consensus from the Council to take Item No. 1.3 out of order on the Agenda

1.3 MADD Award 2020/2021

Recommendation: Chief of Police Services Capt. Stiverson and Mayor Pezold presented MADD's 2020 Top Arresting Officer for Laguna Hills Police Services Certificate of Recognition and "23152" pin to Deputy Reyna Rivera.

1.1 Appointment of Laguna Hills High School Student Liaisons Rena Cohen and Grant Dettmann for the Fall 2021 Semester (continued)

Recommendation: Mayor Pezold presented a Certificate of Appointment to Laguna Hills High School Student Liaison Rena Cohen.

1.2 Laguna Hills High School Student Liaison

Recommendation: The City Council received an oral report from Laguna Hills High School 2021 Fall Student Liaison Rena Cohen.

1.4 Proclamation for "Opioid Epidemic Awareness Week"

Recommendation: The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring September 19 - 25, 2021, as "Opioid Epidemic Awareness Week" and received a presentation from Curt Fallin, Associate Special Agent in Charge, for the DEA Los Angeles Field Division regarding the issue.

1.5 Fire Prevention Week, October 3, 2021, through October 9, 2021

Recommendation: The City Council issued a Proclamation declaring October 3, 2021, through October 9, 2021, as "Fire Prevention Week" and Mayor Pro Tempore Sedgwick presented the Proclamation to Michael Contreras, Division Chief, Orange County Fire Authority.

2. SCHEDULE OF FUTURE EVENTS**2.1 Schedule of Future Events**

Recommendation: That the Interim City Manager announce the upcoming City events for the month of September 2021.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following individuals submitted electronic public comments on non-agendized items that were received, forwarded to the Council prior to the meeting, and announced into the record by Assistant City Clerk Lee:

Rebecca Hall, Heather Bennett, Michael Figueroa, Renee Oakes, Terri Stubbs, Sandy Palenske, Michelle Casper, Lisa Fredette, Jeff, Sunny and Clayton Hogan, Brian Fredette, Greg Burnham, Dona and Denise Warne, Mary Cleveland, and Elena Nelson each submitted an electronic public comment urging the Council to take action regarding criminal activity in the City.

Renee Oaks submitted an electronic public comment regarding traffic due to signal synchronization on Alicia between Costeau Street and the Interstate 5 (I-5) north on-ramp.

Amna Khalid submitted an electronic public comment regarding business signage on sidewalk corners and residences as well as hillside maintenance.

The following individuals addressed the City Council on non-agendized items:

Yesenia Romero, a resident of Laguna Hills, expressed continued concerns regarding crime in the Via Lomas area and provided suggestions of things to be done.

Dawn Ford, a resident of Laguna Hills, expressed continued concerns regarding crime in the Via Lomas area and provided suggestions of things to be done.

Jim Ford, a resident of Laguna Hills, expressed concerns regarding crime in the Via Lomas area as well as business signage in a residential area.

Tracey Madlener, a resident of Laguna Hills, expressed concerns regarding crime in the Via Lomas area.

Mayor Pezold received consensus from the Council to take Item No. 8.1.1 out of order on the Agenda.

8. MATTERS AGENDIZED AND PRESENTED BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

8.1. Mayor Pezold

8.1.1 Community Safety Standing Agenda Item

Recommendation: Mayor Pezold recommends that the City Council direct Staff to keep the agenda item "Community Safety" on all future agendas to engage with the public and take necessary action to reduce crime. In addition, discuss safety and actions needed to reduce crime and what actions the City has already implemented.

Mayor Pezold provide information on the item and responded to Council requests for additional information.

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

Chief of Police Services Captain Stiverson responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

The following individuals addressed the City Council on this item:

Yesenia Romero, a resident of Laguna Hills, responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

Robin Jochims, a resident of Laguna Hills, commented on the item.

A motion to direct Staff to provide a monthly report to the City Council from Chief of Police Services Captain Stiverson on the progress of efforts being made to mitigate crime in the City and to provide a quarterly report to the City Council for the purpose of evaluating the effectiveness of the

City's crime prevention plan was made by Mayor Pro Tempore Sedgwick, seconded by Council Member Heft.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor; Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler, Council Member

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar with Council Member Wheeler removing Item No. 4.7 and Item No. 4.9.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
SECONDER:	Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor; Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler, Council Member

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 24, 2021, Regular Meeting

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the Minutes for the August 24, 2021, Regular Meeting.

4.3 Approval of Minutes for September 1, 2021, Special Meeting

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the Minutes for the September 1, 2021, Special Meeting.

4.4 Ratification of September 14, 2021, Warrant Register

Recommendation: That the City Council ratify the accompanying Warrant Register for the period from August 13, 2021, to September 2, 2021, in the amount of \$1,072,894.73.

4.5 City Council Review and Confirm the Necessity for Continuing the Local Emergency Related to the On-Going Threat of the Novel COVID-19 Virus and Confirmation of the Interim Director of Emergency Services/Interim City Manager's Executive Orders Related Thereto

Recommendation: That the City Council: 1) Review and confirm the necessity for continuing the local emergency declared in response to the Novel COVID-19 virus; and 2) Confirm the Interim Director of Emergency Services/Interim City Manager's Executive Orders related thereto.

4.6 Award of Retainer Agreement for Special Counsel Legal Services with the Law Firm of Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth for Development Agreement Negotiation Services Related to the Proposed Village at Laguna Hills Project

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the award of a special counsel legal services Retainer Agreement with the law firm of Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth for development agreement negotiation services related to the proposed Village at Laguna Hills Project, and authorize the Mayor to execute the Retainer Agreement.

4.8 Declaration of September 18, 2021, as the 24TH Annual Inner-Coastal Watershed Cleanup Day

Recommendation: That the City Council support and declare September 18, 2021, as Inner-Coastal Watershed Cleanup Day and encourage volunteer participation in this event.

4.10 Countywide Emergency Mass Notification System (AlertOC) Memorandum of Understanding Update with the County of Orange

Recommendation: That the City Council authorize the Interim City Manager, in his role as Director of Emergency Services, to execute and manage, on behalf of the City of Laguna Hills, a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Laguna Hills and the County of Orange to allow for the continued use of the County's Countywide Mass Notification System, referred to as AlertOC, under the terms and conditions of the County's Countywide Mass Notification System Operating Guidelines and vendor-provided Agreements, commencing on July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2024.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR**4.7 Designation of Voting Delegate for League of California Cities Annual Conference**

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

Interim City Manager/Director of Public Services Rosenfield responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

Recommendation: That the City Council appoint the Mayor as the Voting Delegate and appoint the Mayor Pro Tempore as the Voting Delegate Alternate for the League of California Cities Annual Conference.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dave Wheeler, Council Member
SECONDER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor; Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler, Council Member

4.9 Approve a Joint Agreement Between the County of Orange and the City of Laguna Hills for 800MHz Countywide Coordinated Communications System

Council Member Wheeler removed Item No. 4.9 from the Consent Calendar to request additional information.

Interim City Manager/Director of Public Services Rosenfield responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

Chief of Police Services Captain Stiverson responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

Recommendation: That the City Council approve a Joint Agreement between the County of Orange and the City of Laguna Hills for 800MHz Countywide Coordinated Emergency Communications System

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore
SECONDER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor, Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore, Janine Heft, Council Member, Dave Wheeler, Council Member

5. PLANNING AGENCY

Mayor Pezold 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 9:26 p.m.

5.1. ROLL CALL OF PLANNING AGENCY MEMBERS

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Erica Pezold	Chair	Present	
Don Sedgwick	Vice Chair	Present	
Janine Heft	Agency Member	Present	
Dave Wheeler	Agency Member	Present	

5.2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

5.3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.3.1 Approval of Minutes for August 24, 2021, Regular Meeting

Recommendation: That the Planning Agency approve the Minutes for the August 24, 2021, Regular Meeting.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dave Wheeler, Agency Member
SECONDER:	Don Sedgwick, Vice Chair
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Chair; Don Sedgwick, Vice Chair; Janine Heft, Agency Member Dave Wheeler, Agency Member

5.4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

There were no Planning Agency administrative reports.

5.5. PLANNING AGENCY PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no Planning Agency public hearings.

PLANNING AGENCY ADJOURNMENT

Chair Pezold adjourned the Planning Agency Meeting at 9:27 p.m. All Council Members were present in chamber.

6. CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS

6.1 Public Hearing for Zoning Text Amendment No. (RZNE) 0005-2021, an Amendment to Title 9 (Zoning and Subdivisions) of the Laguna Hills Municipal Code to Update Regulations Related to Accessory Dwelling Units in Accordance with State Law

Mayor Pezold opened the public hearing.

Recommendation: That the City Council continue the noticed Public Hearing for Zoning Text Amendment No. (RZNE) 0005-2021, an amendment to Title 9 (Zoning and Subdivisions) of the Laguna Hills Municipal Code to update regulations related to Accessory Dwelling Units in accordance with State law to the regular City Council meeting to be held on September 28, 2021, at 7:00 pm, or as soon thereafter as possible.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dave Wheeler, Council Member
SECONDER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor; Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler, Council Member

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

7.1. City Manager

7.1.1 Legislative Update for the 2021-2022 Regular Session of the California State Legislature and League of California Cities Recommended Legislation

Interim City Manager/Director of Public Services Rosenfield reviewed the information provided in the staff report and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

Recommendation: That the City Council approve the issuance of letters to the Governor in opposition to specified legislation and approve a support letter to the League of California Cities for the equitable distribution of sales tax.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
SECONDER:	Dave Wheeler, Council Member

AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor; Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler, Council Member
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7.2. Deputy City Manager/City Clerk

7.2.1 Resignation of Council Member Hunt - Discussion of Filling City Council Vacancy Pursuant to Government Code Section 36512

Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Au-Yeung reviewed the information provided in the staff report and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

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

Interim City Manager/Director of Public Services Rosenfield responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

The following individual submitted an electronic public comment on Item No. 7.2.1 that was received, forwarded to the Council prior to the meeting, and announced into the record by Assistant City Clerk Lee:

Neel Patel, a resident of Laguna Hills, submitted an electronic public comment in favor of holding a special election.

The following individual(s) addressed the City Council on this item:

Robin Jochims, a resident of Laguna Hills, spoke in favor of Option 1 including an application and interview process.

Recommendation: That the City Council take action by no later than November 13, 2021, to approve one of the following options to fill the vacancy in office created by Council Member Hunt's resignation:

1) Option 1. Appoint a qualified individual to fill the vacancy in office, either through a direct appointment or by following an application and interview process. If the Council fills the vacancy by appointment, the appointed person would serve on an interim basis until the November 2022 General Municipal Election and thereafter until the elected person has been qualified. The person elected to fill the vacancy at the November 2022 General Municipal Election would hold office for the unexpired balance of the term of office. Council Member Hunt was elected in November of 2020 for a four-year term that expires in November 2024. Therefore, following the completion of the appointed person's interim

term, the person elected at the November 2022 General Municipal Election to fill the vacancy would serve until November 2024.

2) Option 2. Call for a special election. A special election must be held on the next regularly established election date not less than 114 days from the call of the special election, which is April 12, 2022. Calling for a special election requires the person elected to fill the vacancy to hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term. In this case, the person elected at the special election would hold office until November 2024.

A motion to return to the City Council at the September 28, 2021, regular meeting with an expanded report to include information on a potential application process for appointment to fill the vacancy was made by Council Member Heft, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Sedgwick.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
SECONDER:	Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor; Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler; Council Member

7.3. Deputy City Manager/Community Services Director

7.3.1 Renovation of the "LH" on the Hill Monument

Deputy City Manager/Community Services Director Reynolds provided introductory comments on the item.

Richard A. Fisher, President, Richard Fisher Associates, Landscape Architect, provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

Recommendation: That the City Council provide direction on the final design and renovation of the "LH on the Hill" monument and direct Staff to prepare plans and specifications and a budget amendment to implement the project.

A motion to approve the larger design with white lettering painted with a high-reflective paint and to direct Staff to include an alternate bid option for the installation of solar lighting to the bid proposal for the project was made by Council Member Heft, seconded by Council Member Wheeler.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
SECONDER:	Dave Wheeler, Council Member
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor; Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler, Council Member

7.4. Finance Director

7.4.1 Utilization of State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as Authorized Under the American Rescue Plan Act

Interim City Manager/Director of Public Services Rosenfield responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

Recommendation: That the City Council appropriate the City's full allocation of Coronavirus-related State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, as authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act, for: 1) the provision of government services to the full extent of the reduction in revenue (revenue loss) due to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and 2) to respond to the public health emergency caused by COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts.

RESULT:	TABLED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dave Wheeler, Council Member
SECONDER:	Erica Pezold, Mayor
AYES:	Erica Pezold, Mayor; Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler, Council Member

8. MATTERS AGENDIZED AND PRESENTED BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS (continued)

8.1.2 Discussion Regarding Issuing a Request for Proposal for a Planning Firm to Guide the City in Current and Future Development Projects

Mayor Pezold provided a PowerPoint presentation and responded to Council Member requests for additional information.

The following individual submitted an electronic public comment on Item No. 8.1.2 that was received, forwarded to the Council prior to the meeting, and announced into the record by Assistant City Clerk Lee:

Neel Patel, a resident of Laguna Hills, submitted an electronic public comment in favor of Mayor Pezold recommended motion.

Recommendation: Mayor Pezold recommends that the City Council direct Staff to issue a Request for Proposal for a planning firm to guide the City for current and future projects.

RESULT:	TABLED [3 TO 1]
MOVER:	Janine Heft, Council Member
SECONDER:	Dave Wheeler, Council Member
AYES:	Don Sedgwick, Mayor Pro Tempore; Janine Heft, Council Member; Dave Wheeler, Council Member
NAYS:	Erica Pezold, Mayor

9. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no City Council Member committee reports.

10. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Heft

Council Member Heft requested that a discussion regarding efforts to build Orange County's first Veterans Cemetery be agendized for a future meeting and received a second from Mayor Pezold.

Council Member Wheeler

Council Member Wheeler reported that the Association of California Cities – Orange County (ACC-OC) will be discussing the Orange County Council of Government's (OCCOG) challenge to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) at their September 23rd meeting.

Mayor Pezold

Mayor Pezold requested that a discussion on increasing the number of Automated License Plate Readers installed in the City be agendized for a future meeting and received a second from Council Member Heft.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this session, Mayor Pezold declared the meeting adjourned at 11:17 p.m.

Melissa Au-Yeung, City Clerk

ATTEST:

Erica Pezold, Mayor

Approved at meeting of September 28, 2021