

**CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING
April 30, 2014
2:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hack called the Adjourned Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Laguna Woods to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

Councilmember Dvorak led the flag salute.

III. ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBER: PRESENT: Dvorak, Hatch, Ring, Conners, Hack
 ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Macon, City Attorney Cosgrove, Assistant City
 Manager Reilly, Finance Manager Jones, Building Official Gates,
 Management Assistant Haston, Deputy City Clerk Donohue

IV. CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS

4.1 Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget Preparation

City Manager Macon reviewed and discussed issues pertaining to the 2014-15 budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners and Councilmember Dvorak expressed support for the priority focus areas recommended by staff.

Moved by Councilmember Ring, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to concur with the priority focus areas identified for the Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget, as presented. The priority focus areas are "A City that is... healthy and safe, high in quality of life, environmentally conscious, economically prosperous, fiscally responsible, and professionally and efficiently served."

Mayor Hack asked if the City will receive any additional services from the Orange County Sheriff's Department due to the increasing costs.

City Manager Macon stated that the City would not.

Councilmember Hatch asked about other issues related to law enforcement services.

City Manager Macon stated that the City of Laguna Hills has expressed concerns with the equity of law enforcement services contracts.

Councilmember Hatch asked if the Orange County Sheriff's Department prioritizes calls.

Chief of Police Services England discussed how calls for service are prioritized.

Councilmember Hatch asked if the mindset of the Orange County Sheriff's Department is to let Laguna Woods Village Security be the first to respond to calls.

Chief of Police Services England stated it is not. He noted that the Sheriff's Department does have frequent communication with Laguna Woods Village Security.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners asked if Orange County Sheriff's Department's dispatch notifies Laguna Woods Village Security to respond to a call if a patrol unit is unavailable.

Chief of Police Services England stated that it depends on the situation. He noted that one of the few calls that the Sheriff's Department will not respond to is barking dogs.

Councilmember Ring expressed his concern with the Santa Maria Passive Park/Trailhead Project. He stated that the community would not be in favor of the project. He suggested removing the project from the capital projects list.

Councilmember Dvorak reiterated Councilmember Ring's thoughts.

Moved by Councilmember Dvorak, seconded by Councilmember Hatch, and carried unanimously to remove the Santa Maria Passive Park/Trailhead from the capital improvement project list.

Mayor Hack asked if there are regulatory liabilities attached to the Dairy Fork Constructed Wetland project.

City Manager Macon noted that the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board would have to issue a permit for the project.

City Attorney Cosgrove stated that he generally does not see any potential liability.

Mayor Hack asked if there would be any ongoing maintenance with the project.

City Manager Macon stated that the City would be responsible for a portion of ongoing operations and maintenance costs, which are currently estimated at \$1,960 per year.

Moved by Councilmember Dvorak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Conners, and carried unanimously to direct staff to include cost-share amounts for the Dairy Fork Constructed Wetland Project in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Moved by Councilmember Hatch, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to direct staff to include funding for the City Hall Bollard Replacement Project in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Moved by Councilmember Ring, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to direct staff to eliminate the three unfunded pavement rehabilitation projects from the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 capital improvement program/budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners asked why residents have to come to City Hall to purchase non-emergency medical vouchers.

City Manager Macon stated that there is currently no way to accept payment for vouchers over the telephone.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners asked if there are any statistics on how many discrete users are in the taxi voucher program and if there is a way to know the distance of trips for residents who use general travel vouchers.

City Manager Macon stated that general travel vouchers can be used in any assortment of trips. He noted that the number of residents enrolled in the program is available, but there are currently no statistics on the number of active users.

Councilmember Hatch asked what the City is doing to work with Age Well Senior Services.

City Manager Macon stated that there is potential for the City to partner with other agencies that provide transportation services. He noted that potential partnerships would be explored in the coming months.

Moved by Councilmember Hatch, seconded by Councilmember Ring, and carried unanimously to:

- A. Direct staff to include funding to support the taxi voucher program with no increases in costs per trip in the draft Fiscal year 2014-15 budget.

AND

- B. Direct staff to include funding to explore partnerships and program modifications to focus on the areas of greatest need for the taxi voucher program in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Councilmember Hatch suggested allocating the \$150,000 for competitive community Grants without any specification to beneficiary or use of the money in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners stated that the City Council would be making a policy statement

if it specially allocates \$75,000 to Age Well Senior Services.

Councilmember Dvorak stated that the City Council should re-evaluate the amount that is given to Age Well Senior Services since it has not changed in the last twelve years.

Councilmember Hatch reiterated Councilmember Dvorak's thoughts.

Councilmember Dvorak noted that it may be more beneficial to give larger amounts to organizations that benefit the residents in Laguna Woods.

City Manager Macon stated that this item will be agendaized for discussion in the future.

Moved by Councilmember Hatch, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to allocate \$150,000 for competitive community services grants without any specification to beneficiary or use of the money in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners asked if the City coordinates shredding events with other agencies.

City Manager Macon stated that the City does not and noted that the shredding events have been very popular in the community.

Councilmember Hatch asked about the benefits of the in-home bulky item pick-up events.

City Manager Macon stated that in-home bulky item pick-ups benefit residents who are physically unable to carry large items out of their house.

Councilmember Hatch asked if there has been survey of how satisfied residents are with the in-home bulky item pick up events.

Assistant City Manager stated there has not, but noted that over 200 residents usually sign up when an event is offered.

City Manager Macon stated that a satisfaction survey could be sent out in the future for in-home bulky item pick up events.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners stated that the fact that over 200 residents sign up for the event shows how satisfied the residents are with the program.

Mayor Hack expressed his support for the proposed recycling events.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Conners, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to direct staff to include funding for three recycling events, quarterly shredding events, and two in-home bulky item pick-up events in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners asked if there is potential for grant money to cover some of the

cost for updating the General Plan.

City Manager Macon stated that part of the Safety Element update was funded by a grant. He noted that it might be possible to receive additional grant funding in the future.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Conners, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to direct staff to include funding for a comprehensive update of the General Plan Conservation Element and general plan resident and business survey in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Mayor Hack stated that the City should work with Laguna Woods Village when dealing with the Solid Waste Franchise Request for Proposal (RFP).

Mayor Pro Tem Conners expressed her support for releasing a solid waste franchise RFP.

Councilmember Dvorak asked if the City would discuss the solid waste franchise RFP with the mutuals in Laguna Woods Village.

City Manager Macon responded affirmatively.

Moved by Councilmember Dvorak, seconded by Councilmember Ring, and carried unanimously to direct staff to include funding for a competitive process to select a solid waste franchisee(s) to provide services beginning on July 28, 2015 in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Moved by Councilmember Hatch, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to take no action on the Santa Maria Avenue roadway design.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners left the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

Mayor Hack expressed his support for coverage under a single National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

Councilmember Hatch asked if the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) would be involved in the process.

Mayor Hack stated they are not.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners re-entered the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Councilmember Hatch asked what the odds are that the City will be able to obtain coverage.

City Manager Macon stated that obtaining single coverage seems likely.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners stated that single coverage under either board would be more beneficial than where the City is now.

Councilmember Hatch asked if there has been any precedent were this issue has surfaced.

City Manager Macon stated that in previous years, the cities of Menifee, Wildomar, and Murrieta successfully obtained coverage under one board.

Moved by Mayor Hack, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to direct staff to include funding to pursue obtaining coverage under a single NPDES permit in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Conners, seconded by Councilmember Dvorak, and carried unanimously to direct staff to include funding for a central services cost allocation study in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

Mayor Hack asked if the bulk of City transactions are for small amounts.

City Manager Macon answered affirmatively.

Mayor Hack asked about the potential liability when checks bounce.

City Attorney Cosgrove stated that he is unsure. He noted that the City would have its normal resources under general law relating to bounced checks.

Councilmember Dvorak asked why the City would absorb merchant services transaction fees instead of charging the customers.

City Attorney Cosgrove discussed the value in establishing a history of costs related to merchant services transactions prior to charging customers.

Councilmember Dvorak asked if absorbing the transaction fees would be temporary.

City Attorney Cosgrove responded affirmatively.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners reiterated Councilmember Dvorak's thoughts.

Councilmember Hatch asked if there are any risks in using debit cards or credit cards.

City Manager Macon noted that risks do exist.

Mayor Hack stated that he would not object to a temporary use of credit cards. He noted that the City should be looking into potential liability issues involved with accepting credit cards as payment.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners stated that a number of people who attended the contractors and business roundtables expressed frustration over the fact that the City does not accept credit cards.

Moved by Councilmember Dvorak, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Conners, and voted 4-0 with Mayor Hack abstaining due to not knowing the limitations of liability, to direct staff to include \$5,000 to support a three month pilot program of accepting credit cards and debit cards for select transactions in the draft Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget.

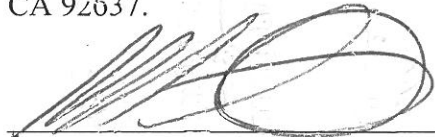
V. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

VI. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Hack discussed presentations that were given at the previous Southern California Water Committee quarterly meeting.

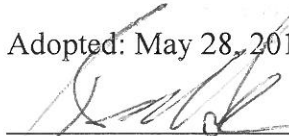
VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m. The next adjourned regular meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637.



MARC DONOHUE, Deputy City Clerk

Adopted: May 28, 2014



BERT HACK, Mayor