

**CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
June 3, 2009
2:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. FLAG SALUTE

City Attorney McEwen led the flag salute.

III. ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS: PRESENT: Conners, Hack, Rhodes, Robbins, Ring
 ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Keane; City Attorney McEwen; Assistant City
 Manager Reilly; Deputy City Clerk Trippy

IV. CITY MANAGER

4.1 City Hall Accessible Driveway and Parking

City Manager Keane removed this item from the agenda and noted that the project will proceed as previously approved by the City Council on April 29, 2009. Responding to a question from Councilmember Rhodes, she indicated that due to a lower than expected bid for the project, staff had hoped to add additional ADA improvements, but that it was not possible at this time.

4.2 Fiscal Year 2009-10 Budget

City Manager Keane summarized the agenda report. She noted that there have not been any requests from members of the public to modify the budget.

Councilmember Hack felt comfortable with the budget as presented and believes that the City is less impacted by the State's budget crisis than other cities.

Councilmember Conners discussed the condition of the national economy and the State's budget crisis. She feels that the City may need to consider longer-term adjustments.

City Manager Keane noted that the budget includes an economic uncertainties reserve.

Councilmember Connors expressed concerns with increasing the City Council's meetings and travel budget, as well as with adding an automobile allowance for Councilmembers. She also asked for clarification regarding the City Council's ability to adjust the budget if projected revenues are not realized.

City Manager Keane suggested that the City Council postpone making a decision on the proposed automobile allowance until the Attorney General's Office releases its pending opinion on the matter. She also suggested that the City Council re-evaluate expenditures at their regularly scheduled meeting in September and also at mid-year.

Councilmember Rhodes concurred with City Manager Keane's suggestions.

Mayor Pro Tem Robbins feels that the City Council's current meetings and travel budget is sufficient. He also suggested that the City continue its membership in the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) in lieu of the Human Relations Committee.

Mayor Ring stated that he does not believe that the meetings and travel budget needs to be increased at this time. He also agreed with Mayor Pro Tem Robbins that the benefits of the City's OCCOG membership outweigh the Human Relations Committee's.

Councilmember Hack noted his disagreement with the other members of the City Council on increasing the meetings and travel budget. He discussed the benefit of his frequent attendance at meetings throughout Southern California and the financial impact that they have on him. He contended that the increase was not excessive and that any unused amount could remain in the account. He also encouraged new Councilmembers to attend meetings.

Mayor Ring discussed the City Council's current travel reimbursement policy and stated his preference for the current policy over a monthly allowance.

The City Council confirmed that consensus had been reached on the following items:

- Proceed with the revenue projections as proposed
- End the City's membership in the Human Relations Committee
- Budget for the City's continued membership in OCCOG
- Leave \$50,000 in the City Council Contingency account

City Manager Keane stated the Budget Book will be made available for public review by the end of next week.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Nahas, resident, announced that he regularly attends the City Council meetings and thanked the Councilmembers for a job well done.

VI. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ITEM 6.1

Councilmember Hack discussed a recent League of California Cities event in San Diego.

Councilmember Rhodes and Councilmember Conners briefly discussed the Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) Academy that they attended.

Mayor Ring mentioned that he was approached by Harry Arnest, resident, asking that the City Council be mindful of water issues.

Mayor Ring also discussed a complaint that he received from a Veterans group about the City's lack of participation in a Memorial Day event. He suggested that groups that are interested in having City representation at events contact the City in advance.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m. The next meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. on June 17, 2009 at the Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, California 92637.

YOLIE TRIPPY, Deputy City Clerk

Adopted: July 15, 2009

ROBERT B. RING, Mayor