

**CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 18, 2009  
2:00 P.M.**

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**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**

Barbara Copley, resident, led the flag salute.

**III. ROLL CALL**

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

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

**IV. PRESENTATIONS - None**

**V. CITY PROCLAMATIONS**

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Robbins, seconded by Councilmember Conners, and carried unanimously to approve Proclamations 5.1 – 5.2

5.1   Proclamation – Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 2009

5.2   Commendation – Human Rights Day, December 10, 2009

**VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**

Moved by Councilmember Hack, seconded by Councilmember Rhodes, and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Items 6.1 – 6.6.

6.1   City Council Minutes

        Approved the minutes from the October 21, 2009 regular meeting.

6.2   Approved the reading by title of all ordinances and resolutions. Said ordinances and resolutions that appear on the public agenda shall be determined to have been read by title only and further reading waived.

6.3 Treasurer's Report

Received and filed the October 2009 monthly Treasurer's Report.

6.4 Warrant Register

Approved the November 18, 2009 Warrant Register in the amount of \$449,810.93.

6.5 City Hall Janitorial Service

Awarded a contract to Great Cleaning Service, Inc. for City Hall janitorial services for one year with an option to extend for up to three additional years for an amount not to exceed \$8,000 per year, and authorized the City Manager to execute a contract, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

6.6 Notice of Completion – Ridge Route Linear Park

- A. Accepted project completion of the contract with Marina Landscape, Inc. for the Ridge Route Linear Park.
- B. Released contract retention in the amount of \$66,637.32 withheld per government code 35 days following recordation of a Notice of Completion with the County of Orange.
- C. Exonerated project posted bonds 35 days following recordation of a Notice of Completion with the County of Orange.

**VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

7.1 City Centre Park (SP-589)

City Manager Keane explained that Quimby Act fees paid by the San Sebastian project and State Park Bond monies provide the funding for this project. The City will lose those funds if they are not obligated by the end of FY 2009-2010. \$25,000 of the \$385,000 total available from the Quimby Act fees has been reserved for improvements to Woods End, including a kiosk, benches, and a diorama. Staff is working with the County of Orange to ensure that improvements made to Woods End are consistent with the type of improvements that are in the Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. While the City Centre Park project has been referred to as Phase 1, it is a stand-alone project and will result in a complete park.

Assistant City Manager Reilly summarized the agenda report.

Councilmember Hack discussed his belief that the park concept is a valid use of the land and that the loss of funding would be significant.

Councilmember Rhodes stated that he spoke with staff from the Laguna Woods Village Community Center who were in favor of the park and feel they would benefit from it.

Councilmember Connors stated that she is in favor of turning the property into attractive, usable open space.

Mayor Pro Tem Robbins agreed that the concept is an appropriate use of the property.

Councilmember Hack noted that he sees no reason why staff from Laguna Woods Village could not use the park and that the property was given to the City with the condition that it not be given to the Golden Rain Foundation.

Councilmember Rhodes clarified that his comment did not pertain to staff from Laguna Woods Village being unable to use the park.

Mayor Ring asked City Manager Keane to discuss the terms and conditions placed on the property as a result of it being given to the City.

City Manager Keane stated that there are no specific prohibitions on the use of the property, but that it must be used for a public purpose. A verbal agreement was made with the Ralphs Corporation that the property would not be given to the Golden Rain Foundation. Ralphs also took a tax benefit in conjunction with the gift and if the City was to sell or exchange the property, they could lose all or a portion of that tax benefit.

The public hearing was opened.

Corkey Eley, resident, asked if fencing would be installed to separate the park from the adjacent Laguna Woods Village property.

Mayor Ring noted that the City Council is only considering a conceptual design and that if it is approved, it will go out for design, after which the public and City Council will have an opportunity to comment on design features.

Pat Feeney, resident, expressed concern with the ADA accessibility of the park and the location and amount of parking relative to the usable area of the park. She suggested that the land be left alone with measures to prevent erosion.

City Manager Keane explained that the path from the bottom to the top of the park would be constructed with switch-backs and rest areas that would be ADA compliant. The park could hold 100-200 people for special events, depending on the type of event.

Councilmember Connors noted that access from Towne Centre would also be possible.

Pat Feeney, resident, was also concerned that future plans to install a restroom could worsen homeless problems, rather than alleviate them as previously suggested.

City Manager Keane clarified that the proposed project does not include installing a restroom. Such a design feature would require additional discussion by the City Council.

Barbara Copley, resident, suggested replanting the land but not developing it for use. She

prefers that it be left as open space if there is no City requirement to build parks.

There being no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Ring reiterated that the proposed concept is for a passive park that is meant to be environmentally friendly. He discussed his support for the concept.

Councilmember Rhodes discussed his support for the proposed concept and noted that the noise from Moulton Parkway is not very noticeable at the top of the park.

Councilmember Conners discussed specific elements of the conceptual design and her support for the project.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Robbins, seconded by Councilmember Hack, and carried unanimously to approve:

1) Conceptual design for City Centre Park.

AND

2) **Resolution No. 09-24** adopting Negative Declaration ND 09-02, entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING NEGATIVE DECLARATION ND 09-02 FOR CITY CENTRE PARK (SP-589) LOCATED ON MOULTON PARKWAY 1,200 FEET NORTH OF EL TORO ROAD

## VIII. CITY COUNCIL

### 8.1 Huntington Beach Desalination Facility (Hack)

Councilmember Hack summarized the agenda report.

Scott Maloni, Vice President of Development for Poseidon Resources, reviewed a Power Point presentation discussing the Huntington Beach Desalination Facility.

Councilmember Rhodes asked if the cost of distributing the water from the Huntington Beach facility to water districts is included in the \$350 million project cost.

Mr. Maloni responded that it is and noted that water districts will receive water either directly or indirectly through exchange agreements.

Councilmember Conners inquired about opposition related to Poseidon's experience.

Mr. Maloni explained that the opposition concerns a project that Poseidon was involved with in Florida. He suggested that had the public agency not exercised their "buy out" option the outcome would have been more favorable. The Huntington Beach facility is financed and managed differently.

Councilmember Hack discussed salinity issues related to desalination.

Corkey Eley, resident, asked what portion of the \$350 million project cost would be paid for by Laguna Woods.

Mr. Maloni stated that the project is privately funded.

Dick Palmer, resident, inquired about the effects of desalinated water on copper piping.

Mr. Maloni responded that Poseidon's other facility in Carlsbad has done research on the effects of desalinated water on copper piping and that the treated effect is negligible.

Moved by Councilmember Hack, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Robbins, and carried unanimously to approve **Resolution No. 09-25** in support of Poseidon Resources' proposed Huntington Beach Desalination Facility, entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA  
WOODS, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION AND  
OPERATION OF THE PROPOSED HUNTINGTON BEACH  
DESALINATION FACILITY

Mayor Ring clarified that the City Council is endorsing the facility and not Poseidon.

## 8.2 City Council Meeting Schedule

City Manager Keane stated that due to the number of agenda items that are scheduled for December, staff is recommending that the City Council schedule an adjourned regular Council meeting for 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Robbins, seconded by Councilmember Rhodes, and carried with Councilmember Hack abstaining, to schedule an adjourned regular Council meeting for 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

Councilmember Hack explained that he abstained because he will not be able to attend the December 2, 2009 meeting due to a previously scheduled vacation.

## IX. CITY MANAGER

### 9.1 Laguna Woods Crime Trends

City Manager Keane and Lieutenant Griffin of the Orange County Sheriff's Department discussed some of the recent criminal activities that have been detailed in the press. They discussed precautionary measures and ways to keep crime rates low.

Lieutenant Griffin stated that while the City Council, City staff, and police services have successfully partnered with the community to maintain the "safest city" status, fraud and theft are the leading crime trends. He discussed three common fraud schemes called the Canadian Lottery, the Nigerian Scam, and the Granny Scam.

In 2010, the City and Sheriff's Department will present their Senior Safety Series. Lieutenant Griffin noted that vehicle thefts and thefts from vehicles increase during the holidays. He reminded the public to lock their doors and not leave personal items inside.

## 9.2 Water Efficient Landscape Regulations

City Manager Keane introduced the item by stating that the City is required to adopt the State's proposed ordinance or one that is at least as effective.

Special Projects Manager Macon summarized the agenda report.

City Manager Keane asked for clarification if applicants have the option to have the City review landscape documentation packages through a plan check process.

Special Projects Manager Macon stated that the Guidelines can be modified to allow this.

City Manager Keane suggested that a plan check option be included in the Guidelines when they come back for Council approval. She also discussed the State requirements related to common interest development architectural guidelines.

Councilmember Conners asked Mr. Macon if there had been any communication on this matter with landscape staff from Laguna Woods Village.

Special Projects Manager Macon stated that he did speak with a staff member from the Laguna Woods Village landscape department. He noted that replanting projects typically do not require permits and would therefore not be subject to the regulations.

Moved by Councilmember Conners, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Robbins, and carried unanimously to approve the introduction and first reading of an ordinance establishing water efficient landscape regulations, entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA,  
AMENDING THE LAGUNA WOODS MUNICIPAL CODE TO  
ESTABLISH WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE REGULATIONS

City Manager Keane announced that this item will be on the agenda for the December 16, 2009 regular City Council meeting and will include a public hearing.

## 9.3 Temporary Signs

City Manager Keane summarized the agenda report.

Councilmember Conners asked whether Section 13.20.050(b)(5)(d) meant that if multiple businesses share a common frontage, only one business would be allowed to display a banner for each 30 day period.

City Manager Keane responded affirmatively and explained that this restriction could be

managed by property owners whose permission is required for banner sign permits. She also discussed the ability for multiple banners if there is a center-wide event.

Councilmember Rhodes asked if the proposals made by the Land Use and Design Review Committee were included in the agenda report.

City Manager Keane stated that the committee's recommendations have been included in the agenda report and proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Rhodes inquired about the time required between the introduction and first reading and adoption of an ordinance.

City Manager Keane explained that five days are required between the introduction of an ordinance and action and discussed other notice requirements

City Manager Keane stated that she spoke with representatives of The Regency and Las Palmas who said that they would like the option to display a banner for a year.

Councilmember Hack expressed concern with banners being displayed for a year.

Councilmember Connors disagreed with Councilmember Hack and suggested that a long-term banner would allow businesses to increase their marketing. She also noted that the City has regulations regarding the appearance and condition of banner signs.

Councilmember Hack expressed his opinion that the San Sebastian project may be better served by distinctively marketing their property rather than by using banners. He would be reluctant to see a banner displayed for a year at a time, if he were an occupant.

City Manager Keane clarified that applicants would be able to replace banners with exact duplicates during the year in order to ensure that they are maintained in good condition. She also noted that a banner would only be able to be displayed until 50% of the units are sold or leased or when the one year period ends, whichever occurs first.

Mayor Ring noted that it is the consensus of the City Council to approve a three-color limit with white as a color.

Councilmember Connors proposed increasing the percentage of occupancy until which banners can be displayed to 60%.

Mayor Ring and Mayor Pro Tem Robbins concurred with Councilmember Connors.

Mayor Ring mentioned the possibility of requiring that the appearance or content of a sign be changed at least twice per year.

City Manager Keane responded that City Council could make such an amendment, but that the Municipal Code includes property maintenance requirements that would be applied to banner signs.

Corkey Eley, resident, asked how staff proposes to regulate the length of time and frequency with which banners are displayed.

City Manager Keane responded that it would be enforced through a permit process and that the City's Code Enforcement Officer conducts regular patrols of the City.

Corkey Eley, resident, stated that she would be more supportive of a 40% or 50% occupancy percentage, rather than Councilmember Conners' proposal of 60%.

Mel Vargas, resident, stated that 50% occupancy is sufficient and that he does not feel it is his concern if a property cannot be sold.

Councilmember Conners addressed Mr. Vargas' comments by stating that it is in the best interest of the City to see that businesses and developments are successful.

Moved by Councilmember Conners, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Robbins, and carried unanimously to approve the introduction and first reading of an ordinance modifying temporary sign regulations, as amended to include a 60% occupancy rate in Section 13.20.050(b)(3)(f)(6), entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA,  
AMENDING CHAPTER 13.20 OF THE LAGUNA WOODS MUNICIPAL  
CODE PERTAINING TO SIGN REGULATIONS

#### 9.4 Zoning Code Modifications

City Manager Keane summarized the agenda report and noted that she had received some feedback that the proposed 21-month timeframe might be too long. She proposed an approximately 12-month timeframe that would provide for the introduction of the ordinance and public hearing in December 2010. Adoption and implementation would be during the first part of 2011. She noted that fast tracking the process might cost more than the \$80,000 proposed budget, but additional costs could be addressed during the annual budget process in June 2010.

Councilmember Rhodes inquired as to the need to make changes to the Zoning Code at this time and how it would benefit Laguna Woods Village.

City Manager Keane responded that this item came at the request of the City Council at their September 2009 regular meeting. Benefits would be to all property owners in the City and would include clarifying differences between the General Plan and Zoning Code, as well as addressing zoning designations that make little sense or are duplicative.

Councilmember Rhodes noted that the City Council recently addressed this issue when considering the recent Saddleback Golf Cars project and asked why it could not continue to be handled on an individual basis.

Councilmember Hack stated that a request from Laguna Woods Village for a highway commercial zoning designation for the Saddleback Golf Cars project brought this issue

about. He noted that a lot of the City's zoning came from the County and that this is an attempt to make it more applicable to the City's situation.

City Manager Keane cautioned against piece-meal rezoning and suggested that it is better to look at a coordinated citywide plan in order to understand the overall impact of future changes.

Mayor Ring discussed that an advantage to the shorter timeframe, as opposed to the 21-month timeframe, is that it would conclude before the 2012 Housing Element review.

City Manager Keane added that going through this process now would make the 2012 Housing Element review much simpler.

Corkey Eley, resident, questioned number four under the discussion section of the agenda report. She inquired as to whether Laguna Woods Village property would be considered for changes.

City Manager Keane noted that the General Plan and Zoning Code designations differ for Laguna Woods Village property and changes would be proposed to coordinate the two.

Corkey Eley, resident, asked why Laguna Woods Village property would be considered since it is already established. She believes the additional environmental review would be unnecessary and questioned the City's right to evaluate the property.

Councilmember Connors stated that it was her understanding that none of the property in Laguna Woods Village that is currently developed is likely to be renamed or rezoned.

City Manager Keane explained that developed property would be evaluated to reconcile differences between the General Plan and Zoning Code and to make sure that the most appropriate zoning designations are applied. This process would be cooperative with the property owners to avoid "down zoning" properties.

Corkey Eley, resident, asked for clarification about an earlier statement that low income areas had already been designated in Laguna Woods Village.

City Manager Keane clarified that she meant low density, not low income.

Moved by Mayor Pro Tem Robbins, seconded by Councilmember Hack, and carried unanimously to authorize staff to proceed with the review of the City's Zoning Code to be accomplished within a one-year timeframe and to approve a budget of \$80,000 with funding from the General Fund unallocated fund balance.

## **X. APPEAL**

### **10.1 Pet Limit Appeal (5408 Via Carrizo)**

City Manager Keane summarized the agenda report.

Linda Samson, resident and appealing party, addressed the City Council and stated her case, which she also detailed in a written letter to the City Council.

Councilmember Rhodes asked Ms. Samson why she needs three dogs to compete. Ms. Samson indicated that one of her dogs is close to retirement and that the length of time to train a new dog would overlap, so only two dogs would compete at a time.

Councilmember Hack empathized with Ms. Samson but suggested that due to the size and proximity of the residential units, the pet limit should not be exceeded.

Ms. Samson responded that she lives in an approximately 2,000 square foot single family residence with significant distance between her neighbors. She noted that her neighbors on either side only live there two weeks per month and six months per year, respectively.

Councilmember Connors noted that pet owners are typically unaware of a pet's barking until they are notified by a neighbor. She discussed two options, including getting a third dog after one of her dogs retires and is placed in a home elsewhere or for the Council to approve an exception with the condition that when one of the dogs leaves the home, the number of permitted dogs reverts to the established pet limit.

Ms. Samson stated that the permit would only be for the life of her dogs.

Councilmember Rhodes stated that he is inclined to issue a kennel permit as long as her neighbors are not opposed.

City Manager Keane explained the process that City staff went through before denying the permit. When complaints are received, the issue is forwarded to the City Council to make a determination. She also noted that Laguna Beach Animal Services could have overturned staff's denial but chose to support it.

Councilmember Connors asked if it was the recommendation of the Laguna Beach City Council or staff not to overturn Laguna Woods' denial.

City Manager Keane stated it was a Laguna Beach staff decision; such matters would come to Laguna Woods, not Laguna Beach, City Council on appeal.

Ms. Samson recalled that she spoke with Joy Faulk, Laguna Beach Animal Services, who informed her that she did not have the authority to overturn the City's decision.

City Manager Keane responded that this is not her understanding of the process and she will discuss this with Laguna Beach Animal Services staff.

Ms. Samson noted that only two of the 38 residences surveyed cited specific concerns with her dogs. She believes that the meaning of a "kennel permit" was unclear.

City Manager Keane noted that Ms. Samson has expressed concern with the language used in the notification letter to surrounding residences. In addition to describing it as a kennel permit, a specific description of her request was included. She believes that those

who responded understood the nature of Ms. Samson's request.

Ian Samson, resident, expressed his belief that the term "kennel license" is prejudicial to any application and discussed the actions that he and his wife have taken in response to barking dog complaints. He stated that their dogs do not bark any more than any other dogs. He would be happy to pay for noise surveillance to prove that they do not have a barking problem. He asked that the City Council consider the fact that his wife is a dog agility athlete and that her dogs are specially trained to perform community service.

William and Lynn McLaren, residents, spoke in opposition to Ms. Samson's appeal. They expressed concerns related to her dogs barking, the use of a common area to store training equipment, and off-leash training of the dogs in the common area. They have spoken with Ms. Samson about their concerns and she has, at times, attempted to quiet the dogs. When the Samson's are gone, the dogs bark.

Mayor Ring noted that the storage of equipment is not the subject of this appeal, nor a matter the City has any control over.

Mr. and Mrs. McLaren stated that one of the houses next to Ms. Samson is vacant and the other is occupied approximately two weeks per month. They said that they do not like to complain, but that the dogs are noisy and three dogs would be too many.

Ms. Samson responded that the equipment is stored between her and a neighbor's house and that she asked permission to do so while her garage was being remodeled. She noted that she has a letter of support from a neighbor who lives on the other side of the McLaren's. The house that the McLaren's described as vacant is leased every winter for six months and the tenants moved in last Sunday.

Mayor Ring applauded both parties for appearing before the City Council and following the appeal process. Mayor Ring read the City's notification letter that was distributed to residences within 300 feet of Ms. Samson's residence and described the responses.

City Attorney McEwen explained to Council that their decision shall be on the evidence presented with all the factors weighed; this is a *De novo* appeal. He noted that language in Municipal Code Section 5.12.040(c) is the standard that must be followed.

City Manager Keane noted that off-leash training is prohibited by the Municipal Code.

Mayor Ring asked the McLaren's if their main concern is barking.

Mr. McLaren replied affirmatively and that three dogs would be a greater nuisance.

Mayor Ring asked Ms. Samson if a procedure to mute the dogs had been considered.

Ms. Samson responded that it would require the removal of her dog's voice boxes and that it is not a procedure she would not consider.

Councilmember Connors asked Ms. Samson if there are alternative procedures such as

muzzling that could be used to prevent the dogs from barking when they are not home.

Ms. Samson denied that her dogs bark when they are crated.

Councilmember Connors pointed out that there would be no way for her to know if her dogs are barking when she is not home. She asked how long they have been residents.

Ms. Samson said that they have lived in the City for one year.

Mr. Samson stated that they have been residents, off-and-on, for five years and that they are willing to prove the dogs do not bark, including by paying for surveillance, if necessary. He noted that this hearing is largely based on hearsay.

Councilmember Connors thanked both parties for appearing before the City Council and noted that the homeowner's associations in the Village also investigate claims of barking and that they can also take action if barking is proven to be a nuisance.

Ms. Samson responded that there have been no complaints to the association.

City Manager Keane noted that Laguna Woods Village typically refers barking issues to the City.

Councilmember Connors responded that when she served on the Third Board, numerous barking dog complaints were heard.

Mrs. McLaren complained about the storage in the common area.

Mayor Ring and Councilmember Connors responded that the City Council has no ability to address that and that such complaints should be directed to their homeowner association.

Councilmember Connors explained that she will take into consideration that a dog that is trained is less likely to misbehave or bark than an untrained dog.

Councilmember Hack stated that the fact that the Samson's residence is detached and has more room than a typical residence does have an impact for him. He asked Mr. Samson what would be done if the surveillance proved that the dogs were barking.

City Manager Keane noted that barking enforcement is a time consuming process.

Councilmember Connors asked Mr. Samson if the City Council could get a commitment from them that if there are complaints about barking that they understand they will be coming back before the City Council.

City Attorney McEwen expressed concern that the City Council might not be able to impose such a condition based on the standards in the Municipal Code.

Councilmember Hack asked if a kennel permit is revocable.

City Attorney McEwen stated that there is a revocation process and read Section 5.12.060 of the Municipal Code pertaining to revocation.

City Manager Keane clarified that barking enforcement is controlled by Laguna Beach and that it is a very long process that could take years.

Councilmember Hack asked if the City could enforce a condition placed on the permit. City Manager Keane stated that only Laguna Beach has a process for barking dogs.

Councilmember Hack stated he understands that, but the City would be conditioning it.

Councilmember Robbins asked if it was possible to train the dogs on-leash.

Councilmember Hack noted that they are not allowed to train off-leash.

Ms. Samson stated that since the time she was approached by Laguna Beach staff, she has not run her dogs off-leash. She travels to Yorba Linda and Chino for training.

Bob Bouer, resident and former City Councilmember, stated that the discussion has been dealing with a lot of generalizations and that the size of dogs vary. He believes that the rule of limiting the number of animals based on number alone is unnecessary.

Mayor Ring noted that the animal limit came from the community, not the City Council.

City Manager Keane noted that the Laguna Woods Village Canine Club and the City's Public Safety Committee recommended the animal limit. If the appeal is granted, Ms. Samson will need to go through the permit process with Laguna Beach Animal Services, including paying a \$75 fee and a home visit.

Moved by Councilmember Rhodes, seconded by Councilmember Conners, and carried unanimously to grant the appeal and issue the permit pursuant to Section 5.12.040 of the Municipal Code.

Councilmember Hack noted that his vote was subject to the understanding that if there are noise complaints, the kennel permit would be reviewed and rejected.

City Attorney McEwen clarified that at that point the revocation process would be used.

Mayor Ring and Councilmember Hack explained that the City Council struggled with this decision.

Councilmember Conners stated that she believes that every member of the City Council heard what was said and took it seriously.

Councilmember Hack noted that the City Council has caveated their decision that if there is a noise complaint the kennel permit will be revisited.

Mayor Ring told Mr. and Mrs. McLaren to call him if there are problems.

City Manager Keane stated that because the appeal has been granted, the next step is to discuss this with Laguna Beach Animal Services and direct them to accept an application. There will not be an additional noticing of residents, however a home visit will be required. In two years, Ms. Samson will need to reapply for another permit.

Mr. Samson told his neighbors that he will do everything in his power to see that his dogs are as quiet as anyone can reasonably expect. He does not want any hard feelings.

City Manager Keane asked the McLaren's to call the City's Code Enforcement Officer if they have any problems with noise.

Mayor Ring and the Councilmembers offered to take calls, as well.

Councilmember Hack and Mayor Ring clarified, again, that complaints about storage in the common area need to be directed to the Third Mutual Board.

**XI. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT – None**

**XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

12.1 Transportation Corridor Agencies (Councilmember Hack)

Councilmember Hack announced that work on the northbound 73 should be completed by the end of the year and work on the southbound 73 should be completed in Spring of 2010.

12.2 Orange County Library Board (Mayor Pro Tem Robbins)

Mayor Pro Tem Robbins stated that the next meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2009.

12.3 Orange County Fire Authority (Councilmember Rhodes)

Councilmember Rhodes stated that the next meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2009 and announced that the Ortega Highway fire was successfully contained.

12.4 Southern California Water Committee (Councilmember Hack)

Councilmember Hack discussed a water bill signing that he was invited to attend with Governor Schwarzenegger and the Governor's attendance at the Water Committee's Annual Dinner. He noted that the Water Committee has become an "insider player."

12.5 Coastal Greenbelt Authority (Councilmember Connors)

Councilmember Connors stated that there was no meeting.

12.6 Laguna Canyon Foundation (Councilmember Rhodes)

Councilmember Rhodes noted that the Foundation is focusing its efforts on increasing

naturalist volunteers and volunteers for education and hiking.

#### 11.7 Vector Control District Board (Board Member Bouer)

Board Member Bouer announced that there are no vector problems in the City. Several members of the Vector Control District Board feel that there might be some benefit to outsourcing some of the district's work to private organizations. Board Member Bouer disagrees due to the private sector's need to generate a profit.

### **XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None**

### **XIV. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### 14.1 Reports on Meetings Attended (Government Code §53232.3)

City Councilmembers reported on the following meeting they attended:

- A. November California League of Cities/OC Division Meeting – November 12, 2009 (Ring, Hack, Rhodes)
- B. California Joint Powers Insurance Authority Conference – October 28, 30, 2009 (Conners, Robbins)
- C. Southern California Water Committee Annual Dinner – October 22, 2009 (Hack)
- D. Municipal Water District of Orange county Dinner – November 5, 2009 (Hack)

#### 14.2 Other Comments and Announcements

Councilmember Hack noted that the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is considering budget-related reductions in service.

Councilmember Rhodes announced that the State Controller will be speaking in Laguna Woods Village on November 19, 2009.

Councilmember Conners stated that OC Waste Management noted a reduction in tonnage due to the recession. As a result, their income and expenses have decreased and extended the life of the landfill by 10 to 15 years. She announced an award they received for a concept of using a surcharge for self-haulers.

Assistant City Manager Reilly announced that the El Toro Road Pavement Rehabilitation project will complete the slurry and striping the week after Thanksgiving.

### **XV. CLOSED SESSION**

#### 15.1 The City Council met in closed session to confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of pending litigation, pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54956.9(c).

15.2 Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8, the City Council met in closed session to give direction with respect to the acquisition of two pieces of real property:

Property: A. Located at the intersection of Santa Vittoria and San Remo Drives

E. Located along El Toro Road, adjacent to the Laguna Woods Village perimeter wall, in the vicinity of Paseo de Valencia

City Negotiator: Leslie A. Keane

Negotiating Party: Rossmoor Properties, LP

Under Negotiation: Instructions to negotiator regarding terms

The City Council reconvened at 6:50 p.m. and advised that there was no reportable action.

#### **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The next meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. on December 2, 2009 at the Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, California.

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YOLIE TRIPPY, Deputy City Clerk

Adopted: December 16, 2009

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ROBERT B. RING, Mayor