

CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
July 20, 2011
2:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. FLAG SALUTE

Councilmember Robbins led the flag salute.

III. ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS: PRESENT: Ring, Robbins, Conners, Hack
 ABSENT: Rhodes

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

IV. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 2010 Food Facility Awards

City Manager Keane presented the 2010 Food Facility Awards to the following recipients:

- Bon A Pita 24310 Moulton Parkway, Suite L
- Carl's Jr. – 24342 El Toro Road
- Jack In The Box – 23562 Moulton Parkway
- Jersey Mike's Subs – 24365 El Toro Road
- Starbucks Coffee – 24338 El Toro Road
- Starbucks Coffee – 24100 El Toro Road, Suite A
- Stater Bros Market – 24336 El Toro Road
- Sushi Wok – 24371 El Toro Road, Suite D
- Tomo Sushi – 24338 El Toro Road, Suite B

City Manager Keane noted that Sushi Wok and Bon A Pita were receiving their first awards; other recipients have received awards in past years.

V. CITY PROCLAMATIONS – None

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by Councilmember Robbins, seconded by Councilmember Ring, and carried unanimously to approve Consent Calendar Items 6.1 – 6.5.

6.1 City Council Minutes

Approved the minutes from the June 15, 2011 regular meeting and June 20, 2011 adjourn 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 Reports

Received and filed the June 2011 monthly Treasurer's Report.

6.4 Warrant Register

Approved the July 20, 2011 Warrant Register in the amount of \$1,013,900.64.

6.5 Liability Claim

Denied the claim against the City of Laguna Woods filed by Mr. Francis Sanfilippo and the Estate of Mrs. Frances Sanfilippo.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING – None

VIII. CITY COUNCIL

8.1 Advisory Committee Appointments

City Manager Keane summarized the agenda report.

Moved by Councilmember Ring, seconded by Mayor Hack, and carried unanimously to ratify nominations for City Council advisory committees, as follows:

Public Safety Committee

Douglas Rook, Councilmember Robbins

Land Use and Design Review Committee

Mark Schneider, Councilmember Robbins

8.2 Golf Car Use of Santa Maria Road (agendized by Mayor Pro Tem Conners)

Mayor Pro Tem Conners stated that the completion of the Santa Maria multimodal trail has sparked some issues regarding the use of golf cars on the trail. She described the various reasons that golf cars are prohibited and noted that golf cars can travel a

maximum speed limit of 35 mph and, therefore, cannot be driven on Santa Maria Road since the speed limit is 45 mph. Mayor Pro Tem Conners noted that in her opinion that it is the City Council's intent to enhance residents' mobility and accessibility to all community facilities, while still maintaining safety. She proposed further discussion on this matter.

Mayor Hack stated that golf cars are classified as street legal according to law. He has expressed reservations about golf carts and cars sharing the road, but would support reducing the number of lanes on Santa Maria and a reduction of the speed limit from 45 mph to 35 mph. He suggested that staff should continue to work with the City of Laguna Hills on this matter. Mayor Hack also noted an accident that occurred on Santa Maria attributed by the recent changes in traffic patterns.

Councilmember Ring requested an update report regarding the Santa Maria project.

Assistant City Manager Reilly reiterated the distinction between golf cars and golf carts and noted that golf car drivers, who park in shopping centers, may be cited if they fail to register with the Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV). He stated that the City spoke with its insurance carrier, Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA), who indicated that allowing golf carts on the El Toro Road multimodal trail would be similar to bicycles allowed on the trail. Assistant City Manager Reilly reported that as a result of the El Toro Road multimodal trail pilot program, golf cart users have not always been compliant with traffic rules at golf cart crossings and additional signage will be added. He stated that the City is in the process of removing Santa Maria from the Master Plan of Arterial Highway (MPAH) and that could lead to reducing the speed limit on that street.

Alan Mescon, resident, provided a leaflet of various golf carts and golf cars and discussed the difficulty in determining the distinction between the two vehicles. In his opinion the size of tires separates the two. He suggested that golf cars and carts could be driven simultaneously on the multimodal trail since there is ample room for both. Mr. Mescon described the safety features on golf cars and concurred with staff that golf cars and their drivers must be licensed with the DMV.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners asked Mr. Mescon if his golf car is equipped with a speedometer.

Mr. Mescon affirmed that it does and that it includes a switch that allows him to vary a maximum speed of either 15 mph or 25 mph.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners asked how long it would take to get the speed limit reduced at Santa Maria and if conditions exist that prohibit the speed limit from being reduced.

Assistant City Manager Reilly stated that Santa Maria is currently part of the MPAH maintained by the County and OCTA. It is currently a four-lane road divided by a median but the City has no plans to extend into the Laguna Canyon Road. The City is in the process of working with the cities of Irvine, Lake Forest, and Laguna Hills to remove several roads from the MPAH; if successful, the City could treat Santa Maria as a local road. He noted that he believes this matter will be resolved during the next two months.

Councilmember Robbins indicated that, in his opinion, it would be prudent to wait on the results of the MPAH modification as suggested by Assistant City Manager Reilly before deciding whether to allow golf cars on Santa Maria Road. He believes that some golf car drivers may not meet the state requirements to drive on public property.

Mayor Hack expressed concern about allowing golf cars on the multimodal trail due to liability risk. He discussed the various transportation services available to residents, and stated that he would support a reduction of the number of lanes on Santa Maria Road together with a reduced speed limit that would accommodate the school zone, senior drivers and golf cars on the roadway. Mayor Hack noted the initial designation of Santa Maria as a “through street” that would connect to Laguna Canyon Road.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners requested that staff provide an update on the MPAH in 90 days.

City Manager Keane noted that the El Toro Road multimodal trail is scheduled for review during the September meeting and staff would provide an update on Santa Maria at that time as well.

IX. CITY MANAGER

9.1 Building Inspection Services

City Manager Keane summarized the agenda report.

Mayor Pro Tem Conners asked if the cost for services would be covered by fees required to pull a permit.

City Manager Keane affirmed that the costs would be recovered from permit fees.

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

- A. Approved an agreement with CivilSource, Inc. for building inspection services, and authorized the City Manager to execute the agreement and option extensions, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.
- B. Approved **Resolution No. 11-17** modifying the compensation schedule to add the part time position of building inspector, entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
LAGUNA WOODS, CALIFORNIA, MODIFYING RESOLUTION NO.
11-12 AND ESTABLISHING COMPENSATION FOR THE PART
TIME POSITION OF BUILDING INSPECTOR

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Transportation Corridor Agencies (Mayor Hack)

Mayor Hack reported on the San Joaquin Corridor Authority’s efforts in reducing

payment coverage on bonds.

- 10.2 Orange County Library Board (Councilmember Robbins)
Mayor Robbins stated that there was no meeting.
- 10.3 Orange County Fire Authority (Councilmember Rhodes)
Councilmember Rhodes was not present to provide a report.
- 10.4 Southern California Water Committee (Mayor Hack)
Mayor Hack discussed ongoing efforts to improve the Delta. He stated that native species will determine whether fresh water or a saline Delta will be considered.
- 10.5 Coastal Greenbelt Authority (Mayor Pro Tem Conners)
Mayor Pro Tem Conners stated that there was no meeting.
- 10.6 Laguna Canyon Foundation (Councilmember Rhodes)
Councilmember Rhodes was not present to provide a report.
- 10.7 Vector Control District Board (Councilmember Robbins)
Councilmember Robbins reported the following statistics for Orange County pertaining to the West Nile Virus: Laguna Woods City reported three dead birds with negative test results; however, six dead birds in Cypress have tested positive. No human cases have been reported in the current year in Orange County.

Mayor Hack discussed an incident that occurred in another county regarding an infestation of bees and asked which agency has oversight to act on such issues.

Councilmember Robbins stated that Vector Control does not provide services that treat bees and that he will ask for further information at tomorrow's meeting.

City Manager Keane noted that City Hall houses bees on its rooftop and that staff has called on professionals to move them from one area to another. She discussed the steps the City has taken in the past to deal with Africanized bees found in the City.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Hal Goldberg, resident, asked if a resolution supporting the ban on Foie Gras will be presented to Council for adoption.

Mayor Hack clarified that public comments and statements can be made during this time and that Council will not be discussing or voting on this matter since it is not on the agenda.

Dr. Jonathan Wadley, Campaign Director for the Animal Rescue League, presented a Power Point Presentation on Foie Gras and discussed the inhumane cruelty to ducks and geese during the force-feed process. He asked the City Council to consider adopting a resolution supporting California Health and Safety Code 25980.

Hal Goldberg, resident, stated that he supports a Council's resolution regarding banning Foie Gras.

Karen Wood, resident, expressed her support for adopting a resolution and stated that in conjunction with the City's spay and neuter law; such an action would be a positive comment on the humanity of the City.

Sue Ellen Zima, resident, spoke in favor of the resolution. She thanked the Council for their willingness to consider the ban of Foie Gras. She read an excerpt from *The Chicken Chronicles* written by Alice Walker regarding life lessons the author experienced from observing her own chickens.

Rose Tingle, resident, asked Council to review the website of the Humane Society of the United States at www.hsus.org and its discussion regarding cruelty to animals, and to use this information to assist in deciding whether or not to adopt a resolution banning Foie Gras.

Shari Horne, resident, discussed the recycling pilot program in Laguna Woods Village and thanked everyone who contributed to its success. She stated that 50 bins were recently delivered to Third and United, and noted that volunteers would be going door-to-door with informational leaflets, including Do's and Don'ts about the recycling bins.

XII. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.1 Reports on Meetings Attended per Government Code §53232.3 – None

12.2 Other Meetings, Comments and Announcements

Mayor Pro Tem Connors stated that the City is closely monitoring a pending California state law prohibiting grocery stores from using plastic bags or requiring the use of reusable bags. A report will be made, as information becomes available. She announced that the Discovery Science Center will open an interactive recycling exhibit on September 1, 2011.

Councilmember Ring announced the recent passing of Richard Moos, who served 17 years as a board member for United, Third, and the Golden Rain Foundation. He indicated that members of the current Council and many residents worked directly with Mr. Moos to better the lives of the community. Councilmember Ring requested that the meeting be adjourned in Mr. Moos honor.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION – None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned in memory of Richard Moos at 3:16 p.m. to the next regular meeting of the City Council at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at the Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637.

YOLIE TRIPPY, Deputy City Clerk

Adopted: August 17, 2011

BERT HACK, Mayor