

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING (IN-PERSON AND VIDEO CONFERENCE)
AGOURA HILLS CITY COUNCIL
Civic Center – Council Chambers
30001 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills, California 91301
Wednesday, October 11, 2023
6:00 p.m.

The City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Anstead.

Mayor Anstead requested a moment of silence for Israel.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Wolf.

Present were: Mayor Chris Anstead, Mayor Pro Tem Illece Buckley Weber, Councilmember Deborah Klein Lopez, Councilmember Penny Sylvester, and Councilmember Jeremy Wolf.

Also Present were: City Manager Nathan Hamburger, City Attorney Candice K. Lee, Assistant City Manager Ramiro Adeva, Deputy City Manager Louis Celaya, Management Analyst Amber Victoria, Administrative Assistant Michele Hubbs, Director of Public Works/City Engineer Jessica Forte, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Resource Conservation Manager Craig Jones, Director of Finance Diego Ibañez, Finance Manager Brenda Cho, Accountant Leah Palmer, and City Clerk Kimberly M. Rodrigues.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION

City Attorney Lee reported on the two City Council Closed Session items pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9 (*Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d)*). The City Council considered the items, direction was given to staff, and no reportable action was taken.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Councilmember Wolf moved to approve the Agenda, as presented. Councilmember Sylvester seconded. The motion carried 5-0, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Mayor Anstead, Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber, and Councilmembers Lopez, Sylvester, and Wolf.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL, SPECIAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE, & DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Councilmember Sylvester provided a Las Virgenes/Malibu Council of Governments (COG) update and announced: *“We had an emergency COG meeting to discuss sending a letter about the no bail and because we have not discussed it with the City Council, I abstained from voting.”*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no public comments.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber moved to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1-4, as presented. Councilmember Sylvester seconded. The motion carried 5-0, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Mayor Anstead, Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber, and Councilmembers Lopez, Sylvester, and Wolf.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

1. Approve Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of September 27, 2023
2. Approve Demand Warrant Register No. 900
3. Approve Adoption of Amendments to City of Agoura Hills, California, Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget
4. Approve Agreement for Consultant Services, with Berg & Associates, Inc., for Construction Management Services Related to the Ladyface Greenway Project

DISCUSSION / ACTION

5. Discussion Regarding State Water Resources Control Board Draft Regulations

Following presentation of the staff report, including a presentation from Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Resource Conservation Manager Craig Jones, Mayor Anstead opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

Following deliberations, Mayor Anstead called for a motion and second to approve the staff recommendation to authorize the Mayor to sign the comment letter to the State Water Resources Control Board on behalf of the City Council.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber moved to approve the staff recommendation. Councilmember Wolf seconded. The motion carried 5-0, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Mayor Anstead, Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber, and Councilmembers Lopez, Sylvester, and Wolf.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

COUNCIL, STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Anstead read a tribute honoring Ellen Louise Wohl, a vibrant member of the community who passed away last week, and requested the City Council adjourn the meeting in her memory.

The City Council shared their personal remarks and tributes regarding Ellen Louise Wohl as follows:

- Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber shared that she was not prepared to properly acknowledge Ellen this evening and would share (her comments) another time, noting that she had attended the funeral and that she *“was a fabulous woman, a very important volunteer for this City.”*
- Councilmember Lopez shared her personal remarks, noting that Ellen had been a neighbor, and that *“we should all serve our community in the same heart of service that Ellen had.”*

Councilmember Sylvester thanked staff for a successful Reyes Adobe Days.

The City Council shared their personal remarks regarding Israel as follows:

- Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber read a personal statement that she *“stands with Israel and its right to exist”* and *“stands against terrorism.”* She encouraged everyone to join her in *“standing against evil and standing up for the goodness of humanity.”*
- Councilmember Wolf asserted that he stands with Israel and read a personal statement, noting that the City had formerly issued a proclamation denouncing antisemitism and supports and stands with its residents.
- Councilmember Lopez shared her personal remarks, professed her support for Israel, and noted that if anyone in the community had any situation that they need help with in Israel, *“we can help you connect with Congressman Julia Brownley’s office.”*
- Councilmember Sylvester stated that she felt everyone around the world was standing with Israel.

- Mayor Anstead echoed the City Council's remarks and stated that he also stands with Israel and requested the meeting be adjourned in memory of the victims in Israel and in memory of Ellen Wohl.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Anstead announced the next Regular Meeting of the City Council would be held at 6:00 p.m., on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Civic Center.

ACTION: At 7:00 p.m., Councilmember Sylvester moved to adjourn the meeting in memory of the victims in Israel and in memory of Ellen Wohl. Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber seconded. The motion carried 5-0, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Mayor Anstead, Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber, and Councilmembers Lopez, Sylvester, and Wolf.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Kimberly M. Rodrigues, MPPA, MMC
City Clerk