MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE

**AGOURA HILLS CITY COUNCIL**

Civic Center – Council Chambers

30001 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills, California 91301

**Wednesday, November 8, 2023**

**6:00 p.m.**

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cub Scout Pack 227.

Also Present were: City Manager Nathan Hamburger, City Attorney Candice K. Lee, Assistant City Manager Ramiro Adeva, Deputy City Manager Louis Celaya, Administrative Assistant Michele Hubbs, Director of Community Development Denice Thomas, Principal Planner Robby Nesovic, Associate Planner Katrina Garcia, Research Consultant Adam Probolsky, Senior Civil Engineer Charmaine Yambao, Director of Finance Diego Ibañez, Finance Manager Brenda Cho, Accountant Esteban Pineda, Director of Community Services Amy Brink, and City Clerk Kimberly M. Rodrigues.

**REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION**

No Closed Session was held.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

ACTION: Councilmember Sylvester moved to approve the Agenda, as presented. 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.

**PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL, SPECIAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE, & DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Councilmember Lopez provided a Clean Power Alliance update.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

*Following distribution of the Agenda Packet, and prior to the City Council Meeting, written correspondence was received from the following person(s), regarding Item No. 3, forwarded to the City Council, and made available for public review.*

*Zoe Eisenstein, Agoura Hills*

Mayor Anstead thanked 8th grader, Zoe Eisenstein, for her comment on the crosswalk item and commended her for working on this project with City staff and for her activism in the community as a Girl Scout.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber moved to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 1-7, as presented. Councilmember Lopez 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 October 25, 2023

1. Approve Demand Warrant Register No. 902
2. Approve Authorization to Seek Bids for the Reyes Adobe Road High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk Project; NIB 23-04
3. Approve a Two-Year Agreement for Consultant Services, with ECS Imaging, Inc., for Laserfiche Tech Support and Maintenance
4. Approve 1) Agreement for Consultant Services, with Rincon Consultants, Inc., for the Preparation of Environmental Documentation Related to the Second Phase of Development of the Agoura Business Center North (ABC North Phase II) Project, and 2) Agreement for Payment of Costs, with Dale Poe Development Corporation, in Connection with the Preparation of Environmental Documentation
5. Receive and File the Annual Compliance Report for the Transportation Impact Fees Fund Covering Fiscal Year 2022-23
6. Adopt **Resolution No. 23-2049**; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION(S) FOR ALL CALRECYCLE GRANTS FOR WHICH THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS IS ELIGIBLE

**ORDINANCE / ACTION**

1. Waive Full Reading and Introduce **Ordinance No. 23-474**; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA, ADDING CHAPTER 12 (ELECTRONIC FILING OF CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS AND STATEMENTS OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS) TO ARTICLE II (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE AGOURA HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE; and Approve an Agreement for Consultant Services with Netfile for the Filing of Electronic Campaign Disclosure Statements

Following presentation of the staff report, 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 waive full reading and introduce **Ordinance No. 23-474**.

ACTION: Councilmember Lopez moved to approve the staff recommendation. 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.

**DISCUSSION / ACTION**

1. Conduct a Prescreen Review of an Application Proposing to Amend Chapter 1 (Introduction), Chapter 3 (Commercial Districts), and Chapter 5 (Overlay Districts) of Article IX (Zoning) of the Agoura Hills Municipal Code

Following a presentation of the staff report, the following persons provided a presentation on behalf of the Applicant:

Cory Antilla, representing the Applicant

Anthony Delcau, representing the Applicant

Following the presentations, Mayor Anstead opened the floor for public comment.

*Following distribution of the Agenda Packet, and prior to the City Council Meeting, written correspondence was received from the following person(s), forwarded to the City Council, and made available for public review.*

*Bill Tucker, Encino, representing Whizin Market Square (Applicant)*

There were no further public comments nor a rebuttal by the Applicant’s representatives.

No formal action was required. Following discussion, the City Council provided non-binding comments to the Applicant.

1. Discussion Regarding Commercial Cannabis Survey

Following a presentation of the staff report, including a presentation from Research Consultant Adam Probolsky, Mayor Anstead opened the floor for public comments.

There were no public comments.

Following discussion, by consensus, the City Council approved the following amendments to the survey:

1. Delete Question #16

*~~Cannabis businesses in the City of Agoura Hills would be required to use solar panel energy to power their facilities.~~*

1. Question #17, replace the word “cigar” with “hookah”

*If consumption lounges (similar to ~~cigar~~* ***hookah*** *lounges) were to be allowed in Agoura Hills, businesses would be required to provide transportation to ensure people don’t drive under the influence of cannabis.*

1. Question #18, delete the words “hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in”

*The City could tax cannabis and generate ~~hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in~~ new revenue that could be used to improve essential City services.*

1. Question #22, delete the words “greenhouse gas emissions from”

*Having retail sales of cannabis in Agoura Hills would allow residents to buy locally, reducing ~~greenhouse gas emissions from~~ travel to other communities that offer retail sales.*

1. Question #26, delete the words “and road repairs”

*Smith says, “Allowing the retail sale of cannabis in Agoura Hills is a terrible idea. It will result in increased crime and traffic accidents. If people want to buy cannabis, they can go somewhere else.”*

*Jones says, “Allowing the retail sale of cannabis in Agoura Hills is a great idea. There is no evidence of negative community impacts and Agoura Hills could increase revenues that could go toward essential services like public safety ~~and road repairs~~.”*

1. Add Two (2) New Questions to Final Survey

***Include questions about smell and health impacts (two new questions will be generated by staff and the consultant as part of the final survey)***

Following deliberations, Mayor Anstead called for a motion and second to approve the staff recommendation to approve the survey questionnaire, including the feedback from the City Council, and direct staff to survey the community.

ACTION: Following deliberations, Councilmember Sylvester moved to approve the staff recommendation, as amended. Councilmember Lopez 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. Discussion of Ladyface Greenway Project Final Aesthetic Character and Authorization to Seek Bids

Following presentation of the staff report, 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 approve the final aesthetic plan of the Ladyface Greenway Project and authorize staff to seek bids.

ACTION: Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber moved to approve the staff recommendation. Mayor Anstead 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**

Assistant City Manager Adeva announced the Annual State of the City 2023 and the Mayor’s Art Show would be held at the Recreation and Event Center at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 16, 2023, and invited everyone to attend the free event.

Director of Community Services Brink announced the (free admission) Holidays on the Hill event at the Recreation and Event Center would commence with the Holiday Boutique and Art Show, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. on Friday, December 1, 2023, and would continue on Saturday, December 2, 2023, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with the addition of Santa who would be available for photos and to receive letters from the children.

Councilmember Wolf spoke about the following: the passing of community member Brent Kast who was a teacher, tutor, creek cleanup volunteer, and veteran, and noted there would be a special recognition for him at the upcoming State of the City; today, November 8, marked five years since the Woolsey Fire, which burned 97,000 acres in the region, and reminded residents to always be prepared (for emergencies); the recent incident on Thousand Oaks/Westlake Boulevards and the tragic loss of life of Paul Kessler; assured residents that the City is in contact with law enforcement regarding security in places of worship; and encouraged everyone to come together as a community.

Councilmember Lopez spoke about the following: the 5th Anniversary of the Woolsey Fire and the Borderline incidents (2018); the loss of *“friend of the City and schools”* Brent Kast; the events of October 7 (Israel) and November 6 (corner of Thousand Oaks/Westlake Boulevards); her sadness with the violence, antisemitism, and division that is occurring around the world that now happened in the Conejo Valley; invoked the words to the community, said to her two days after her 2018 election by Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber, to *“model the behavior that you want to see in the world”*, and encouraged any future protests on the corner to be peaceful and nonviolent.

Mayor Pro Tem Buckley Weber spoke about the following: people have the right to protest, the corner (Thousand Oaks/Westlake Boulevards) has been used for decades for protests, and encouraged everyone to *“keep their tempers and remain peaceful so as not to stifle protesters”* in the future; invited everyone to attend the City Council Reorganization Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on December 5, 2023; attending the Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon today at the Event Center; and encouraged everyone to try and bring peace and good spirit to their own Thanksgiving get togethers and *“remember to love each other because we’re lucky we still have each other.”*

Councilmember Sylvester spoke about the following: that she was an immigrant of this country and was *“so proud that we do have freedom of speech and if we can get out and protest peacefully, we’re lucky to be able to do that”*; attending the safety forum (Community Resiliency Event) arranged by Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath at Lindero Canyon Middle School on October 26, 2023; attending the private tour of the 69 Bravo Helistop at the top of Saddle Peak Road last Saturday with Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin and Assistant Fire Chief Drew Smith, noting the Chinooks can re-load water within 90 seconds; and the importance of being prepared, encouraging Agoura Hills residents to take advantage of the home hardening grants offered by the City.

Mayor Anstead spoke about the following: in response to the former Borderline and recent protest tragedies, he encouraged everyone to “*try to bridge our differences…try to come together and come up with common solutions for issues”* and have (peaceful) discussions; reported on the positive interaction he had with children in the community this last year and shared his personal remarks regarding the “Read with the Mayor” program on October 23, 2023, and last night’s Girl Scouts Veterans event, noting he was a Veteran and was wearing a handmade bracelet that was presented to him at the event; and encouraged everyone to “*honor our Veterans”* on Veterans Day this Saturday, November 11, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Anstead announced the Regular Meeting of the City Council for November 22, 2023, had been canceled, the Adjourned Regular City Council Reorganization Meeting was scheduled for December 5, 2023, and the next Regular City Council Meeting would be held at 6:00 p.m., on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, in the Council Chambers of the Civic Center. The Civic Center is located at 30001 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills, California.

ACTION: At 9:08 p.m., Councilmember Wolf moved to adjourn the meeting in memory of Brent Kast. Councilmember Lopez 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.

The Regular Meeting of the City Council for November 22, 2023, has been canceled. The Adjourned Regular City Council Reorganization Meeting is scheduled for December 5, 2023

The next Regular City Council Meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2023

Kimberly M. Rodrigues, MPPA, MMC

City Clerk