



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
SIGNAL HILL CITY COUNCIL  
September 3, 2013**

A Regular Meeting of the Signal Hill City Council was held in the Council Chamber of City Hall on September 3, 2013.

**CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: MAYOR NOLL  
COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN  
VICE MAYOR WILSON

**CLOSED SESSION**

- a. A closed session was held pursuant to Government Code Section 54657.6, to discuss labor negotiations with the Signal Hill Police Officer's Association.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

There was no public business from the floor.

**RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:01 P.M.**

Vice Mayor Wilson entered closed session at 6:05 p.m.

**RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING AT 7:09 P.M.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Noll led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

City Attorney reported on closed session items. Directions were given for further negotiations and no reportable action was taken.

## **PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THIS AGENDA**

Ellen Ward, Signal Hill resident addressed Council regarding the Historical Society and announced the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Signal Hill Park. Please call (562) 597-5963 to purchase tickets.

### **PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

- a. Public Hearing-Introduction of a Zoning Ordinance Amendment and Conditional Use Permit for Costco Gas Station at 2198 E. Willow Street

City Clerk read the form of notice.

City Manager introduced the Community Development Director who presented the staff report.

Council Member Forester and Vice Mayor Wilson asked questions regarding the Costco Gas Station.

Public Works Director, Community Development Director, and Finance Director addressed the questions.

Mayor Noll opened the public hearing at 7:41 p.m.

Mayor Noll invited anyone wishing to speak in favor of the Costco Gas Station to please come forward.

Jennifer Murillo, Representative for Costco spoke in favor of the Costco Gas Station.

Vice Mayor Wilson and Council Member Woods asked questions regarding the tanks.

Ms. Murillo addressed the questions posed by Vice Mayor Wilson and Council Member Woods.

Sonia Hennum, Representative for Kittelson & Associates spoke in favor of the Costco Gas Station.

Council Member Forester asked a question regarding the Costco Gas Station.

Ms. Hennum addressed the question.

Ellen Ward, Signal Hill resident spoke in favor of the Costco Gas Station.

Bruce Troupe, Signal Hill resident spoke in favor of the Costco Gas Station.

Mayor Noll invited anyone wishing to speak in favor of or opposition to the Costco Gas Station to please come forward.

Tom Decker, Signal Hill resident commended staff for addressing residents concerns and spoke in favor of the Costco Gas Station but asked Council not to forget the residents.

Olivia Walker, Signal Hill resident spoke in opposition to the Costco Gas Station.

Bob Mendoza, Signal Hill resident spoke in favor of the Costco Gas Station, and about a survey he conducted.

Mayor Noll closed the public hearing at 8:10 p.m.

Council Member Forester asked the Finance Director about sales at Costco.

Finance Director addressed the question posed by Council Member Forester.

Council Member Woods commented on the Costco Gas Station.

Mayor Noll commented on the Costco Gas Station and thanked staff for addressing residents concerns regarding the project.

Council Member Wilson commented on the Costco Gas Station and thanked staff for addressing residents concerns regarding the project.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS and seconded by VICE MAYOR WILSON to waive further reading and adopt Resolution No. 2013-09-6036 approving Mitigated Negative Declaration 08/02/13(1), relative to Zoning Ordinance Amendment 13-03, Conditional Use Permit 13-01, and site plan and design review 13-03 for a Costco Gas Station.

City Attorney read the title of Resolution No. 2013-09-6036:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION 08/02/13(1), RELATIVE TO ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 13-03, CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 13-01, AND SITE PLAN AND DESIGN REVIEW 13-03 FOR A COSTCO GAS STATION

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:    COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:    NONE

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by VICE MAYOR WILSON to waive further reading and introduce Ordinance No. 2013-09-1461 approving Zoning Ordinance Amendment 13-03 amending Chapter 20.40 SP-1 Town Center East Specific Plan to include "Gasoline Service Station" as a conditionally permitted use.

City Attorney read the title of Ordinance No. 2013-09-1461:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 13-03 AMENDING CHAPTER 20.40 SP-1 TOWN CENTER EAST SPECIFIC PLAN TO INCLUDE "GASOLINE SERVICE STATION" AS A CONDITIONALLY PERMITTED USE

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:      COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:      NONE

It was moved COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by VICE MAYOR WILSON to waive further reading and adopt Resolution No. 2013-09-6037 approving Conditional Use Permit 13-01, a request to operate a gasoline service station at 2198 E. Willow Street in the SP-1, Town Center East Specific Plan, zoning district.

City Attorney read the title of Resolution No. 2013-09-6037:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 13-01, A REQUEST TO OPERATE A GASOLINE SERVICE STATION AT 2198 E. WILLOW STREET IN THE SP-1, TOWN CENTER EAST SPECIFIC PLAN, ZONING DISTRICT

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN: NONE

Council Member Forester thanked the residents of Willow Ridge, Signal Hill staff, and Costco.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

- a. State of California-AB109 Funds
- b. Support for League of California Cities Resolution-Calling Upon the Governor and Legislature to Enter into Discussions with League and California Police Chief's Association Representatives to Identify and Enact Strategies that will Ensure the Success of Public Safety Realignment From a Local Municipal Law Enforcement Perspective

City Manager introduced the Police Chief who presented the staff reports.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS to authorize the Chief of Police to accept funds from the State of California for AB109 compliance and enforcement efforts and approve \$25,000 budget appropriation to Account No. 001.331.510.130 and support the League of California Cities resolution calling upon the Governor and Legislature to enter into discussions with the League and California Police Chiefs' Association representatives to identify and enact strategies that will ensure success of Public Safety Realignment from a local law enforcement perspective.

The following vote resulted:

AYES: MAYOR NOLL  
VICE MAYOR WILSON  
COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN: NONE

- c. Resolution Adopting the Gateway Integrated Water Management Plan Dated June 2013

City Manager introduced the Public Works Director who presented the staff report.

City Attorney commented on the staff report.

Public Works Director and City Manager clarified there is another item on the

Consent Calendar relating to specific projects.

Council Member Forester left Council Chamber at 8:34 p.m. and returned at 8:38 p.m.

Maria Harris, Signal Hill resident commented on the staff report and asked questions.

Public Works Director and City Manager addressed the questions posed by Ms. Harris.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by VICE MAYOR WILSON to waive further reading and adopt Resolution No. 2013-09-6040 authorizing the adoption of the Gateway Integrated Regional Water Management Plan dated June 2013.

City Attorney read the title of Resolution No. 2013-09-6040:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE GATEWAY INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN DATED JUNE 2013

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:      COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:      COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

d. Contract Services Agreement-Right to Know and Vote Initiative-Public Information Program

City Manager presented the staff report.

Council Member Woods and Vice Mayor Wilson commented on the process in selecting Adler Public Affairs.

City Attorney commented on the public information program.

Maria Harris, Signal Hill resident asked for clarification regarding the term "stand alone."

City Manager addressed the question posed by Ms. Harris.

Bob Mendoza, Signal Hill resident commented on the Right to Know and Vote Initiative.

Maria Harris, Signal Hill resident commented on the Independent Fiscal Analysis.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Adler Public Affairs, to manage the public information program for the Right to Know and Vote Initiative in the amount of \$24,736 in a form approved by the City Attorney.

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:      COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:      NONE

Council Member Forester and Vice Mayor Wilson commented on the Right to Know and Vote Initiative.

e. Community Garden

City Manager introduced the Community Services Director who presented the staff report.

City Council commented on and asked questions regarding the Community Garden.

Sharon Bergeron, Signal Hill resident thanked staff, commented on, and asked questions regarding the Community Garden.

Community Services Director addressed the questions posed by Ms. Bergeron.

Constance, Signal Hill resident commented on the Community Garden.

City Council commented on the Community Garden.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS to move forward with the Community Garden and review in six months.

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:      COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:      NONE

f. Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of a Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Grant

City Manager introduced the Community Services Director who presented the staff report.

City Council commented on the application for funding and asked questions.

Community Services Director addressed the questions posed by Council.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS to waive further reading and adopt Resolution No. 2013-09-6038 approving the application for competitive excess funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Fourth Supervisorial District excess funding for rehabilitation of trails within the City.

City Attorney read the title of Resolution No. 2013-09-6038:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR COMPETITIVE EXCESS FUNDS FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FOR FOURTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT EXCESS FUNDING FOR REHABILITATION OF TRAILS WITHIN THE CITY

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:      COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:      NONE

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **a. Retiree Health Benefit Associated with an Industrial Disability Retirement**

Summary: The City Council will consider a recommendation to approve the eligibility of a police officer who has been granted an Industrial Disability Retirement to qualify for retiree health benefit coverage as an employee with 5-10 years of service.

Recommendation: Approve the eligibility of Brian P. Johnson to qualify for retiree health benefits under the following provision as stated in the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Signal Hill and the Signal Hill Police Officers' Association: Employees with 5-10 years of service (combined city service plus 50% credit for service with another CalPERS agency), shall be eligible to receive 50% of the monthly benefit applicable towards the employee only.

### **b. Adoption of a Resolution Specifying the City's Contribution to the 3%@50 and the 3%@55 Retirement Formulas Through the California Public Employees' Retirement System**

Summary: The City Council will consider a resolution establishing the contribution rates for public safety executive management and management employees for the 3%@50 or 3%@55 California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) retirement formula. This resolution increases the contributions made by the employees toward their pension costs.

Recommendation: Waive further reading and adopt Resolution No. 2013-09-6039 amending Resolution No. 2012-01-5932, specifying the City's contribution towards the required normal member contribution for the 3%@50 and the 3%@55 retirement formulas provided by the California Public Employees' Retirement System.

### **c. State Of California-Office of Traffic Safety Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Grant**

Summary: The City of Signal Hill has been awarded grant funding through the State of California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. The Chief of Police is seeking authorization to accept the grant.

Recommendation: Authorize the Chief of Police to accept grant funding through the OTS Step Grant Program.

d. Approval of MOUs to Develop Watershed Management Programs for the Lower Los Angeles River and Los Cerritos Channel Watersheds

Summary: The City of Signal Hill is situated in both the Los Cerritos Channel watershed and Lower Los Angeles River watershed. The new Storm Water System Operating Permit (MS4) requires that that Signal Hill along with other participating cities located within these watersheds develop Watershed

Management Programs for each watershed. The memorandum of understanding formalizes the agreements among the participating watershed cities to complete these program studies.

Recommendations: 1. Approval of the MOU with Gateway Water Management Authority “GWMA” to develop a Watershed Management Program and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program for the Lower Los Angeles River-Reach 1 Watershed Committee. 2. Approval of the MOU with Gateway Water Management Authority “GWMA” to develop a Watershed Management Program and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program for the Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Committee.

e. Approval of Use of City Media for Rock for Vets Event

Summary: The Parks and Recreation Commission granted a fee waiver request from The Rock Club-Rock for Vets, a Long Beach nonprofit organization, for use of the amphitheater and open space at Signal Hill Park for a free benefit concert on Saturday, September 28. The organization is seeking approval to advertise the event via City media resources.

Recommendation: Authorize The Rock Club-Rock for Vets to utilize City media resources to advertise their free benefit concert subject to the conditions outlined herein.

f. Warrant Register Dated September 3, 2013

Summary: The Warrant Register is a listing of all general checks issued since the prior warrant register and warrants to be released upon City Council approval.

Recommendation: Authorize payment of Warrant Register dated September 3, 2013 for FY 2013-2014.

g. Minutes of the Following Meeting(s)

Regular Meeting of August 20, 2013.

Recommendation: Approve.

Council Member Forester requested pulling Consent Calendar item (d) for discussion.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by VICE MAYOR WILSON to approve Consent Calendar items (a) through (c), and (e) through (g).

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:    COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:    NONE

d. Approval of MOUs to Develop Watershed Management Programs for the Lower Los Angeles River and Los Cerritos Channel Watersheds

City Attorney and City Manager commented on the MOUs for specific projects.

Council Member Woods and Vice Mayor Wilson asked about the Watershed Management Programs.

City Manager addressed the questions posed by Council Member Woods and Vice Mayor Wilson.

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS to approve the MOU with Gateway Water Management Authority “GWMA” to develop a Watershed Management Program and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program for the Lower Los Angeles River-Reach 1 Watershed Committee; approve the MOU with Gateway Water Management Authority “GWMA” to develop a Watershed Management Program and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program for the Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Committee.

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:    COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:    NONE

## **COUNCIL AGENDA--NEW BUSINESS**

Council Member Woods announced she would be attending the League of California Cities Conference on September 18, 2013 and asked about a quorum for the next meeting.

Council Member Woods announced there are two Signal Hill restaurants included in *FSR Magazine*.

Council Member Woods thanked the Public Works staff for the new signal at the intersection of Cherry Avenue and E. 20<sup>th</sup> Street.

Vice Mayor Wilson commented on recent power outages and suggested contacting your cable provider to confirm equipment is current.

Vice Mayor Wilson commented that the American Care Act (Obamacare) goes into effect on October 1, 2013 and requested a presentation at a future meeting.

Vice Mayor Wilson announced tomorrow is the first day of school for most local area schools and announced Jessie Nelson Academy had one of the highest API gains in the Long Beach Unified School District.

Council Member Forester announced the Care to Dine Program on September 26, 2013. Please call (562) 624-4900 for additional information.

Council Member Forester commented on meeting decorum.

Council Member Forester requested of the public when addressing Council and giving statistics, please also provide the back-up information.

Mayor Noll announced the Mayor's Cleanup event on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> between 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. at Discovery Well Park. Please call (562) 989-7340 for additional information.

Mayor Noll thanked the Public Works staff for the new signal on Cherry Avenue and E. 20<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mayor Noll requested a meeting with the Sierra Club regarding walking in Signal Hill.

Mayor Noll asked about the screens at the Hamilton Bowl during the grading and construction.

Public Works Director reported on the screens at the Hamilton Bowl.

Mayor Noll asked about the landscaping on the northwest portion of the hilltop.

Public Works Director commented on the hilltop and stated he would look into the issue.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER and seconded by VICE MAYOR WILSON to adjourn tonight's meeting to the next regular meeting of the City Council on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 2175 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755.

The following vote resulted:

AYES:      MAYOR NOLL  
                 VICE MAYOR WILSON  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER FORESTER  
                 COUNCIL MEMBER WOODS

NOES:      NONE

ABSENT:    COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN

ABSTAIN:    NONE

MAYOR NOLL adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

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Michael J. Noll  
Mayor

Attest:

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Kathleen L. Pacheco  
City Clerk