

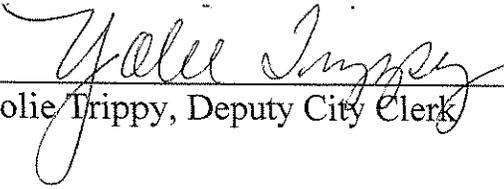
**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
LAGUNA WOODS CITY COUNCIL**

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the Council of the City of Laguna Woods is hereby called to be held on Thursday, February 26, 2009 commencing at 2:00 P.M. at Laguna Woods City Hall, Council Chambers, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637.

The meeting is being called for the sole purpose of considering and selecting a method to fill one unexpected vacancy of the City Council, and to appoint a mayor pro tem to serve for the balance of calendar year 2009.

Dated: February 23, 2009



Yolie Trippy, Deputy City Clerk



AGENDA of THE LAGUNA WOODS CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING

February 26, 2009

2:00 P.M.

**Laguna Woods City Hall
Council Chambers
24264 El Toro Road
Laguna Woods, CA 92637**

AGENDA DESCRIPTION: The Agenda descriptions are intended to give notice, to members of the public, of a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. The listed Recommended Action represents staff or a particular Committee's recommendation. The City Council may take any action, which it deems to be appropriate on the agenda item and is not limited in any way by the recommended action. Any person wishing to address the City Council on any matter, whether or not it appears on this agenda, is requested to complete a "Request to Speak" form available at the door. The completed form is to be submitted to the City Clerk prior to an individual being heard by the City Council. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the City Council in writing (8 copies) and only pertinent points presented orally. Requests to speak to items on the agenda shall be heard at the appropriate point on the agenda; requests to speak about subjects not on the agenda will be heard during the Public Comment section of the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS: __ Hack, __ Rhodes, __Robbins
__ Ring, Mayor

IV. CITY COUNCIL

4.1 City Council Vacancy

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Pursuant to California Government Code Section 36512 (b), discuss options available; choose a methods to fill the vacancy; and direct staff to initiate the process to fill the vacancy in the method selected.

4.2 Mayor Pro Tem Appointment

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Appoint a mayor pro tem to serve for the balance of calendar year 2009.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time members of the public may address the City Council regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council. NO action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting will be adjourned to an adjourned regular meeting as determined by the City Council, to be held at Laguna Woods City Hall, 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: In compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (949) 639-0500 (Voice) or, TDD (949) 639-0535 or the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 if you have a TDD or (800) 735-2922 if you do not have a TDD. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting should enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

AGENDA: The City Council agenda and agenda back-up materials are available from the Office of the City Clerk, after 4:30 p.m., on the Friday prior to the City Council meeting. Copies of the agenda are provided at no cost. Agenda back-up materials are available at City Hall for inspection and copies are available at no charge prior to the meeting. A per page copy cost does apply after the meeting. If you wish to be added to the e-mail or regular mail list to receive a copy of the agenda, a request must be made to the City Clerk in writing. Copies of the agenda are mailed only if stamped, self-addressed envelopes are provided. The City of Laguna Woods mailing address is 24264 El Toro Road, Laguna Woods, CA 92637. Phone: (949) 639-0500, FAX (949) 639-0591.

City of Laguna Woods

Agenda Report

DATE: February 26, 2009 Special City Council Meeting

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Leslie Keane, City Manager
Stephen McEwen, City Attorney

AGENDA ITEM: City Council Vacancy

Recommendation

Pursuant to California Government Code section 36512 (b), discuss options available; choose a method to fill the vacancy; and direct staff to initiate the process to fill the vacancy in the method selected.

Background

Due to the death of Mayor Pro Tem Brenda Ross, on February 21, 2009, a vacancy exists on the City Council for the balance of her term as a councilmember (December 2012). Pursuant to California Government Code section 36512 (b), the Council may appoint an individual or it may call a special election to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term. If the Council does not appoint a member by March 23, 2009, a special election will be required.

Discussion

California Government Code section 36512 (b) states "If a vacancy occurs in an elective office provided for in this chapter, the council shall, within 30 days from the commencement of the vacancy, either fill the vacancy by appointment or call a special election to fill the vacancy." There are no requirements identified for the selection process. Any individual who resides in and is a registered voter of the City of Laguna Woods is eligible for appointment. The City Council may appoint with or without conducting a solicitation process.

If the City Council wishes to hold a special election, “The special shall be held on the next regularly established election date not less than 114 days from the call of the special election. The next election date that would meet this requirement is November 3, 2009 (California Elections Code section 1000). There is currently no County consolidated election scheduled for that date.

Fiscal Impact

It is anticipated that an appointment process could be accommodated within the existing budget. A special election itself would cost \$20,000 – \$34,000 depending on the number of candidates and whether or not the election is consolidated with another agency. If the election is not consolidated, it is anticipated that an additional \$10,000 – \$ 12,000 might be required for consulting assistance.

Conclusion:

Unexpected City Council vacancies are governed by the California Government and Election Codes. The City Council must choose to appoint an individual or call a special election within 30 days of the date of the vacancy.