



# Minutes

## Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held  
December 14, 2004

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**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:39 p.m. by Mayor Rogers in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

**INVOCATION** was offered by Dr. John Bonner, Chaplain Emeritus to the City Council

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Council Member Larry Van Nostran

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT:** Mayor Todd Rogers  
Vice Mayor Wayne Piercy  
Council Member Joseph Esquivel  
Council Member Larry Van Nostran  
Council Member Robert Wagner

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Rogers announced that a reception had been held prior to the meeting during which the City recognized winners of the Lakewood libraries bookmark contest, and received a "Gold Shield" award from the Southern California Municipal Athletic Foundation.

Mayor Rogers introduced City Attorney designate Steve Skolnik, who was providing legal counsel for this meeting and would be taking over City Attorney duties from John Todd, effective January 1st.

Mayor Rogers also announced that Vice Mayor Wayne Piercy and Council Member Bob Wagner had chosen not to run for another term of office and would be retiring from the City Council. He advised that a retirement dinner recognizing their achievements would be held in February.

### **ROUTINE ITEMS:**

COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER WAGNER SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 9.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held October 12, October 26, and November 23, 2004

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands dated November 10, November 18, November 24, December 2, and December 9, 2004

**ROUTINE ITEMS:** Continued

- RI-4 Approval of Agreement with City of Cerritos for Illuminated Pedestrian Crossing on Del Amo Boulevard at Claretta Avenue
  
- RI-5 RESOLUTION NO. 2004-87; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD PROHIBITING THE PARKING OR STANDING OF VEHICLES BETWEEN 10 A.M. AND 3 P.M. ON TUESDAY OF EACH WEEK FOR STREET SWEEPING PURPOSES ON BOTH SIDES OF BLOOMFIELD AVENUE WEST SERVICE ROAD BETWEEN 215TH STREET AND THE SOUTHERLY CUL DE SAC
  
- RI-6 Approval of Agreement with JWA Urban Consultants, Inc. for Preparation of the 5-year Consolidated Plan
  
- RI-7 Approval of Amendment to Employment Contract for City Manager
  
- RI-8 Approval of Participation in Coalition for Practical Regulation (CPR)
  
- RI-9 Approval of Monthly Report of Investment Transactions

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner, Esquivel, Piercy, Van Nostran and Rogers

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**1.1 • VACATION OF THE ALLEY WEST OF BLOOMFIELD AVENUE AND THE ALLEY NORTH OF CENTRALIA STREET (NORTHWEST CORNER OF BLOOMFIELD AVENUE AND CENTRALIA STREET) [Continued from August 24, 2004]**

Mayor Rogers announced that the property owners had requested additional time and that staff was recommending this item be continued to the regular City Council Meeting on May 11, 2005. There being no objection, it was so ordered.

**3.1 • LAKEWOOD SHERIFF'S STATION CONSTRUCTION MOU AND FUNDING AGREEMENT**

Mayor Rogers announced that as a member of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, he would recuse himself during discussion and voting on this matter.

City Manager Howard Chambers reported that staff had been working with L.A. County staff for several months preparing the Memorandum of Understanding and a Funding Agreement for the Lakewood Sheriff's Station Renovation Project. He advised that while the agreement presented for City Council review was substantially complete, there were still several minor outstanding details to be solidified and staff was requesting that the City Council approve the

**3.1 • LAKEWOOD SHERIFF'S STATION CONSTRUCTION MOU AND FUNDING AGREEMENT - Continued**

agreement and authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to make minor revisions, as necessary, prior to execution by the Mayor.

Vice Mayor Piercy inquired about the clause providing the Sheriff's Department with use of the Burns Community Center second floor during construction and how that would impact the City service providers currently using that space. Recreation and Community Services Director Joan Biegel stated that plans had been formulated to relocate those people during the construction activity at the Sheriff's station and service levels would not be impacted.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner, Esquivel, Piercy and Van Nostran

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers

**3.2 • REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR VACATION OF THE ALLEY WEST OF HAYTER AVENUE BETWEEN DEL AMO BOULEVARD AND HARDWICK STREET**

Lisa Rapp, Director of Public Works, presented an oral report based on the memorandum contained in the agenda and stated that the City Council had previously granted a vacation for the alley west of Hayter Avenue between Del Amo Boulevard and Hardwick Street for the Lakewood Manor Apartments, who had planned to improve their parking area. She reported that although the owner was to have completed the improvements within a one-year period, in the interim the property had been sold and the new owner was requesting an extension of time. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council grant an extension of time, until December 31, 2005, to complete the owners' proposed improvements as required in the resolution of vacation.

Responding to a question from Council Member Van Nostran, Ms. Rapp stated that the original plan included reconfiguring the alley and existing carports. She stated there was still design work to be completed.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER WAGNER SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner, Esquivel, Piercy, Van Nostran and Rogers

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

### **3.3 • AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF CERRITOS FOR FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION SPECIALISTS**

Deputy City Manager Sandi Ruyle presented an oral report based on the memorandum in the agenda packet and reported that the City of Cerritos had conducted a pilot study to share resources for a fingerprint identification specialist with the cities of Lakewood, Bellflower, Paramount, Norwalk and La Mirada. She advised that use of this additional resource had resulted in over 100 crimes being solved. The proposed agreement with the City of Cerritos would provide for the reimbursement for the services of a Fingerprint identification Specialist, up to an annual maximum of 530 hours. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council approve the Agreement for Reimbursement for Fingerprint Identification Specialist with the City of Cerritos.

Council Member Van Nostran cited Fingerprint Identification as a very important element in solving local crimes. Ms. Ruyle confirmed for Council Member Van Nostran that the program had excellent staffing and was utilizing the best equipment currently available.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Piercy, Ms. Ruyle stated that there would be an option to contract for additional service if needed and that this service was provided from general fund monies.

COUNCIL MEMBER WAGNER MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner, Esquivel, Piercy, Van Nostran and Rogers

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

### **3.4 • REPLANTING OF TREES FOLLOWING TREE REMOVAL**

Council Member Wagner raised questions about substantial delays in the replanting of street trees and expressed concern that we were losing track of locations without trees. He stated he would like staff to provide an estimate on how many treeless locations existed in the City.

City Manager Howard Chambers advised that the Public Works Director kept a running summary of all such locations.

The Director of Public Works stated there were approximately 1,600 locations in the City with no street tree. She noted that the City had received a grant for this fiscal year that would provide for the replanting of trees at 500 locations and that the current cost for planting a street tree was approximately \$160.

Council Member Wagner stated he felt there was a need to speed up the replanting process by increasing the amount of funding. He noted that the rest of the locations could be addressed right away by adding \$100,000 in additional funding to this activity.

**3.4 • REPLANTING OF TREES FOLLOWING TREE REMOVAL - Continued**

Council Member Van Nostran stated that while he did not disagree that this activity needed to be reviewed, he felt that it was a matter that should be looked at during budget preparation.

The City Manager stated that the reduced activity in tree planting was a reflection of the tough budget times that had faced the City over the last several years. He noted that although there was not funding in place for large-scale, block tree planting, staff would respond to individual requests for tree replacement. He also noted that the Public Works Department had statistics that indicated that when trees were planted at locations where residents did not want a tree, that the trees were often left to die.

Council Member Wagner requested that staff provide, at the next meeting, a firmer estimate of the people who had expressed a desire to have no tree. He also noted that with the passage of State Ballot Proposition 1A, there would be more fiscal certainty in the years ahead.

Mayor Rogers clarified that the request was for an estimate of the locations that did not want a replacement tree.

Council Member Wagner stated he also would like to see an estimate of the total cost to replant all vacant locations, excluding those where the resident had indicated they did not want a replacement tree.

Mayor Rogers stated that he would like to see a proposed replacement schedule and where the funds for the activity would be coming from.

Vice Mayor Piercy confirmed from staff that the funding included in the current budget consisted of \$50,000 in grant funds. He stated that he agreed with Council Member Van Nostran that the allocation of additional funds for this activity was a major budgetary decision and should not be made without examining the whole scope of budget needs.

Mayor Rogers summarized that a comprehensive staff report on this subject was needed.

**3.5 • MODIFICATION OF CITY COUNCIL RULES FOR TABLED MOTIONS**

Council Member Wagner stated that there was a procedural problem with the City Council's rules. He noted a conflict between the Council rules and the Ralph M. Brown Act governing public meetings in California. While the Council rules indicated that a tabled item should not be placed on the agenda until it was "taken from the table," the Brown Act required an item to be agendaized prior to any discussion. He stated that the proposed resolution would prompt the City Clerk to place on the next agenda, any item tabled at the previous meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-88; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 1862 PERTAINING TO RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL, AND FOR ITS OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

**3.5 • MODIFICATION OF COUNCIL RULES FOR TABLED MOTIONS** - Continued  
COUNCIL MEMBER WAGNER MOVED AND VICE MAYOR PIERCY SECONDED TO  
ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2004-88. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS  
APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner, Esquivel, Piercy, Van Nostran and Rogers

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

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At 8:13 p.m., the Regular Meeting of the City Council was recessed for the Meeting of the  
Lakewood Redevelopment Agency. At 8:21 p.m., the City Council Meeting was reconvened.

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**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Robert Clayton commented on the retirements of Vice Mayor Piercy, Council Member  
Wagner and City Attorney John Todd, by wishing the City Council continued success in the  
future and hoping that the persons who step in the take over those responsibilities do just as  
good a job.

Kennedy Collins President of the Lakewood Elementary School PTA, stated that a group of  
parents from North Long Beach were organizing to express their displeasure with the  
Paramount Unified School District. He stated they felt their children were not being  
provided the same opportunities as students in other schools in the District.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Rogers  
adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC  
City Clerk