



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
August 26, 2003

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Esquivel in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

INVOCATION was offered by Pastor Rick Phelps, Calvary Chapel of Lakewood

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Boy Scout Troop 209

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Joseph Esquivel
Vice Mayor Todd Rogers
Council Member Wayne Piercy
Council Member Larry Van Nostran
ABSENT: Council Member Robert Wagner (excused)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Esquivel announced a free concert would be held at Del Valle Park on September 11th in honor of Patriot Day.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 10.

- RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held July 22, and August 12, 2003
- RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions
- RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands dated August 7, August 14, and August 21, 2003
- RI-4 RESOLUTION NO. 2003-71; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD PROHIBITING THE PARKING OR STANDING OF VEHICLES BETWEEN 7 A.M. AND 12 P.M. ON TUESDAY OF EACH WEEK FOR STREET SWEEPING PURPOSES ON BOTH SIDES OF ALBURTIS AVENUE BETWEEN 207TH STREET AND 208TH STREET
- RI-5 RESOLUTION NO. 2003-72; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ESTABLISHING A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS DESIGNATED PARKING SPACE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF 209TH STREET WITHIN THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD

ROUTINE ITEMS: Continued

RI-6 Approval of Monthly Report of Investment Transactions

RI-7 Approval of Agreement for Centre Concession Consultants

RI-8 Acceptance of Notice of Completion for Public Works Contract 02-10, Drilling Well 13A, Beylik Drilling, Inc.

RI-9 Approval of Amendment to 2003 Community Development Action Plan

RI-10 Approval of Amendment to CATV Franchise Performance Bond

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner

1.1 • CDBG PROGRAM CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT FOR FY 2002-2003

Assistant Director of Community Development Jack Gonsalves presented an oral report based on the memorandum in the agenda packet and stated recipients of Community Development Block Grant funding were required to submit an annual performance report called the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) after the close of each program year. He briefly reviewed the accomplishments included in the report such as Community Conservation; Rehabilitation Loan Program; Street Improvements, in CDBG target areas; and Public Services, like Meals on Wheels and Lakewood Hospice. He also reviewed the opportunities for public review and comments. He concluded by recommending the City Council open the public hearing for citizen comment and then direct staff to consider and submit all comments to the local HUD office.

Mayor Esquivel opened the public hearing at 7:40 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter. There was no response.

VICE MAYOR ROGERS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY SECONDED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner

3.1 • CONSIDERATION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO TRAFFIC CIRCULATION AROUND LAKEWOOD CENTER MALL

Senior Planner Sonia Southwell displayed slides and reported that with the October opening of the new Target store at the north end of the Lakewood Mall, and the recent openings of two new restaurants, traffic on Candlewood Street was expected to intensify. Staff had worked with Willdan to study and make recommendations to improve traffic flow on Candlewood Street. Some of the options included changing striping to eliminate certain left turn movements; installation of raised medians; adding a traffic signal and protected pedestrian crossing; and opening a through access at the rear of the uses on the north side of Candlewood Street east of Graywood Avenue. She also presented a plan which would combine the installation of a traffic signal to be located between Graywood and Clark Avenues and re-striping.

Mayor Esquivel inquired about employee parking. Charles Hallums, General Manager of the Lakewood Center Mall, advised that employees of the restaurants on the north side of Candlewood Street were parking in the lot on the south side, west of the Black Angus restaurant.

Council Member Van Nostran expressed concern about synchronization of a new traffic signal with the existing signals to ensure that traffic would not be backing up, especially at the intersection of Clark Avenue and Candlewood Street. He suggested that the signal could be primarily pedestrian-activated.

Responding to a question from Council Member Piercy, Mr. Hallums stated that vehicle access could be provided at the rear of the businesses on the north side of Candlewood Street by removing the walls between East Side Mario's, Starbucks, and the Boston Market locations.

Vice Mayor Rogers stated that while he liked the ideas that had been presented, he would also like staff to take a look at the intersection of Candlewood Street and Lakewood Boulevard to see if left-turn phasing from Candlewood onto Lakewood, although not previously meeting required traffic warrants, would now be a wise, pro-active move that could mitigate anticipated traffic increases in the area.

3.2 • FUNDING PLAN FOR RENOVATION OF LAKEWOOD SHERIFF'S STATION

City Manager Howard Chambers presented an oral report based on the memorandum in the agenda packet and reported that the City had begun studying the feasibility of renovating and expanding the existing Lakewood Sheriff's Station in 2001 and that he had been authorized by the City Council in June of 2003 to meet with L.A. County staff to develop a funding plan for the project. He advised that the draft funding plan would establish a partnership between the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, County Supervisor Don Knabe and the City. The City would secure upfront funding for the construction, which would be repaid by the County, with interest, over a five-year period. He noted that area Congresswoman Linda Sanchez had recently announced her efforts to secure Federal funding for the communication systems and data lines through a pending bill, HR 2799. He concluded by stating that it was

3.2 • FUNDING PLAN FOR SHERIFF'S STATION RENOVATION – Continued

the recommendation of staff that the City Council approve the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department funding plan for the station expansion and direct the City Manager to continue discussions of funding with the County Chief Administrative Officer and the County Board of Supervisors.

Captain Dave Fender, Commander of the Lakewood Sheriff's Station, stated the current configuration of the station was deficient and no longer able to meet operational needs. He displayed slides showing the areas of the station which were in need of improvements, such as the lobby; dispatch/complaint area; assembly room; briefing room; Emergency Operations Center (EOC); kitchen; secretariat; female locker room; and detective bureau. He noted that the proposed renovation would join the two existing building into one facility and add much needed space.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION.

Vice Mayor Rogers stated that although he fully supported the project, his executive position with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department would cause him to abstain from voting on this matter.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piercy, Van Nostran and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner

3.3 • REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUES PROTECTION INITIATIVE

Assistant City Manager Michael Stover presented an oral report based on the memorandum in the agenda packet and stated that the budget recently approved by the State Legislature and the Governor was acknowledged to be, for local governments, the worst budget ever adopted in California history. He noted that while State legislative leaders had promised to backfill monies taken away from local governments, there was no legal obligation for them to so do. He reported that in its upcoming annual conference, the League of California Cities would be presenting an initiative for the November 2004 ballot entitled "Community Services Defense Act." The purpose of the initiative was to protect local taxes and funding sources from further confiscation by the State without a vote of the people. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council review the proposed initiative and provide feedback to the Mayor, as the City's voting representative at the League's annual conference.

3.3 • LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUES PROTECTION INITIATIVE - Continued

Council Member Van Nostran inquired if there were likely to be major changes in the draft initiative. Mr. Stover responded by stating there were many differing priorities among the cities regarding the scope of the initiative and the type of funds needing protection. He advised that it was imperative to have as many cities as possible join in support of the initiative in order to win any respect from the Legislature.

Mayor Esquivel advised that he and Vice Mayor Rogers had met with Lakewood's local legislators to brief them on how State budget decisions would impact Lakewood and that he was prepared to continue the fight to protect local revenue sources.

Council Member Piercy inquired what the next step would be after the League vote. Mr. Stover responded by stating that it was a political process which included a ballot title and summary to be prepared by the California Attorney General and an analysis by the State Legislative Analyst. He stated that there would also be a great need for consensus building among the many local government agencies, districts and interest groups.

Vice Mayor Rogers stated that it was important to stay focused on what was best for Lakewood and support the things that would reflect our community's values and priorities.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND VICE MAYOR ROGERS SECONDED TO CHARGE MAYOR ESQUIVEL WITH REPRESENTING LAKEWOOD'S INTERESTS AT THE LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wagner

At 8:20 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.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Esquivel adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC
City Clerk