



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
January 12, 2016

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

INVOCATION was offered by Mr. David Montgomery, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Boy Scout Troop 711

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Jeff Wood
Vice Mayor Ron Piazza
Council Member Steve Croft
Council Member Diane DuBois
Council Member Todd Rogers

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Wood announced that the meeting would be adjourned in memory of staff member Alma Varela's father-in-law, Joe Varela, who had served in the army during WWII as a member of the 11th Airborne.

The Mayor also announced that Lakewood's annual State of the City Luncheon would be held on January 25th and the Youth Sports Hall of Fame banquet on February 29th.

Council Member Croft, having just returned with Council Member DuBois and Vice Mayor Piazza from the California Contract Cities Association conference in Sacramento, expressed appreciation for the opportunity to meet with State legislators and highlighted the occasion of being present when Assembly Member Rendon had been elected as Speaker of the House.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 3.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held December 3, December 8, December 17, and December 22, 2015

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands

ROUTINE ITEMS: - Continued

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois, Rogers, Piazza, Croft and Wood

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

1.1 • SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-9;
AMENDING MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO MARIJUANA REGULATIONS

City Attorney Steve Skolnik advised that the proposed ordinance had been introduced at the previous City Council meeting and was presented for public hearing and second reading at this time.

Mayor Wood opened the public hearing at 7:39 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter.

Scott Adams, Lakewood, expressed opposition to the cultivation ban stating he felt he was a responsible member of the community and grew his own marijuana for quality control purposes. He requested that the ordinance be amended to regulate and allow personal use growing.

Responding to questions from Council Member Rogers and Vice Mayor Piazza, Mr. Adams stated that his use of marijuana was for medicinal purposes under the recommendation of his doctor and that if he were not able to grow his own that he might be able to find sources in Long Beach but noted that there was no guarantee.

Steven Gregory, Lakewood, also expressed his opposition to the regulations citing his belief that legalizing marijuana would remove the criminal aspects associated with it.

Council Member Rogers asserted that if people were more respectful of their neighbors and did not abuse such privileges and rights, Council could be more supportive of allowing for marijuana cultivation but felt that resident complaints and other negative impacts had to be taken into account.

Council Member Croft concurred with Council Member Rogers' comments and explained that one of the reasons such regulations were being considered at this time had been due to recent changes in State law, which would preclude local authority if no action were taken.

Vice Mayor Piazza stated that he supported allowing people to obtain marijuana for medicinal purposes but that he opposed allowing its cultivation within the City.

1.1 • ORDINANCE NO. 2015-9; AMENDING MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO MARIJUANA REGULATIONS - Continued

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-9; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING ARTICLE IX OF THE LAKEWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE CLARIFYING AND IMPOSING AN EXPRESS PROHIBITION ON MARIJUANA CULTIVATION, PROPAGATION, PRODUCT LABELING, STORING, PROCESSING, TRANSPORTING, DELIVERY, SALES, BARTERS, DISPENSARIES AND COOPERATIVES AND TESTING LABORATORIES IN THE CITY

COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND VICE MAYOR PIAZZA SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2015-9. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois, Rogers, Piazza, Croft and Wood

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

1.2 • INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1; AMENDING SPECIFIC PLAN NO. 2011-2 FOR 500 LAKEWOOD CENTER AND 4301 CANDLEWOOD STREET THROUGH 5021 CANDLEWOOD STREET

Sonia Southwell, Director of Community Development, displayed slides and made a presentation based on the memo in the agenda. She stated that Macerich, owner and property managers of Lakewood Center, had submitted an application to amend and retitle the Lakewood Center Specific Plan and to allow temporary outdoor activities in designated event areas. She added that the current surplus of 306 parking spaces could be used by such events and that temporary outdoor uses such as art shows, car shows, City sponsored events and promotions, recurring farmer's markets and other seasonal uses and displays would be authorized. Each event would be allowed to have promotional, informational and directional signage. The proposed ordinance clarified that additional uses be approved by a Special Event Permit on a discretionary case-by-case basis; limited the initial authorization for such temporary outdoor activities to calendar years 2016-2017; and established a performance review in or after September 2017 and created a procedure by which the City Council could extend the authorization for additional calendar years. She concluded by stating it was the Planning and Environment Commission's recommendation that the City Council introduce the proposed ordinance pertaining to the Lakewood Center Specific Plan to allow temporary outdoor activities in designated event areas and to approve the related negative declaration.

Responding to Council Member Rogers' questions regarding the designation of seasonal events, Ms. Southwell explained that activities and displays such as a Santa's village or pumpkin patch would be determined for approval based on the Specific Plan. She added that at this time, no outdoor activities were allowed and that it was recommended that subsequent to their being held, such events be reviewed for future consideration.

1.2 • INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1; AMENDING SPECIFIC PLAN NO. 2011-2 FOR 500 LAKEWOOD CENTER AND 4301 CANDLEWOOD STREET THROUGH 5021 CANDLEWOOD STREET - Continued

Mayor Wood opened the public hearing at 8:02 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter.

Alan Gafford, Lakewood, offered that the availability of parking spaces at the Mall provided an opportune area to hold such events.

Nicole Flynn, Macerich Regional Vice President of Marketing, responded to an earlier query regarding whether such activities were held at Macerich's other locations by noting that Cerritos Mall recently held a Ride and Drive event.

Vice Mayor Piazza expressed support for allowing mall management to establish Lakewood Center as a place that provided unique opportunities for residents to shop and participate in special activities but stated that he would be reluctant to approve additional events if they were not as successful as anticipated.

Council Member Croft concurred by stating that he appreciated the efforts to make available such innovative events after having received repeated requests from residents for a farmer's market. He also clarified that with regards to the issue of oversight, the eighteen-month period did not have to lapse before a review could be conducted and could occur following the event.

Council Member Rogers, acknowledging the potential for great events, stated he would not support adoption of the ordinance due to his concerns regarding the ability to hold such events by right and that issues such as residents' perceptions of safety and security had not been addressed.

Responding to Mayor Wood's request that the review period be adjusted to allow for feedback by July 2017, Mr. Skolnik clarified that the inclusion of a review date in the plan had been to allow that it would automatically come back but did not indicate that it could not come back sooner. He further advised that as with any other ordinance, it could be rescinded or modified at any time. He added that staff had the administrative ability to prevent permits from being issued for any type of activity and that simply because an item had been listed did not mean it would automatically be approved.

Council Member DuBois stated that Mall management should be allowed the opportunity to provide events they felt responded to the community's needs. She stated that the proposed activities required planning and that ample time should be provided to produce successful events.

Ms. Southwell confirmed for Mayor Wood that while a set schedule had not been provided as yet pending the approval process, a system could be implemented to provide as much advance notice as possible.

1.2 • INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1; AMENDING SPECIFIC PLAN NO. 2011-2 FOR 500 LAKEWOOD CENTER AND 4301 CANDLEWOOD STREET THROUGH 5021 CANDLEWOOD STREET – Continued

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING AND RETITLING THE LAKEWOOD CENTER SIGN PROGRAM SPECIFIC PLAN (2011-2) TO BE THE LAKEWOOD CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN AND TO ALLOW TEMPORARY OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES was read by title by the City Clerk.

VICE MAYOR PIAZZA MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION REGARDING SPECIFIC PLAN 2011-2; CHANGE THE WORDING ON THE ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A PERFORMANCE REVIEW ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 2017; PROVIDE FOR PERIODIC REVIEW NO LESS THAN THREE TIMES A YEAR OF EVENTS CONDUCTED UNDER THIS PLAN; WAIVE FURTHER READING OF THE ORDINANCE, INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1; AND APPROVE THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION.

In response to Council Member Rogers' inquiry, Vice Mayor Piazza stated that it had been his intent in making the motion to leave open whether the periodic review would be conducted by either the Council or by committee to provide feedback on the events.

At the request of Mayor Wood, the City Clerk read the motion on the floor as made by Vice Mayor Piazza.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois, Piazza and Croft

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers and Wood

SUCCESSOR AGENCY ACTIONS

1. Approval of Registers of Demands

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REGISTERS OF DEMANDS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois, Rogers, Piazza, Croft and Wood

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

City Council Minutes

January 12, 2016

Page 6

SUCCESSOR HOUSING ACTIONS

1. Approval of Register of Demands

COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REGISTER OF DEMANDS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois, Rogers, Piazza, Croft and Wood

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

. . .

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

. . .

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Wood adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Joe Varela.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC
City Clerk