



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
October 25, 2016

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

INVOCATION was offered by Ahmed Rafi, Member of the Lakewood Muslim Community

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Girl Scout Troop 1883

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Piazza announced that the recent Community Appreciation Day event at Lakewood Center had been well attended and thanked the Sheriff's Department and City staff for the successful team effort. He noted that the event was perfectly timed to lead into the busy holiday shopping season. The Mayor also announced that it was Red Ribbon Week and expressed the City's support for leading healthy, drug-free lives.

Mayor Piazza introduced U.S. District 47 Representative Alan Lowenthal, who made a presentation of a congressional record plaque to City Manager Howard Chambers on 40 years of service to the City.

Carrie Rogers, Senior Vice President, Business Assistance & Development, and Barbara Levine, Senior District Manager, Los Angeles County Supervisory District 4, of the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation gave a brief presentation regarding Lakewood's nomination as a 2016 Most Business Friendly City in L.A. County finalist.

Mark Dameron, President, Lakewood Rotary Club, made a presentation regarding Project Shepherd. He stated that the program was in its 44th year, and that 391 families had been assisted last year during the holiday season. He concluded by asking Mayor Piazza to consider serving as the honorary chairman. Mayor Piazza stated he would be honored to participate having seen firsthand the good work being done by Rotary and the volunteers.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Vice Mayor DuBois requested that Routine Item 1 be considered separately.

VICE MAYOR DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 2 THROUGH 4.

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands

RI-4 Approval of Bank Account Agreement with Farmers and Merchants Bank of Lakewood

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held October 11, 2016

COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEM 1. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois

2.1 • ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR THE 2017 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

City Attorney Steve Skolnik stated that the resolutions contained in the agenda pertained to the General Municipal Elections to be held on March 7, 2017. He reported that the City had been notified by the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors was expected to call for a Special Countywide Election, to place before voters a ballot measure to address homelessness and other issues, to be held on the same date. He explained that the options provided in the resolutions were for the City to either consolidate with the County if there was a countywide special election held on March 7th or to conduct a standalone election if the County did not hold the special election. He added that as new information had recently become available from the County, the latest revision to the resolution calling for the election included additional elements pertaining to candidate's statements. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council adopt the proposed resolutions regarding the General Municipal Election, and authorize the retention of Martin & Chapman Company for election services and supplies.

2.1 • ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR THE 2017 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION - Continued

a. RESOLUTION NO. 2016-62; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, CALLING AND GIVING NOTICE FOR THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN SAID CITY ON TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017, FOR THE ELECTION OF CERTAIN OFFICERS OF SAID CITY AS REQUIRED BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA PERTAINING TO GENERAL LAW CITIES

b. RESOLUTION NO. 2016-63; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES TO RENDER SPECIFIED SERVICES TO THE CITY RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017

COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS NO. 2016-62 AND NO. 2016-63. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

2.2 • ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2016-64; DECLARING OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION 57 – THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND REHABILITATION ACT OF 2016

Carol Flynn Jacoby, Deputy City Manager, showed a brief video, displayed slides and made a presentation based on the memo in the agenda. She indicated that Proposition 57 would increase parole chances for felons convicted of “non-violent crimes” and would give them more opportunities to earn credits for good behavior. It would also allow judges, not prosecutors, to decide whether to try certain juveniles as adults in court. The proposition qualified for the ballot when Governor Jerry Brown added his plan to overhaul the rules regarding parole eligibility for inmates serving time for non-violent crimes to a proposed ballot initiative that was already being vetted and dealt solely with juvenile justice. In June 2016, the Supreme Court upheld this action and overturned the lower court ruling that initially blocked the measure. On October 6, 2016, the League of California Cities established an oppose position on Proposition 57. The California District Attorneys Association (CDAA) had been the primary opponent of Proposition 57, arguing that the language would introduce drastic changes to sentencing laws, including eligibility for parole that would disregard enhancements such as use of a deadly weapon, commission of a crime to benefit a criminal street gang, or prior prison terms; would disregard consecutive sentences for the commission of multiple offenses; and would provide prison officials with broad authority to award increased conduct credits, including to murderers and rapists. She stated that according to the CDAA, the measure would significantly undermine more than 40 years of criminal justice policies approved by the Legislature and California voters that were designed to enhance public safety and protect crime victims’ rights.

2.2 • RESOLUTION NO. 2016-64; DECLARING OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION 57 – THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND REHABILITATION ACT OF 2016 - Continued

The proposal conflicted with other constitutional and legislative provisions, including the use of enhancements mandated by The Victims' Bill of Rights (Proposition 8), the truth-in-sentencing provisions of Marsy's Law, the treatment of serious juvenile offenders provided in Proposition 21, human trafficking law, and the Three Strikes law. She concluded by stating it was recommended that the City Council join the League of California Cities and adopt the proposed resolution opposing Proposition 57.

Council Member Rogers expressed appreciation for the comprehensive report. He noted that he did not share the Governor's assertion that Proposition 57 would reduce crime. He stated that he believed offenders should be held accountable for criminal activity and that while the state would experience financial savings as claimed by the television advertisements, there would be costs to local governments and communities who were being victimized. Council Member Rogers explained that due to limited resources for diversion or intervention programs, offenders who did not face criminal prosecution lacked the incentive to participate in such efforts outside of prison.

In response to Council Member Wood's inquiry, City Manager Howard Chambers stated that if the proposed resolution were adopted, an eMagazine article would be sent to over 20,000 residents the following day to announce Council's position on Proposition 57.

Mayor Piazza and Vice Mayor DuBois expressed support for the proposed resolution noting that it was important to take a stand to keep the community safe.

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-64; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD DECLARING OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION 57 – THE PUBLIC SAFETY AND REHABILITATION ACT OF 2016

COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2016-64. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

2.3 • ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2016-65; DECLARING SUPPORT FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND SENTENCING IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The Deputy City Manager made a presentation based on the memo in the agenda and reported that after decades of historic lows, crime had been increasing in California communities, including Lakewood. The trend in the state had been to protect perpetrators of crime instead of the victims of their crimes.

2.3 • ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2016-65; DECLARING SUPPORT FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND SENTENCING IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA – Continued

She stated it was important to support and defend the public and our deputy sheriffs and police officers and hold perpetrators of crime accountable for their actions. The public safety realignment of 2011/12 released 58,746 inmates from state prison. Proposition 47 in 2014 downgraded more crimes as misdemeanors which resulted in increasing numbers of offenders staying on city streets instead of being prosecuted and imprisoned. After the implementation of AB 109 and Proposition 47 the state of California experienced 15,000 more violent crimes in 2015 than in 2014. California Department of Justice statistics showed an increase in violent crime of 10 percent in 2015. The upcoming ballot measure Proposition 57 would make changes to the State Constitution to increase the number of inmates eligible for parole consideration and would also result in still higher numbers of offenders on city streets. There was also a disturbing trend toward offenders attacking and killing law enforcement personnel. In the past five years, 52 peace officers in California had been killed in the line of duty – half by gunfire. The effects of decriminalization are dangerous and statewide. To improve this situation the following actions were required: support and defend victims of all crimes; support and defend law enforcement personnel; provide accountability and incentive for rehabilitation for non-violent criminals and drug offenders; to research and deal with the causes of increasing populations of the mentally ill and homeless; and account for the actual cost of decriminalization measures including increased victimization and negative impacts upon neighborhoods. The Public Safety Committee had reviewed the facts/data and believed that for maximum effectiveness, the City should work in cooperation with the California Contract Cities Association, the League of California Cities, and other cities and legislators. She stated it was recommended that the City Council adopt the proposed resolution declaring support for accountability in criminal prosecution and sentencing in the State of California and direct staff to explore opportunities to promote objectives through a public safety summit, developing legislation and coordinating law enforcement appreciation efforts.

Council Member Rogers identified some disturbing trends such as the current focus on the rights of offenders, the recent attacks on law enforcement and the approval to proceed with construction of a jail facility that at its opening would be overcrowded. He encouraged a coordinated effort among elected officials and government organizations to take tangible steps to express appreciation to law enforcement and to support victims of crime throughout the state.

Mayor Piazza urged his Council colleagues, as well-respected members of the community, to support the proposed resolution stating that taking a stand on the issue would send a clear message of its importance to other cities.

Council Member Wood suggested that as the City's representative on the California Contract Cities Association, he could bring the issue to the attention of the Executive Committee at their next meeting.

2.3 • ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2016-65; DECLARING SUPPORT FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND SENTENCING IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA – Continued

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-65; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD DECLARING SUPPORT FOR ACCOUNTABILITY IN CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND SENTENCING IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2016-65 AND FOR COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO PRESENT THE MATTER TO THE CALIFORNIA CONTRACT CITIES ASSOCIATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

3.1 • ADAPTIVE RECREATION/SPECIAL OLYMPICS ANNUAL REPORT

Recreation and Community Services Director Lisa Litzinger displayed slides and made a presentation based on the memo in the agenda. She stated that the City had offered the Adaptive Recreation and Special Olympics programs serving the needs of intellectually, developmentally and physically disabled individuals. She reported that over the years, the two programs had steadily grown, making a difference in the lives of the participants and providing equal recreation and leisure opportunities for people with special needs.

Chuck Martucci, Community Services Supervisor, stated that he was honored to oversee the program and to work with the athletes. He introduced Lorraine Delarosa, Zina Egbert, Jimmy Goff, Dustin Plunkett and Ana Goff, who shared their experiences with the programs.

Mayor Piazza commended the athletes, coaches and participants of the Adaptive Recreation and Special Olympics programs and recognized Chuck Martucci for his efforts in their success.

Council Member Croft stated that in his interactions with parents and guardians of the participants, they provided positive feedback and expressed appreciation for the program and the fundraising efforts.

3.2 • PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR LAKEWOOD BOULEVARD REGIONAL CORRIDOR CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Lisa Rapp, Director of Public Works, made a presentation based on the memo in the agenda and stated that the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) had provided a grant of \$3,600,000 in Measure R Funds for improvements as part of the Lakewood Boulevard Regional Corridor Capacity Enhancement Project and that the City Council had previously approved a Funding Agreement for design, plans, specifications and

3.2 • PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR LAKEWOOD BLVD. REGIONAL CORRIDOR CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT - Continued

estimates and project development. The funds would come from LACMTA share of Measure R and were not the local return allocated to the City. She explained that there would be a future funding agreement for the construction phase and the final plans and specifications were scheduled to be completed at the end of 2017. It was staff's recommendation that the City Council authorize staff to approve Willdan's proposal to provide preliminary engineering design services for the project in the amount of \$678,185.

Council Member Croft commented that after discussing the proposed improvements at a previous study session, he looked forward to the next phase of the project which would provide the Council with the opportunity to comprehensively review potential enhancements and ensure that the projected modifications did not result in being detrimental to the community.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

SUCCESSOR HOUSING ACTIONS

1. Approval of Register of Demands

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

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Piazza adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC
City Clerk