

1996 06 24 SS

LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

MINUTES

Monday, June 24, 1996

Clover Park School District

Student Services Center, Rooms 6A and B

Lakewood, WA 98499

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 6 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Ann Kirk Davis, Doug Richardson, Colleen Henry, and JosÃ© Palmas.

Councilmember Excused: 1 - Councilmember Sherri Thomas.

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Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlf; City Attorney Dan Heid; Finance Director Galen Kidd; Community Development Director David Bugher; Civil Engineer Ken Gunther; Human Resources Administrator Debra Young; Police Chief Nik Dunbar; and City Clerk Alice Bush.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deputy Mayor Thomas by request of Mayor Harrison.

PUBLIC HEARING

This is the date set for a public hearing on the proposed ordinance relative to watercraft regulations in the City of Lakewood.

Speaking before the Council were:

Herb Dayton, 10823 Evergreen Terrace SW, Lake Steilacoom Improvement Club President, spoke about the hours, speed and use of watercrafts on lakes and suggested a few modifications to the ordinance.

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Larry Else, American Lake Improvement Club President, spoke about the need for additional enforcement of existing rules on the lakes.

Barry Miller, 5902 53rd St. Ct. W., spoke about watercraft safety concerns, requiring a licensing system to operate a watercraft, designating paddle boat and ski areas.

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Dean Hunter, 9818 DeKoven Dr. SW, spoke about safety on boats, such as lights, fire extinguishers, floatation devices

and safety flags when a skier was down.

Stephen May, 2315 Westridge Avenue, rental boat owner, spoke about safety training, enforcement and funding sources.

Hans Marx, 9018 Dolly Madison SW, spoke about the lack of enforcement on lakes and drunk drivers operating water vessels.

Steve Thompson, 10908 Meadow Road SW, spoke against limiting the hours of use on Steilacoom Lake, regulations under the bridge, enforcement issues, and a program to deputize volunteers for patrolling the lakes.

Ms. Damos, Lakewood resident, spoke about the noise generated by jet skis, swimming in the lake, and the need for more policing.

Paul Nogus, 7222 Interlaaken, Lake Steilacoom Water Ski Club, recommended reinstating deputies to police the lakes.

Nancy Proudman, 9008 Edgewater Drive, expressed concern about using the Sea Scouts to handle boating traffic, especially when dealing with drunk water vessel operators. She commented that the response time by safety volunteers on the lake was faster than the Pierce County Sheriff, because the Sheriff deputies had to call a volunteer to obtain access to a vessel. She also commented that the deputies who patrolled the lake relied on the volunteers knowledge of water regulations and most of the time the deputies who were on patrol were on overtime.

George Proudman, 9008 Edgewater Drive, indicated that the times when Sheriff deputies policed the lakes were times when there was not heavy traffic.

Greg Horn, 747 Holly Hedge Lane, spoke about opening the boat launch on Gravelly Lake to relieve American and Steilacoom Lakes. He recommended that skiing under the Steilacoom Lake Bridge be prohibited and he opposed early morning watercraft noise.

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Joe Still, DeKoven Drive, spoke about safety issues on the lakes and supported the volunteer deputized program and prompt response time.

Ann Stoltz, 178 Lake Louise Drive, spoke about setting the Lake Louise skiing time between 10:30 a.m. to one-half hour before sunset and that these hours be posted at public accesses.

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Darrell Giles, 7238 Interlaaken Drive, spoke about placing a street light at 7238 Interlaaken for safety reasons.

Carol Ware, 103 Westshore, asked if the legal sunrise and sunset times were those published in the newspaper.

Dave Anderson, 11721 Creekside Drive, spoke about designating a practice area on American Lake two days a week for personal watercraft practice.

Scott Robinson, 4 Lake Louise Drive, spoke about using the Coast Guard auxiliary for training purposes.

Richard Rabisa, 2 Thorne Lane, questioned if the proposed ordinance covered para sailing and if insurance was required to operate jet skis. He also questioned the jurisdiction of enforcement of American Lake when the boundaries of the lake were also in the jurisdiction of the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Dan Spruceterback, Country Club Drive, asked how the operator of a personal watercraft rental operation was able to obtain a license from Ft. Lewis.

Doug Smith, watercraft operator, spoke about designating areas for personal watercraft racing and training of safety rules.

Bob Saxton, 9406 Veterans Drive, spoke about the noise level on the lake and boaters using the Pierce County float as a personal launch in American Lake.

There being no further testimony, the hearing was declared closed at 8:45 p.m.

Council recessed at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 8:52 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

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Briefing on Rainier Cable Commission

Mayor Leonard Sanderson, President of the Rainier Cable Commission, gave a brief presentation on the history of the Rainier Cable Commission. He indicated that there are fourteen cities in Pierce County who are members of the Commission and the fee for membership is $\frac{1}{2}$ of one percent of the revenues generated for cable. Mr. Bill Oltman, Coordinator for the Rainier Cable Commission, then discussed what benefits Lakewood would receive by joining the Commission. He explained that the Rainier Cable Commission, for an annual membership fee of approximately \$33,000, would negotiate the franchise for Lakewood, provide rate regulation services, financial consultant services and programming on Channel 28. Discussion ensued on the services that the Commission could provide.

Community Development Block Grant Funding Options

City Manager Rohlfs introduced Ms. Linda Ishem from the Pierce County Consortium, who was present to answer any questions the Council may have about the Consortium.

Community Development Director Bugher reported on the options for receiving Community Development Block Grant and Emergency Shelter Grant funds. He indicated that \$4.5 million was allocated to Pierce County for funding. He explained that if the City joined the Consortium, the City is obligated to stay in the Consortium for three years. The concerns with joining the Consortium include no Lakewood representation on the Board that makes recommendations on funding allocations, and there is no minimum guaranteed level of funding for Lakewood. Community Development Director Bugher explained that if Lakewood were to become an entitlement city, over the long term, entitlement can potentially provide the City with a higher level of funding. He explained that due to timing constraints, the decision of joining the Consortium must be made no later than July 1, 1996. If the City were to seek entitlement, it would take the City a significant amount of time (approximately one year) and cost (\$100,000) to prepare a Consolidated Plan in order to become eligible for entitlement.

Discussion ensued on the benefits of joining the Consortium versus becoming an entitlement city. Ms. Ishem explained that in terms of minimum funding, there would be minimum funding provided for the Tillicum Community Center because that Center was at the top of the needs assessment list. She further explained that the funding formula for the Department of Housing and Urban Development allocations were complex and if Lakewood became an entitlement city, it would be difficult to determine how the Consortium would be impacted. Discussion ensued on the funding level of the Tillicum food bank, staffing levels to administer the program if the City became an entitlement city, program income

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generated by Community Development Block Grant agency recipients and the staff time and cost for preparing a Consolidated Plan.

Speaking before the Council were:

Jim Taylor, Tillicum resident, spoke in support of joining the Consortium for a three year period.

Mr. MacKinnon, Tillicum resident, reiterated Jim Taylor's comments.

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Richard Rabisa, Tillicum resident, indicated that now that Lakewood is a city, the City should take control.

Forrest Thompson, Tillicum resident, indicated he was not clear about the options.

Review of Punch Board Gambling Tax Activity

Finance and Systems Director Kidd reviewed the impact on revenues to the City if the punch board gambling tax was reduced from five percent to three percent. He indicated that the City would incur a loss of \$2,017.84. Discussion ensued on the businesses that would be impacted. Councilmembers requested that an ordinance be prepared for Council's consideration reducing the tax rate for punch board activity from five to three percent.

Hearing Examiner Temporary Appointment

City Manager Rohlfs reported that there are four candidates who have applied for the position of Hearing Examiner. He explained that because there is a need to have a hearing on the Lakewood Water District application next week, confirmation of an appointment for a temporary Hearing Examiner will be before the Council for appointment next week. He indicated that the permanent appointment for a Hearing Examiner should be before the Council within two weeks.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR THE JULY 1, 1996 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

1. Hearing Examiner temporary appointment

2. Amending Sections 5.02.120, 5.02.130, 5.02.060, 5.35.090, 5.37.080 and 5.48.040 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to business license late fees.

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3. Creating Chapter 8.60 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to watercraft regulations.

City Attorney Heid asked for clarification on the changes to the draft watercraft regulations ordinance to be prepared for next week's Council meeting.

Mayor Harrison requested that the punch board tax ordinance be brought before the Council next week for consideration.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs reported that one CJRO officer will be used in Lakewood and Police Chief Dunbar has requested to secure another CJRO officer as budgeted. Council concurred with securing another CJRO officer.

City Manager Rohlfs asked for Council's direction on how to proceed with the Community Development Block Grant option. The Council concurred with joining the Consortium for a three year period and continue to work on seeking entitlement after the three year period.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Davis announced that Councilmembers had one day to return any comments about the topics for discussion at the August 16 City Council retreat.

Councilmember Henry asked when the remodeling of the basement at People's Plaza would be completed. City Manager Rohlfs replied that the remodeling of the Court Administration area is proposed to be completed by July 15, 1996.

Mayor recessed to executive session for approximately 30 minutes to discuss personnel matters.

Council recessed at 11:05 p.m. and reconvened at 11:50 p.m.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC

CITY CLERK