

1996 09 09 SS

LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

MINUTES

Monday, September 9, 1996

Lake City Community Center

12207 Alameda Avenue SW

Lakewood, WA 98498

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Councilmembers Excused: 1 - Councilmember JosÃ© Palmas

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Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; City Attorney Dan Heid; Finance and Systems Director Galen Kidd; Community Development Director David Bugher; Police Chief Nik Dunbar; Engineering Manager Bill Larkin; Human Resources Administrator Debi Young; Civil Engineer Ken Gunther; and General Services Director/City Clerk Alice Bush.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Galen Kidd by request of Mayor Harrison.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs reported that there were about 100 people in attendance at the September 5, 1996, City-sponsored Community Forum on the Arrowhead/Partridge Glen annexation. He indicated that there were approximately 23 individuals who attended a similar forum sponsored by the Town of Steilacoom on September 6, 1996. Deputy Mayor Thomas stated that the panelists did a good job being as neutral and factual as possible.

City Manager Rohlfs reported that there will be a newspaper article on a

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recent domestic violence situation. He then called on Police Chief Nik

Dunbar to present the facts on the situation. Chief Dunbar distributed copies of the complaint history of the 9-1-1 call. He explained the reasons why it took an hour and fifteen minutes to respond to the call. He indicated that at the time the domestic call came in, police officers were in pursuit of another priority call, and the supervisor taking the domestic call and the 9-1-1 communication center could have handled the call more diligently.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Designing the Police Department

Police Chief Nik Dunbar distributed copies of the Police Department's organizational structure. He then reviewed the functional areas of the Department including traffic, operations, special operations and criminal investigations. He

explained that during any shift, a minimum staffing of five officers are assigned on the streets. Discussion ensued on police morale and Council setting policies and priorities on the work activities of the police force.

In response to an earlier request by Mayor Harrison to investigate a missing child report, Chief Dunbar explained that on September 5, 1996, at 11:00 p.m. a missing 14 year old child was reported to the Police Department. Chief Dunbar explained that if a child is over 12 years old and has a history of running away, a phone report only is taken on the call. He further explained that an officer is dispatched only if the child is handicapped or the caller suspects that foul play is involved. He reported that on this particular incident, the child had a history of running away and returned home at 6:30 p.m. on September 6, 1996.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Scott Wood, 10518 Newman, asked if Lakewood Police officers were allowed to drive police vehicles home. He then indicated that he couldn't understand why it took a police officer an hour and a half to issue five parking tickets around American Lake. Chief Dunbar replied that an officer must take time to run a registration on the license plate before a citation is issued, and it takes time to get a response.

Richard Rabisa, Tillicum resident, asked about the placement of street lights around American Lake.

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Scott Wood, 10518 Newman, asked for more enforcement on the sign ordinance, specifically signs that continue to be nailed to utility poles.

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Forrest Thompson, Tillicum resident, commented that the "Welcome to Lakewood" sign at the entrance to Tillicum is continually being used to post yard sale signs. He suggested that the phone numbers on the signs be taken down and that the owners be warned the first time and then fined the second time they put up signs.

Betty Rabisa, Tillicum resident, commented that the fence around a business at Union Avenue and Maple Avenue is creating a traffic visibility hazard. Engineering Manager Larkin, responded that he did check this location in the past, and found that the fence is located within the property owner's boundary. He explained that the only way the fence could be removed is if the City sought an easement from the property owner.

Betty Rabisa, Tillicum resident, commented that the fence around a business at Union Avenue and Maple Avenue is creating a traffic visibility hazard. Engineering Manager Larkin, responded that he did check this location in the past, and found that the fence is located within the property owner's boundary. He explained that the only way the fence could be removed is if the City sought an easement from the property owner.

Mrs. Roe, Tillicum resident, commented that there was a school bus parked next to her property in which people were living without electricity and water.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Review of street lighting proposals by Puget Sound Power and Light, Tacoma City Light and Lakeview Power and Light.

Civil Engineer Ken Gunther reviewed the street lighting proposals by Tacoma City Light, Puget Sound Power and Light and Lakeview Power and Light to install street lights along all principal and minor arterial streets within their respective boundaries. He explained that it was staff's recommendation to proceed with executing agreements with each of the three purveyors in the amount of approximately one-third of \$50,000 to each purveyor to provide street lighting in the city limits of Lakewood. Discussion ensued about the impacts if deregulation were to occur, how the franchise for the electrical utility could be impacted, ways to facilitate residential street lighting with the implementation of arterial street lighting; franchise agreement negotiation options on service boundaries and the uniformity of the type of street lights installed. City Engineer Larkin indicated that if the Council decided to proceed with the agreements, it would be mid-November when installation of these street lights would begin.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR THE SEPTEMBER 16, 1996 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

1. Review of street lighting proposals by Puget Sound Power and Light, Tacoma City Light and Lakeview Power and Light.

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2. Establishing the ICMA Retirement Corporation Prototype Money Purchase Retirement Plan and Trust to separate the replacement plans for Social Security and the State Public Employment Retirement System. - (Resolution)

3. Proclamation declaring the week of September 17-23, 1996, as *Constitution Week*.

There were no comments.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlf indicated that in earlier discussions of the 1996 budget amendments, it was reported that the City was interested in securing three part-time Community Development interns. After further review, staff is now requesting approval to secure four part-time interns to work on the land use inventory base to be completed by April 1997. He explained that funding for this position would come from the Growth Management Act State grant. Council agreed to proceed with securing four part-time interns.

City Manager Rohlf reported that a meeting was held with Pierce County to discuss the police contract, overtime compensation and the budget. He explained that approximately \$3,029 was allotted for overtime compensation per officer totaling approximately \$210,000. He indicated that there have been costs being spent through overtime. One such area has been for the Court's use for transports. It was agreed the categories in the base unit cost would be defined and a determination made on what would create overtime. Court transports of defendants would be an area that would be outside of the base unit cost, and is something that the Police Chief and City would be responsible for monitoring and controlling in overtime costs. This is an item being budgeted in the City's budget. He indicated that a proposed agreement with Pierce County is being developed that defines the unit cost outside the contract.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Henry announced that the POW/MIA luncheon will be held on September 19, 1996, at 11:30 a.m.

Councilmember Richardson thanked staff for their responses to Council's requests for information.

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Councilmember Davis announced that she will be arriving to next week's Council meeting a few minutes late because of a presentation she will be making to the Puyallup City Council on the Regional Transit proposal.

Councilmember Davis then presented a Lakewood Flyers T-shirt to Mayor Harrison as the honorary member of the Lakewood Flyers.

Councilmember Thomas reported that the Ad Hoc Committee meeting with McChord Air Force Base scheduled for September 6, 1996, was canceled and will be rescheduled. By request of an interested citizen, she asked if a school crossing sign could be placed at Lakes High School. Engineering Manager Larkin suggested that the words "school crossing" across the pavement may be a better solution rather than a sign, especially around a high school.

Deputy Mayor Thomas announced that the Social Service Group will be meeting on Wednesday, September 11, 1996. She then distributed copies of the group's vision and mission statements. She indicated that a meeting with policy makers from United Way, Pierce County and the Health Department is scheduled for September 30, 1996, to share the work being done with the Social Service Group and discuss how the City can partner with these agencies.

Mayor Harrison announced that Pierce Transit is conducting a public hearing on October 28, 1996, to receive input on expanding public transit.

Mayor Harrison asked City Attorney Heid for an update on the Court's decision on the sign ordinance with regard to the Laurel Oaks' sign. City Attorney Heid indicated that the City requested that the Court bring this matter to trial and

the Court made a decision that this matter be taken to trial.

Mayor Harrison asked for an update on the City's position to provide Court services for University Place. City Manager Rohlfs indicated that staff developed preliminary cost figures and determined that we could provide services within the funding levels proposed by Pierce County. However, the figures provided by Pierce County seemed to indicate some discrepancy in revenues generated in terms of what would be the State's share versus a City's share. Staff is currently awaiting a response from University Place for clarification on these figures and if University Place would want the City to seriously proceed with a proposal.

Mayor Harrison indicated that there are seven to nine cabaret businesses that have paid \$500 to Pierce County and \$500 to Lakewood for a business license. He indicated that these businesses shouldn't have to pay two fees and asked if staff would investigate this matter.

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Mayor Harrison informed Councilmembers that he will be drafting a letter to the Clover Park School District for Council's review suggesting that a joint meeting of the Council and the School Board be held each school year. Councilmember Davis suggested that there also be consideration of establishing communication with the Boards of Pierce College and Clover Park Technical College.

City Manager Rohlfs announced that the Beautification Committee will be holding a clean-up day on October 19, 1996.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC

CITY CLERK