

1996 10 14 SS

LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

MINUTES

Monday, October 14, 1996

City of Lakewood

City Council Chambers

9315 Gravelly Lake Drive SW

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, Colleen Henry, JosÃ© Palmas and Sherri Thomas.

Councilmembers Excused: 1 - Councilmember Doug Richardson (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

Councilmembers Excused: 1 - Councilmember Doug Richardson (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; City Attorney Dan Heid; Deputy City Manager Andy Neiditz; Community Development Director David Bugher; Engineering Manager Bill Larkin; Police Chief Nik Dunbar; 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 Ms. Rita Happy by request of Mayor Harrison.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs reminded the Council that a joint meeting of the City Council and Clover Park School District Board will be held on October 29, 1996, at 7:00 p.m., in the Clover Park School District Board Room. Deputy Mayor Thomas asked if the report on the human services collaboration effort could be added to that agenda. Mayor Harrison indicated that he will be working on specific agenda item topics with the school district board for finalization.

City Council Study Session Agenda Minutes -2- October 14, 1996

City Manager Rohlfs announced that the Pierce County Council will be meeting on October 29, 1996, at 4:00 p.m., to consider the City of Lakewood's Urban Growth Boundary amendments.

City Manager Rohlfs indicated that the interlocal agreement with Pierce County with regard to parks and recreation and surface water management is scheduled for the City Council study session on October 28, 1996.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation declaring the month of October 1996, as *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*.

Mayor Harrison presented a proclamation declaring the month of October 1996, as *Domestic Violence Awareness Month* to Ms. Karen Burgess, City of Lakewood's Domestic Violence Advocate volunteer. Ms. Burgess then recited several statements from victims of domestic violence.

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Adopting the 1996 City of Lakewood Budget amendments.

City Manager Rohlfs reviewed the revenue and expenditure summaries of all funds. He noted that the 1996 adjusted budget amounts to \$17,305,280, which is down \$1,001,460 from the adopted 1996 budget. He then reviewed the City's Streets Fund, Arterial Streets Fund, Surface Water Management Fund and Municipal Capital Improvement Fund.

Discussion ensued on the reasons for the variation of various revenues and expenditures from the original 1996 adopted budget.

Mayor Harrison then asked if there were any members from the audience wishing to provide comments on the 1996 budget amendments.

Speaking before the Council was:

*J. B. Layne, Lakewood resident, indicated that the amendments to the 1996 budget seemed to follow the Transition Team recommendations.*

*Review of the 1997 City of Lakewood Budget.*

Review of the 1997 City of Lakewood Budget.

City Manager Rohlfs indicated that tonight's budget presentation will be focused on revenues. He then reviewed the proposed revenue projections for 1997,

City Council Study Session Agenda Minutes -3- October 14, 1996

amounting to \$27,395,280. The 1997 budget proposes an enhanced code enforcement program, public safety, GIS system, human services needs, provisions for a City Hall, initiation of a Comprehensive Plan and a domestic

violence victims' advocate program. He then explained that 27.1 percent of the General Fund is made up of revenues from property taxes; 41.4 percent from sales tax equalization; 12.2 percent from all other revenues and 19.3 percent from all other taxes.

City Manager Rohlfs indicated that in 1997 property owners will see a property tax reduction of \$2.20/\$1000 for road tax; however, the City will be charging \$1.60/\$1000 for a general City tax. This creates an overall net reduction of \$.60/\$1000 for property owners.

City Manager Rohlfs then explained that in the total General Fund budget, 62 percent of the General Fund is appropriated for public safety and 38 percent is allocated for other departmental services.

Mayor Harrison asked how does the Council address the high public safety budget. City Manager Rohlfs replied that as long as the Council and citizens are comfortable with the level of service being provided at that rate, it tells the City what the needs of the citizens are. City Manager Rohlfs further explained that in order to address the higher public safety costs there either must be an increase in revenues or a decrease in expenditures. He explained that one method for increasing revenue is to increase sales tax in the community by making better commercial use of lands that are undeveloped. Discussion then ensued on the possibility of a billboard tax. Mayor Harrison asked if there were any citizens in the audience who wished to provide public comment.

*Forrest Thompson, Lakewood resident, commented on leaving the property taxes at the current level. He suggested that the Council not lower taxes and then raise them later. He also suggested that revenue streams be taken into consideration and analyzed when passing ordinances.*

## ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR THE OCTOBER 21, 1996, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

1. Adopting the 1996 City of Lakewood Budget amendments.
2. Public hearing on the proposed 1996 City of Lakewood Budget amendments.

City Council Study Session Agenda Minutes -4- October 14, 1996

3. Setting Monday, November 18, 1996, at approximately 7:00 p.m., as the date for a public hearing by the City Council

on the proposed 1997 City of Lakewood Budget and the mill levy rate. - (Consent Agenda)

4. Amending Ordinance No. 71 relative to the Municipal Court. - (Ordinance)

5. Authorizing the execution of an amendment to the agreement with John Feutz for Municipal Court Judge services. - (Resolution)

6. Creating Chapter 12.24 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to a Commute Trip Reduction Program. - (Ordinance)

7. Authorizing the City Manager to develop and execute an interlocal agreement with Pierce County to provide Commute Trip Reduction Program services for the City of Lakewood. - (Resolution)

City Council Study Session Agenda Minutes -4- October 14, 1996

There were no comments.

#### **BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Rohlf asked if the Council could schedule two budget workshops for October 17 and October 22, 1996, to review the departmental budgets on expenditures. The Council agreed to hold budget workshops on October 17, 1996, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., and on October 21, 1996, beginning at 5:00 p.m. prior to the regular City Council meeting.

City Manger Rohlf reported that the Beautification Committee has requested that Councilmembers participate in a clean-up of Gravelly Lake Drive from Steilacoom Boulevard to 100th Street on Saturday, October 19, 1996, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Richardson asked if a one-time pick-up of hazardous waste materials has been scheduled. He also asked when will garbage pick-ups become mandatory.

Councilmember Palmas asked what impact would the closure of East McChord Gate and the opening of another gate have on the City of Lakewood. Engineering Manager Larkin indicated that the closure would not have any impact on the City.

Councilmember Thomas expressed strong support for litigating crimes to the highest level possible. She expressed concern about felony crimes that have been downgraded to municipal courts. City Attorney Heid indicated there is a large number of cases that are possible felonies that the prosecuting attorneys

City Council Study Session Agenda Minutes -5- October 14, 1996

have been processing including domestic violence cases. He indicated that not all of the defendants take their parole seriously and those who refuse to do what is required, the prosecuting attorneys have put these people in jail.

Mayor Harrison announced that the City won its first major court case regarding the Harr Family Homes.

Mayor Harrison reported that Pierce County has been pressing the City for an answer on the Cross Base Highway Project. They have also requested that the City address the Woodbrook issue.

Mayor Harrison requested that a meeting be scheduled with he, Councilmember Thomas, and the City Manager as soon as possible.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Harrison announced that the Council would recess into Executive Session for approximately 45 minutes to discuss personnel matters.

The Council recessed at 10:00 p.m. and reconvened at 10:45 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

---

**BILL HARRISON, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

---

**ALICE M. BUSH, CMC**

**CITY CLERK**