

1997 01 06 and Joint Mtg/Legislators

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, January 6, 1997

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 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 7 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Ann Kirk Davis; Colleen Henry; JosÃ© Palmas; Doug Richardson and Sherri Thomas.

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

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Harrison.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs indicated that the Council was recently provided with an update on the storm damage. He complimented Engineering Manager Larkin for an excellent job on coordinating the clean-up after the storm. Engineering Manager Larkin reported on the flooding damage on 88th Street and South Tacoma Way, the Sylvan Apartments and the Lakewood Refuse area. He also reported on the flooding problems along Clover Creek. He thanked the Fire District for their help for sandbagging. Engineering Manager Larkin also noted that the pond by the Hidden Lake Apartments was also getting close to flooding the lower level apartments. He then provided an update on the Lakewood Refuse storm debris pick up program during the weeks of January 20 and 27, 1997. Mayor Harrison requested that an after the storm review be held with the Council to review any trends and discuss ways to better prepare the City should another disaster occur.

City Manager Rohlfs reported that in 1996 the City had issued building permits with a valuation totaling approximately \$60 million. He indicated that \$510,000 of revenues were received.

City Manager Rohlfs indicated that the City had budgeted for two community service officers to provide courtroom transport services. He noted that after the City had advertised for these positions the County expressed some concerns about the supervision and oversight of these transport officers. The County has since proposed to provide two trained commissioned corrections officers at 24 hours per week for each officer for an equivalent of 48 hours a week. Included in the proposal, the County would provide for a vehicle to transport the defendants. The cost of the County's proposal is \$72,700. City Manager Rohlfs indicated that the City had budgeted approximately \$110,000 for court transports including the purchase of a van. He indicated that this would save the City approximately \$34,000 which could be used for community public safety services. Councilmember Thomas requested that the Council be

provided with the cost parameters should the number of hours go under or over the 48 hours per week for the two corrections officers.

City Manager Rohlfs then distributed copies of the legislative issues that the Council will be discussing with the Washington State 28th District legislators at 8:00 p.m. tonight.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Update on Lakewood Police Activities

Police Chief Dunbar introduced Lieutenant Eileen Bisson of the Patrol and Traffic Division, Lieutenant Rob Masko of the Investigations Unit and Sergeant John Solheim of the Special Operations Unit.

Lieutenant Bisson provided an overview of the 1996 Patrol personnel staffing pattern and reviewed the number of calls responded to. She indicated that the Patrol Division responded to 36,707 calls in 1995 and 34,003 calls in 1996. Lieutenant Bisson then reviewed the organizational chart for the Traffic Division. She then reviewed the traffic statistics for the period April 29 through December 29, 1996.

Lieutenant Masko provided an overview of the Investigations Unit organizational chart and the two homicide teams. He then reviewed the number of incidents filed in 1995 and 1996 and reviewed the trends in Lakewood. He noted that the major drain on police resources and time are related to gang assaults and activities.

Sergeant Solheim, Special Operations Unit, indicated that there were four officers in his unit that work on drugs, gangs, vice and lesser serial crimes.

Police Chief Dunbar reported that during the recent storm, the crime activity was significantly reduced. There were only a few domestic violence calls.

Land Use Inventory Update

The land use inventory update was postponed to another meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Speaking before the Council were:

Catherine Kaser, 335 Lake Louise Drive, spoke on the Harr development project on Lake Louise and requested that the City support Pierce County's recommendation on the construction of 36 homes on 9.5 acres.

Forrest Thompson, 14716 Portland Avenue, asked who is responsible for the removal of broken branches still hanging on trees. He also expressed concerns about the junk vehicle ordinance.

J. B. Layne, Lakewood resident, expressed confusion about the storm debris pick up schedule.

C O N S E N T A G E N D A

- A. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of December 16, 1996.**
- B. Approval of payroll vouchers in the amount of \$88,389.43 for the period December 1-15, 1996.**
- C. Approval of payroll vouchers in the amount of \$118,754.29 for the period December 16-31, 1996.**
- D. Approval of claim vouchers in the amount of \$1,067,661.76 for the period ending December 31, 1996.**

COUNCILMEMBER DAVIS MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR THOMAS. COUNCILMEMBER RICHARDSON NOTED A CORRECTION TO PAGE ONE OF THE DECEMBER

16, 1996, MINUTES THAT HE IS THE COMMANDER OF A BATTALION OF THE 91ST DIVISION ON FORT LEWIS. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R E G U L A R A G E N D A

RESOLUTIONS

[Resolution No. 1997-1](#) expressing the City of Lakewood's support for diversity in public employment.

COUNCILMEMBER HENRY MOVED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 1997-1. SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR THOMAS. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council recessed at 8:05 p.m. to begin the meeting with the Washington State 28th District legislators.

Council reconvened at 10:20 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs distributed copies of City employees' e-mail addresses.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Henry indicated that she distributed copies of a press release on the contest for the City birthday to Councilmembers. She asked Councilmembers to provide her with any ideas they may have for the birthday celebration.

Councilmember Palmas indicated that he agreed with the Mayor on having a storm debriefing.

Mayor Harrison announced that the annual general assembly meeting of the Pierce County Regional Council will be held on January 16, 1997, at Steilacoom City Hall at probably 7:00 p.m. Mayor Harrison also indicated that the Intercity Rail Connection second meeting will be held on January 18, 1997, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Lakewood Mall.

Mayor Harrison announced that Bob Arndt was appointed to serve on the Pierce County Boundary Review Board.

Mayor Harrison recessed to executive session for approximately 40 minutes to discuss potential litigation and the acquisition of rental or real property.

Council recessed at 10:25 p.m. and reconvened at 11:36 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:36 p.m.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC

CITY CLERK

**JOINT MEETING OF THE LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL AND WASHINGTON STATE 28TH DISTRICT LEGISLATORS
MINUTES**

Monday, January 6, 1997

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CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Councilmembers Present: 7 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Ann Kirk Davis; Colleen Henry; Jos   Palmas; Doug Richardson and Sherri Thomas.
Washington State 28th District Legislators Present: 3 - Senator Shirley Winsley; Representatives Mike Carrell and Gigi

Talcott.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Harrison welcomed and introduced the 28th District legislators and asked if they would like to provide opening comments.

Senator Winsley commented on the status of the sales tax equalization fund and indicated that a new formula will need to be developed because of the number of incorporations occurring in the State.

Representative Talcott expressed the need to restore the motor vehicle excise tax. She then commented about the jail sales tax.

Mayor Harrison expressed concern that citizens be taxed only a one time charge for a jail and eliminate a double charge. City Manager Rohlf explained that Pierce County is currently charging a daily rate for the use of the jail and the County also collects a tax from the citizens for a jail facility.

Representative Carrell thanked the Council for the opportunity to begin a dialog and working relationship with the Council.

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DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Mayor Harrison indicated that the sales tax equalization fund makes up between 22.3 to 22.5 percent of the General Fund operating revenues for the City and is an important revenue source for the City. He noted that the motor vehicle excise tax also impacts the City in sales tax, criminal justice and public safety.

Mayor Harrison indicated that the City Attorney has been working with the Washington State Department of Ecology on the treatment of Lake Steilacoom. He asked the legislators for their support to seek a long-term solution to the problems of Lake Steilacoom. Representative Talcott indicated that the legislature will be focusing on this problem. She indicated that a report on the recommendation for treatment of Lake Steilacoom will be available in April 1998. Senator Winsley indicated that it was her understanding that the permit for the treatment on Lake Steilacoom was for two years. City Manager Rohlf indicated that the permit for treatment of Lake Steilacoom expired on October 15, 1996. He noted that the Department of Ecology is doing some additional testing. Representative Carrell expressed his support to continue with the treatment of Lake Steilacoom for an additional year.

Mayor Harrison expressed the importance of transportation funding for the City's infrastructure and asked for legislative support in this area. Senator Winsley indicated that transportation funding was a top priority in her mind, especially with the recent damages from the storm to rebuild the infrastructure and damages that were sustained. Councilmember Richardson expressed concern about why the road tax could not be maintained by the City instead of the County.

Councilmember Palmas commented that through the Telecommunications Act, the abilities of cities to manage its right-of-ways is being taken away from cities. Representative Talcott indicated that there may be a need to more tightly regulate the industry to control what happens in the long-term.

Mayor Harrison indicated that property taxes make up 28 percent of the City's revenue. Representative Carrell indicated that the legislature is not looking at the City's ability to tax but looking at the rate of increase. He noted that the current rate of property tax increases is 8.3 percent. The State is looking at trying to keep the increase of taxes at a manageable rate and restrict future increases to something that is manageable.

Mayor Harrison indicated that gambling tax makes up about four percent of the City's revenue. He noted that this is a source of revenue that the City would like to continue to receive. Representative Carrell indicated that a number of activities have been made to move gambling off of reservations.

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In the area of revenue sharing redistribution, City Manager Rohlf indicated that there are two gates at McChord Air Force Base that enter the City of Lakewood. These two areas have the highest crime rate and neglect. Under the current State-shared revenue formula, the impact from these areas is felt by the City, however, the revenues for these areas go directly to Pierce County and those funds are not being used for improvements in these areas. City Manager Rohlf indicated that the City would like to see legislation to recognize the inequities in sending State dollars to a jurisdiction that do not pay for the impacts of these areas. Discussion ensued on including the McChord Air Force Base and Ft. Lewis in the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Harrison indicated that the City could benefit from redevelopment taxes and asked legislators for support in looking at this positively. He noted that it would also help to designate areas in Lakewood as enterprise zones/redevelopment areas to qualify for potential funding.

Councilmember Thomas asked for legislative support to resolve the issues surrounding Ft. Steilacoom Park. Councilmember Palmas asked for legislative support to find park space for the McChord Gate area neighborhood. He also asked for legislative support to get the U. S. Postal Service to recognize Lakewood as an incorporated city.

Councilmembers thanked the State legislators for coming and sharing information with the City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m. to reconvene back to the regular City Council meeting.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC

CITY CLERK