

1999 09 20 Regular Mtg.

LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, September 20, 1999

City of Lakewood

City Council Chambers

10510 Gravelly Lake Drive SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

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 Larry Humphrey; JosÃ© Palmas; Doug Richardson and Sherri Thomas.

Councilmembers Excused: 1 - Councilmember Ann Kirk Davis (called in on a conference call at 9:30 p.m.)

Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; Deputy City Manager Andrew Neiditz; City Attorney Dan Heid; Finance and Systems Director Galen Kidd; Community Development Director David Bugher; Police Chief Larry Saunders; Human Resources & Services Director Debi Young and General Services Director/City Clerk Alice Bush.

Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; Deputy City Manager Andrew Neiditz; City Attorney Dan Heid; Finance and Systems Director Galen Kidd; Community Development Director David Bugher; Police Chief Larry Saunders; Human Resources & Services Director Debi Young and General Services Director/City Clerk Alice Bush.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jack Asby by request of Mayor Harrison.

Mayor Harrison wished Deputy Mayor Thomas a happy birthday and members of the audience sang "happy birthday!"

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs announced that the meeting of the Joint Legislators and City Councils of Lakewood, University Place, Fircrest, DuPont, and Steilacoom will be held on September 23, 1999, at 6:30 p.m., at the Tacoma Country and Golf Club.

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City Manager Rohlfs announced that the Tacoma Public Utilities Board will be discussing the provision of electrical services to Lakewood Puget Sound Energy customers on September 22, 1999, at 6:30 p.m.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Youth Advisors Report

Youth Advisors Melanie Gallasch and Robin Bautista reported on a meeting being scheduled for youths to discuss future projects for the youth. One project that the Youth Advisors will be working on is the Nickelodeon *Big Help* project.

Presentation on Study Circles on Race.

Mr. Jeff Thurston, Lakewood Study Circles on Race Coordinator, showed a video about the Study Circles on Race. He reported that a kick-off meeting will be held on October 1, 1999, at 7:30 p.m., at the Tacoma City Council Chambers to explain the study circles process to work toward better understanding between people of different race groups.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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Speaking before the Council were:

Sisay Telahun, 7924 52nd Avenue Court W, spoke about his concerns regarding the Country Place Estate Homeowners Association development.

City Attorney Heid interrupted further comments on this matter and noted that this matter could have the potential of coming before the Council as a quasi-judicial matter.

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Mark Griggs, 6816 79th West, requested that the stop light at Custer Road and John Dower Road be readjusted to change more quickly. He then filed a petition signed by surrounding neighbors requesting this change.

Will Ristine, #1 Creekwood Lane, spoke about the approach the City was taking for imposing a utility tax increase. He recommended that the Ordinance on the utility tax be tabled until the outcome of Initiative 695.

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Jeff Lucas, 8906 Forest, spoke about the restrictions on the sign ordinance as it relates to Bill's Boat House. He spoke about the adversarial relationship between Code Enforcement staff and Bill's Boat House. He asked that the City work with the Anderson's of Bill's Boat House.

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Glenn Anderson, 8409 Spruce, indicated that Bill's Boat House has removed all the signs the City requested to be removed. He stated that the sign the City indicated it would erect has not been erected. He commented that promises were made to put up a public information sign on Union Avenue which has not been erected since June 3, 1998.

David Anderson, 14506 Portland Avenue, spoke about customer service enforcement of the sign code to encourage compliance and cordiality. He asked for an apology from the Council for wrongfully taking Bill's Boat House signs and asked for reimbursement for the wrongful taking.

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Paul Jones, Box 98498, Lakewood, spoke about what the impacts of Initiative 695 will have on the utility tax and recommended that the utility tax be tabled. He expressed concern about the hardship citizens with a fixed income will have for paying an additional tax.

Thomas Kolbech and Mary Alo, 7837 Agate Drive, spoke about commuters using Agate Drive as a shortcut to Phillips Road and speeders using that road.

J.B. Layne, 9911 116th Street SW, spoke about statements made by Councilmembers during pre-incorporation to not raise taxes. He expressed concern that a six percent utility tax increase for natural gas, electric, phone, cellular, etc. would result in more than a six percent increase. He urged that the people be given the right to vote on this tax.

Elsie Stockman, 10711 Butte Drive, spoke against a six percent utility tax. She expressed concern about displacing low income people out of Woodbrook.

Jeanine Wurster, 7314 North Street, expressed concern about ramrodding a tax issue and having the citizens tighten their belts to pay for more taxes and taking choices away from the people.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of September 7, 1999.

B. Approval of the minutes of the Joint City Council/Washington State Legislators meeting of September 13, 1999.

C. Approval of the minutes of the Joint City Council/Planning Advisory Board meeting of September 13, 1999.

D. Approval of the minutes of the City Council Study Session of September 13, 1999.

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E. Approval of payroll vouchers in the amount of \$181,257.85 for the period August 16-31, 1999.

F. Approval of claim vouchers in the amount of \$295,768.42 for the period ending September 15, 1999.

G. Items Filed in the Office of the City Clerk:

1. City Events Ad Hoc Committee meeting minutes of August 12, 1999.

2. Lakewood Sister Cities Association meeting minutes of August 12, 1999.

3. Redevelopment Advisory Board meeting minutes of June 29, 1999.

H. [Ordinance No. 214](#)

Amending Sections 10.28.020, 10.28.030, 10.28.040, 10.28.050 and 10.28.070 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to impounding vehicles driven by drivers with suspended licenses.

I. [Motion No. 1999-58](#)

Authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Tom Phillips and Associates, in an amount not to exceed \$42,000, for preparing the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing.

J. [Motion No. 1999-59](#)

Authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Cheryl Pleak, in an amount not to exceed \$12,000, for CDBG and HOME programs technical and administrative services through January 31, 2000.

DEPUTY THOMAS MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PALMAS. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

City Council recessed at 8:25 p.m. and reconvened at 8:38 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

APPOINTMENTS

Motion No. 1999-60 appointing individuals to the Community Development Block Grant Citizens Advisory Board.

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COUNCILMEMBER THOMAS MOVED TO CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENT OF HEINZ HASKINS AND MICHAEL R. LACADIE FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS; HELEN TALBO AND WILLIAM WALSH FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS; AND RUTH L. PIMENTEL, CHRISTIN SCOTT, AND EDWARD ZHAO FOR ONE-YEAR TERMS TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HUMPHREY. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 215 creating Chapter 4.48 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to a tax on utility businesses.

Councilmember Davis called in on a conference call at 9:30 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER PALMAS MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 215. SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR THOMAS.

Councilmember Thomas moved that Section 4.48.050 of Ordinance No. 215 be amended to delete paragraph E, deleting the provisions for a six percent utility tax on electric utilities, and to add two new paragraphs providing for a six percent utility tax on operation of the City's surface water management system and on the City's solid waste-garbage utility. Seconded by Councilmember Richardson.

Councilmember Thomas moved to amend her previous motion by deleting a six percent utility tax on surface water management and the solid waste-garbage utility and leaving the deletion of the six percent utility tax for the electric portion. Seconded by Councilmember Richardson.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION RESULTING AS FOLLOWS:

AYES - 3 - HUMPHREY, THOMAS, RICHARDSON.

NAYS - 4 - DAVIS, PALMAS, DEPUTY MAYOR THOMAS AND MAYOR HARRISON.

THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION FAILED.

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ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON ORDINANCE NO. 215 RESULTING AS FOLLOWS:

AYES - 6 - DAVIS, HUMPHREY, PALMAS, RICHARDSON, DEPUTY MAYOR

THOMAS AND MAYOR HARRISON.

NAYS - 1 - THOMAS.

THE ORDINANCE NO. 215 WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilmember Palmas asked staff to address the issues raised by Glenn and David Anderson regarding Bill's Boat House.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Humphrey commented on the need to better communicate and promote the parks bond measure.

Councilmember Thomas suggested that the next City Connections newsletter be deferred to Spring 2000 should another parks bond newsletter be sent to Lakewood households.

Mayor Harrison requested that the Council be provided an update on Lake Steilacoom.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs distributed copies of the Initiative 695 meeting agenda with the Legislators on September 23, 1999.

City Manager Rohlfs commented on several dates in October when Councilmembers would be available for to attend Budget Workshop meetings.

It was the consensus of the Council to hold budget workshops on October 13, 20 and 27, 1999, at 5:30 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Thomas announced that she will not be able to attend the September 23, 1999 Initiative 695 meeting.

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Councilmember Palmas reported that the Centro Latino dinner he attended as the City's representative was a success.

Deputy Mayor Thomas reported that she met with John Litten of the Clover Park Student District to discuss the goals which were identified at the Joint Council/ School Board Retreat. She explained that she will be meeting with the School Board Chair to prepare a draft report to bring back to the Council.

Deputy Mayor Thomas indicated that the Clover Park School District Superintendent is working to enhance better communication. She explained that the Superintendent will be holding fireside chats with staff and establishing an advisory committee, of which a City Council or staff representative is being requested to serve on the committee. Mayor Harrison requested Deputy Mayor Thomas to serve as the City's representative.

Mayor Harrison wished Deputy Mayor Thomas a happy birthday. He then thanked Deputy Mayor Thomas for hosting a barbecue for Councilmembers and City staff.

Mayor Harrison encouraged Councilmembers to help find citizens who may be interested in serving on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

Mayor Harrison indicated that there will be an Executive Session at next week's September 27, 1999 Council Study Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC/AAE

CITY CLERK