

**1999 11 08 SS**

**LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

**Monday, November 8, 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 7:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: 7 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Ann Kirk Davis; Larry Humphrey; JosÃ© Palmas; and Sherri Thomas.

Councilmember Excused: 1 - Councilmember Doug Richardson.

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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; Engineering Manager Bill Larkin; Police Chief Larry Saunders; Human Resources & Services Director Debi Young; and General Services Director/City Clerk Alice Bush.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

Amending the purchasing policy to change the dollar amounts for the formal and informal competitive bid process and to provide the City Manager the authority to execute contracts in amounts not to exceed \$50,000, provided that the City Manager is authorized to execute contracts in excess of \$50,000, where funds were specifically provided for and approved in the budget.

City Manager Rohlfs explained that the purchasing policy amendments provide the City Manager authority to execute contracts in amounts not to exceed \$50,000, for formal and informal competitive bids and to provide the City Manager authority to execute contracts in excess of \$50,000, where funds were specifically provided for and approved in the budget. Contracts in excess of \$50,000 will be reported to the Council through an informational memo.

Discussion ensued on land purchases being brought before the Council; the difference between informal and formal bid process; and the level of staff authority in the bidding process.

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Authorizing the execution of Supplement No. 1 to the agreement with the Pierce County Conservation District, in an amount not to exceed \$14,000, for the design and construction of fish passage improvements at three locations on Clover Creek.

Engineering Manager Larkin introduced Brian Abbott, Pierce County Conservation District, who showed a video and made a Powerpoint presentation on the construction of fish passage improvements on Clover Creek.

Discussion ensued on the construction of the ladders and the cooperation of affected property owners; quality of water in Clover Creek; and using Surface Water Management funds to pay for this project.

Ordinance No. 218 (Tabled from the meeting of November 1, 1999.) creating Chapter 3.56 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to crime prevention funding.

City Attorney Heid reported that Councilmember Richardson who tabled this ordinance last week indicated that he was comfortable with the proposed ordinance as presented.

Discussion ensued on imposing fees or penalties to those who are convicted of a criminal offense and issuing a press release noting that these fees are not a result of Initiative 695; and ensuring that domestic violence offenses are included in the criminal offenses listed in the Ordinance.

**ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE NOVEMBER 15, 1999, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:**

1. Amending the purchasing policy to change the dollar amounts for the formal and informal competitive bid process and to provide the City Manager the authority to execute contracts in amounts not to exceed \$50,000, provided that the City Manager is authorized to execute contracts in excess of \$50,000, where funds were specifically provided for and approved in the budget. - (Resolution - Consent Agenda)

2. Authorizing the execution of Supplement No. 1 to the agreement with the Pierce County Conservation District, in an amount not to exceed \$14,000, for the design and construction of fish passage improvements at three locations on Clover Creek. - (Motion - Consent Agenda)

3. Ordinance No. 218 - (Tabled from the meeting of November 1, 1999.)

Creating Chapter 3.56 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to crime prevention funding. (Ordinance - Consent Agenda)

4. This is the date set for a public hearing by the City Council on the 2000 City of Lakewood Budget and mill levy rate.

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5. Adopting the 2000 City of Lakewood Budget. - (Ordinance - Regular Agenda)

6. Establishing the 2000 ad valorem property tax levy. - (Ordinance - Regular Agenda)

7. Setting Monday, December 6, 1999, at approximately 7:00 p.m., as the date for a public hearing by the City Council on the 1999 Budget Amendments. - (Motion - Consent Agenda)

8. Setting Monday, January 3, 2000, at approximately 7:00 p.m., as the date for a public hearing by the City Council on the Draft Comprehensive Plan. - (Motion - Consent Agenda)

9. Authorizing the execution of Addendum No. 1 to the agreement with Hammond, Collier and Wade-Livingstone Associates, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$23,300, for construction inspection and administrative services for sidewalk and roadway improvements on Holden Road between 112th Street and Lake Louise Drive. - (Motion - Consent Agenda)

10. Proclamation declaring November 19, 1999, as National Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Day. - *Information Technology Specialist Lane DeLarme.*

11. Presentation regarding the June 2000 Lakewood Garden Tour. - *Ms. Cherry Tinker, Pierce College, and Mr. Peter Punzi, Lakewood Gardens.*

Deputy Mayor Thomas requested City Manager Rohlfs to provide an overview of the mill levy rate.

City Manager Rohlfs reviewed the 2000 budget reductions. He reported that the Council's request to freeze property tax collections will result in a decrease in the levy rate. The budget also reflects no increase in fees. New programs are not being pursued that would have a fee base as their foundation. Not instituting new fees on increases will result in the elimination of recreation programs.

He explained that the 2000 budget provides for continuation of the City Hall project. Upon completion, the project will reduce the recurring operational lease expenses. Also, the ownership of the City Hall parcel require that, if the City does not proceed with construction, the City would lose its ownership of the property. He then reviewed departmental and program budget reductions for 2000.

Discussion ensued on the elimination of the employee merit modifier and merit restrictions; a decrease in the property tax levy rate; and how the \$2.6 million utility tax revenue has helped to provide for streets and police services which, if not passed, would have resulted in an additional \$2.6 million shortfall in addition to the \$4.8 million Initiative 695 impact reduction.

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

City Manager Rohlfs reviewed the impacts Initiative 695 impacts has created for Lakewood citizens which was discussed with Governor Locke. He explained how Lakewood's impacts compared to other cities.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Humphrey asked that the triangle at 100th and Bridgeport Way be weeded and cleaned up.

Councilmember Humphrey noted that Deputy City Manager Neiditz's letter to the Clover Park School District on school sidewalks and curbs in relationship to the utility tax would be a great press release to inform citizens of services being provided at the schools.

Councilmember Humphrey indicated that the advertising placed in the Pierce Transit bus shelters are paying for the construction and maintenance of the shelters. He noted there are bus shelters to be erected in Lakewood. He explained that the shelters that were constructed in Tacoma have advertising in them and there have not been a negative reaction to the advertising in Tacoma. He noted that Pierce Transit would be willing to make a presentation before the Council on placing advertising in the shelters if the Council desired. Councilmember Humphrey noted that advertising in bus shelters would require an amendment to the sign code.

Councilmember Davis congratulated Police Chief Saunders on his appointment to the Greater Lakes Mental Health Care Board.

Councilmember Palmas reported that there may be some historical artifact findings at Fort Steilacoom Park. He indicated that the Historical Society is interested in conducting some metal detecting study of the affected area.

Mayor Harrison reported that he and Deputy Mayor Thomas had a good meeting with Glenn Anderson of Bill's Boat House on November 3, 1999.

Mayor Harrison reported that on November 4, 1999, Bruce Kendall, Tacoma-Pierce County Economic Development Board Executive and Redevelopment Administrator Candice Bock met to discuss ways to work together on economic development.

Mayor Harrison commented on his meeting with Laura Tupper, Master Builders Association of Pierce County.

Mayor Harrison announced that on November 5, 1999, the football trophy was awarded to Lakes High School for winning against Clover Park High School.

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Mayor Harrison indicated that he was one of three representatives of cities to meet with Governor Locke along with representatives from counties, health, fire, police and transportation to discuss the impacts of Initiative 695. He indicated that he informed the Governor that the fiscal health of cities will impact the State and that Lakewood is number two in the State for violent crimes and the ability to expand public safety service is completely eliminated with Initiative 695. He also noted that the State should direct more help to cities to become self-sufficient and the State should support cities in their efforts to serve businesses that will help cities to not become dependent on sales tax equalization. Mayor Harrison reported that, at the November 4, 1999 Pierce County Cities and Towns meeting, it was agreed that the top three priorities of cities and towns were sales tax equalization, criminal justice and public health.

Mayor Harrison congratulated Councilmember Humphrey, Councilmember Palmas and Deputy Mayor Thomas on their re-election as Councilmembers.

Mayor Harrison noted that the December 20 and 27 Council meetings will be cancelled. He explained that the three elected Councilmembers can be sworn in at a Special Meeting of the Council on December 13, 1999 or at the January 3, 2000 Council meeting.

Mayor Harrison announced that November 11, 1999, is a national holiday in observance of Veterans Day.

Mayor Harrison reminded Councilmembers to attend the videotaping of the City's holiday greeting on November 10, 1999, at 11:30 a.m.

Mayor Harrison wished Councilmember Palmas a happy birthday and presented him with a birthday cake. Members of the audience sang, "Happy Birthday."

Mayor Harrison announced that Council will take a short recess first, then go into Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes to discuss potential land acquisition.

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Council recessed at 8:35 p.m. and reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

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Council recessed into Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. and reconvened at 10:45 p.m.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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**BILL HARRISON, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**ALICE M. BUSH, CMC/AE**

**CITY CLERK**