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LAKESWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, January 18, 2000

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 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 4 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Ann Kirk Davis and JosÃ© Palmas.

Councilmembers Excused: 2 - Councilmembers Larry Humphrey and Doug Richardson.

Councilmember Absent: 1 - Councilmember Sherri Thomas (arrived at 7:02 p.m.)

Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; 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; General Services Director/City Clerk Alice Bush and Assistant to the City Manager Jeff Brewster.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Davis by request of Mayor Harrison.

Councilmember Thomas arrived at 7:02 p.m.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs announced that on January 20, 2000, at 6:00 p.m., there will be a community meeting on the proposed theme park at American Lake Gardens in the Council Chambers.

City Manager Rohlfs announced that on January 24, 2000, at 7:00 p.m., the Council will have a Special City Council meeting to hold a public hearing on the Draft Comprehensive Plan.

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PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation recognizing St. Clare Hospital for receiving the prestigious designation of being among the Top 100

Hospitals in the nation.

Mayor Harrison presented a proclamation recognizing St. Clare Hospital for receiving the prestigious designation of being among the Top 100 Hospitals in the nation to Ms. Syd Bersante.

Presentation on the Byrd School Artifacts Finding and other historical matters.

Mr. Glen Spieth, Lakewood Historical Society, presented a historical overview of Byrd School. He then displayed items found at the Byrd School site. Mr. Spieth also displayed items found at Ft. Steilacoom Park. He then provided historical information on other sites in Lakewood.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Speaking before the Council were:

Jennifer Miller, 4914 - 115th Street Court SW, expressed concern about crime at the Brookhaven Apartments.

John Feutz, 5920 - 100th Street, spoke about pawnbroker businesses in Lakewood and how these businesses impact the community. He then distributed records on a past court case with regard to pawnbrokers.

Joanne Wolters, 4914 - 115th Street Court SW, spoke about the drug activity in her neighborhood.

Cassandra Miller, 8 years old, asked for help to make her street a better place.

Chris Kealy, 8200 Tacoma Mall Boulevard, spoke about the sign code amendments (Ordinance No. 225) and the Interstate 5 corridor.

Landra Skielly, 11521 Bridgeport Way SW, Happy Days business owner, spoke about the systemic crime problem in her neighborhood and how drug activities are being conducted in the daylight.

Les Skielly, 11521 Bridgeport Way SW, Happy Days business owner, spoke about the increasing criminal activity in the area.

Pat Finnegan, Lakewood resident, spoke about voting "No" to tax theatres; the City fighting with neighboring communities and the military community for tax dollars; and passing a utility tax. He advocated that the City use funds for the new City Hall for parks, and that a \$15 million City Hall grand palace is intimidating for Lakewood residents. He urged that the City Hall monies be given back to Lakewood residents.

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Lou Knight, 8920 Gravelly Lake Drive, commented that his outlook is that citizens are working for government rather than government working for the people.

T. Wintercorn, 4901 - 115th Street, spoke about the crime in her neighborhood and asked that something be done.

Richard Fawn, 8915 Gravelly Lake Drive, spoke about the right for citizens to vote for its Mayor versus being appointed by the Council. He spoke about citizens being told if they do not like it in Lakewood to move. Lakewood does nothing to encourage more businesses to move and stay in Lakewood.

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

A. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of January 3, 2000.

B. Approval of the minutes of the City Council Study Session of January 10, 2000.

C. Approval of payroll vouchers in the amount of \$143,206.26, for the period December 1-15, 1999.

D. Approval of payroll vouchers in the amount of \$179,450.70, for the period December 16-31, 1999.

E. Approval of claim vouchers in the amount of \$905,445.75, for the period ending January 12, 2000.

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

1. Planning Advisory Board Public Hearing minutes of November 3 and 10, 1999.
2. Planning Advisory Board meeting minutes of November 17, 1999.
3. Planning Advisory Board Study Session minutes of December 1 and 8, 1999.
4. City Events Ad-Hoc Committee meeting minutes of December 9, 1999.
5. Lakewood Sister Cities Association Board meeting minutes of December 9, 1999.
6. Community Development Block Grant/Citizens Advisory Board meeting minutes of December 15, 21 and 27, 1999.

G. [Ordinance No. 225](#)

Amending Sections 18.45.030 and 18.45.130 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to sign code regulations.

H. [Motion No. 2000-05](#)

Authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Washington State Council of County and City Employees American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Local 1516-L through December 31, 2000.

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

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPEALS

This is the date set for a public hearing on the proposed improvement of the intersections at Gravelly Lake Drive and Steilacoom Boulevard and Steilacoom Boulevard and Lakewood Drive.

Speaking before the Council were:

Herb Dayton, 10823 Evergreen Terrace SW, indicated that the proposed alternatives do not show the financial impacts to sixteen affected businesses. He urged not to construct this project.

Don Hoover, 11205 Lake Steilacoom Drive, spoke about businesses leaving Lakewood and questioned City policies of destroying sixteen businesses and making changes to protect jaywalkers at the proposed intersection.

Miles Landon, 9620 Forest Avenue SW, spoke about the dangerous intersection and the need for improvements. He stated that the businesses are "destination businesses" and do not generate their business from drive-through traffic. He spoke in support of the improvements.

Steve Chittenden, 8905 Gravelly Lake Drive SW, spoke against the proposed configuration of the Gravelly Lake Drive and Steilacoom Boulevard intersections.

Ursula Hall, 8965 Gravelly Lake Drive SW, spoke in support of the proposed improvements.

Dennis Haugen, 6528 Mt. Tacoma Drive, commented that the intersection improvements are not as severe as other streets in the Puget Sound region.

Sue Badertscher, 8123 Veterans Drive SW, commented that the traffic on Steilacoom Boulevard is not that bad. She presented other options to consider.

Thomas Young, 8909 Gravelly Lake Drive SW, spoke against the proposed improvements to the intersections.

Paul Jones, P.O. Box 98498, spoke about the City's disregard for the businesses being impacted by the proposed alternatives.

Robin Dayton, 10823 Evergreen Terrace SW, spoke about the need for sidewalks at the intersection of Lakewood Drive and Steilacoom Boulevard.

Mr. Ballstad, 3407 East 80th Street, spoke about the need for sidewalks on the side of the street (Steilacoom Boulevard) next to the cemetery.

Vicky BeSalay, Lakewood resident, spoke against the proposed alternatives.

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Christin Kerman, Lakewood resident, commented that there has not been a problem at the intersections.

Richard Fawn, Lakewood resident, spoke about problems caused by DJ Bar and Grill, and the City not using City funds for fixing the crime problem.

Glen Spieth, Steilacoom Boulevard, spoke against the proposed alternatives at the Gravelly Lake Drive and Steilacoom Boulevard intersection. He spoke in support of sidewalks and crosswalks.

Jayne Gidney, Lakewood resident, commented on America with Disabilities Act (ADA) need for wheelchair access to the proposed improvements.

There being no further testimony, the hearing was declared closed.

Council recessed at 9:40 p.m. and reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

ORDINANCES

[Ordinance No. 226](#) amending the Employee Compensation and Benefits Plan relative to City employees

DEPUTY MAYOR THOMAS MOVED TO ADOPT AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 226. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAVIS. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

None.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs announced that Gottschalks donated \$550 for Lakewood's Promise.

City Manager Rohlfs reported that Police suspects on the Springbrook homicide are in custody.

City Manager Rohlfs distributed copies of the Draft Comprehensive Plan Environmental Impact Statement to Councilmembers.

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City Manager Rohlfs reported that there are several developers who are interested in making significant redevelopment changes to the Lakewood Mall property, which seems positive.

City Manager Rohlfs reported that earlier the City asked Pierce College if they would consider having a skate park constructed on their property. He indicated that Pierce College has declined the offer as a possible skateboard park site.

City Manager Rohlfs indicated that Clover Park Kiwanis has expressed an interest in playing a role on the siting of a skateboard park near Kiwanis Park. **City Manager Rohlf**s asked Council for direction to begin meeting with local businesses and residents about the proposed skateboard site. Councilmembers directed staff to proceed.

Deputy Mayor Thomas asked for clarification regarding Pierce County's letter on the transfer of the Tillicum Community Center. **City Manager Rohlf**s explained that staff is writing the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for clarification on HUD regulations.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Davis reported that the Department of Transportation Committee has begun their dialogue regarding the "Park and Ride" on the Sounder Station. There is about 0.8 miles of freeway between the State Route (SR) 512 and the Sounder Station which the City will need to have HOV lanes on in order to have direct access to the Sounder Station. She commented that a written report was presented to the Department of Transportation.

Councilmember Thomas asked for an update on any flooding or concerns that were reported on the weekend storm. **Engineering Manager Larkin** indicated that there were no major reports.

Councilmember Thomas asked how the traffic circles around the John Dower School neighborhood were working.

Mayor Harrison reported that Tacoma Mayor Brian Ebersole was supportive of the proposed theme park.

Mayor Harrison reported on the grand opening of the McDonald's Restaurant on 100th Street.

Mayor Harrison asked Police Chief Saunders to provide an update on DJ's Bar and Grill.

Mayor Harrison asked that staff prepare a news release on the number of businesses coming to Lakewood.

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Mayor Harrison thanked **City Manager Rohlf**s for organizing a good Council Retreat on Friday, January 14, 2000.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC/AAE

CITY CLERK