

**2000 11 27 SS**

**LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

**Monday, November 27, 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 7:15 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.

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Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; Assistant City Manager Jeff Butzlaff; 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.

**REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Rohlfs provided the Council with a copy of a news release on the decline of crime rates in Lakewood.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

Creating Chapter 2.48 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to the protection and preservation of landmarks in Lakewood; creating a Landmarks and Heritage Agency and options; establishing procedures for designation and preservation of landmarks; and providing for enforcement and prescribing penalties for violation.

Assistant City Manager Butzlaff reviewed the proposed ordinance relative to the protection and preservation of landmarks in the city and the creation of a Landmarks and Heritage Agency.

**City Council Study Session Minutes -2- November 27, 2000**

Mr. Cy Happy and Mr. Bill Imholt, Lakewood Historical Society, spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

Discussion ensued on contracting with the Lakewood Historical Society to serve as the Landmarks and Heritage Agency versus creating a Council-appointed Advisory Board; and the merits of the Lakewood Historical Society remaining as a 501(c)(3) organization versus a City Committee, thereby working in partnership with the City for seeking grants.

Amending Chapter 2.16 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to the Municipal Court.

City Attorney Heid reviewed the proposed changes to the Municipal Code relative to the appointment of the Municipal Court Judge(s) and the process for removal of judge(s).

Discussion ensued on the language concerning the removal of judges in Section 2.16.100; when the position of judge becomes an elected position; the option of the Council calling for an election for a judge if the number of hours is below 35 hours per week; who makes the decision to remove a judge if the judge was convicted of a crime; whether the City Manager should be placed in the position to break a tie for reaching decisions regarding the appointments of pro tems; and finding other options for breaking a tie without assigning that responsibility to the City Manager.

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Council recessed at 8:35 p.m. and reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

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Review of I-722 impacts and alternatives.

City Manager Rohlfs distributed copies of a list of proposed public works street grants in 2001. He then distributed copies of the proposed program budgetary cuts in the street funds; general fund, not including police; and the general fund police budget as impacted by Initiative 722. City Manager Rohlfs reviewed the alternatives available for the Council.

Discussion ensued on reaffirming the utility tax and preparing an ordinance for Council's consideration at next week's meeting; refunding the utility tax collected between July 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999; and waiting for the Court's ruling on the injunction before Council took any action.

City Council Study Session Minutes -3- November 27, 2000

ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE DECEMBER 4, 2000 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Creating Chapter 2.48 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to the protection and preservation of landmarks in Lakewood; creating a Landmarks and Heritage Agency and options; establishing procedures for designation and preservation of landmarks; and providing for enforcement and prescribing penalties for violation. - (Ordinance - Consent Agenda)
2. Amending Chapter 2.16 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to the Municipal Court. - (Ordinance)
3. Proclamation declaring December 2000 as Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. - *Ms. Sheri Badger, Pierce County Task Force on Alcohol/Driving*
4. Setting Tuesday, January 16, 2001, at approximately 7:00 p.m., as the date for a public hearing by the City Council to consider the vacation of a portion of San Francisco Avenue right-of-way for an existing mini-storage facility (Century 21 Associates). - (Resolution - Consent Agenda)
5. Awarding a bid for the construction of storm water drainage improvements at Loch and Linwood Lanes. - (Motion)

There were no comments.

**BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Rohlfs announced that City Attorney Heid is soon to become a grandfather tonight.

City Manager Rohlfs announced that on December 1, 2000, the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Celebration will be held at 4:00 p.m., at the Lakewood Colonial Center. City Manager Rohlfs also announced that on December 1, 2000, the Lakes High School football championship will be held at the Tacoma Dome. On December 2, 2000, the City's Holiday Party will be held at the Ft. Lewis Golf Course.

**CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

City Manager Rohlfs asked for Council direction on how to proceed with notifying Okinawa City, Okinawa, Japan, of the City's desire to formalize a sister city relationship. Council concurred with proceeding to notify Okinawa City to formalize a sister city relationship.

**City Council Study Session Minutes -4- November 27, 2000**

City Manager Rohlfs reviewed an option to the Municipal Court ordinance by affording the Pierce County District Court presiding Judge the ability to break ties for appointing pro tems, instead of the City Manager, or providing for a coin toss.

Councilmember Palmas reported on finding thirteen streetlight outages during his streetlight patrol.

Deputy Mayor Thomas commented on the November 21, 2000 The News Tribune luncheon meeting she attended to discuss how the The News Tribune reports the news. She indicated that she expressed concerns that many community activities would not be reported with the closing of Lakewood Journal. Deputy Mayor Thomas announced that, on November 29, 2000, she will be attending the Lake City Center neighborhood meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Harrison commented that the San Francisco Avenue traffic light has been erected.

Mayor Harrison commented that The News Tribune editorial referenced that the Council had grumbled after the Council was informed that Pierce County had allocated \$300,000 for Ft. Steilacoom Park.

Mayor Harrison went on record to clarify that there was no grumbling on the part of the City Council during the discussion of Pierce County's offer of providing \$300,000 for Ft. Steilacoom Park. Mayor Harrison clarified that, to the contrary, the Council indicated that they would look into ways of providing matching funds for the \$300,000.

Councilmember Palmas indicated that he may not be attending next week's Council meeting or, if he does, he would need to leave early.

City Manager Rohlfs indicated that Councilmembers Palmas and Thomas will be serving on the Municipal Court Judge interview panel on Thursday, November 30, 2000.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

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**BILL HARRISON, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**ALICE M. BUSH, CMC**

**CITY CLERK**