

**2000 12 11 SS**

**LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

**Monday, December 11, 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 7:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: 6 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Ann Kirk Davis; Larry Humphrey; JosÃ© Palmas and Sherri Thomas.

Councilmembers Excused: 1 - Councilmember Doug Richardson.

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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.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

Review of Hipkins Road traffic calming improvements.

Engineering Manager Larkin introduced Mr. David Peach, Skillings-Connolly, Inc., who provided traffic calming improvement alternatives on Hipkins Road.

Mr. Peach reviewed five calming measure modules, which included:

1. Roadway narrowing and median divider, 490 feet zone, at Angle Lane;
2. Median divider, 200 feet zone, south of 97th Street;
3. Roadway narrowing 230 feet zone between Rustic Lane (private road) and South Way;

City Council Study Session Minutes -2- December 11, 2000

4. Chicane, 550 feet zone between Nixon Avenue and North Way;
5. Median divider and ½ Chicane Combo, 350 feet between Lennox Avenue and 88th Street.

Engineering Manager Larkin reported that staff is not recommending Module 2 because of strong property owner opposition.

Discussion ensued on citizen comments provided at the public hearings; and investigating the compatibility of completing the entire project in the future.

Engineering Manager Larkin reported that staff is recommending Module 1, the shortened version of Module 3, 4, and 5 for a cost of \$529,000. He explained that the arterial street fund budgeted \$400,000 for this project. He indicated that

if street lighting and storm drainage for this project came out of the arterial streets and surface water drainage funds, there would then be a \$72,000 shortfall which could come out of savings from the Gravelly Lake Drive SW and Steilacoom Boulevard improvement intersection project. Otherwise, he recommended not implementing Module 4.

Discussion ensued on having the Citizen's Transportation Review Committee review these proposed improvements and bring forth a recommendation; and constructing sidewalks on the south side of Angle Lane from Hipkins Road to Ft. Steilacoom Park.

Review of forming Council Committees.

City Manager Rohlf reported that the Council currently has twelve standing citizen committees and several citizens ad hoc committees, which some Councilmembers currently sit on, and all are staffed with City staff.

Councilmember Davis reported that she and Councilmember Humphrey were assigned to study the feasibility of forming Council Committees. She explained that several Council-Manager forms of government cities such as Shoreline, Bellevue, Puyallup, Federal Way, University Place, Yakima, Olympia and Vancouver were contacted. She reviewed the advantages and disadvantages for forming Council Committees. She indicated that she and Councilmember Humphrey are recommending the establishment of four ad hoc Council committees consisting of (1) public relations, (2) public safety, (3) finance/budget, and (4) economic development/redevelopment.

Councilmember Humphrey described the role of the Council Committees.

City Council Study Session Minutes -3- December 11, 2000

Discussion ensued on developing specific and clear goals for each ad hoc Council Committee and the cost to implement them; the composition of the Committees consisting of two to three Councilmembers and City staff; rotating Councilmembers among the different ad hoc Council Committees; frequency of meetings; and how feedback would be provided to the full Council. Mayor Harrison indicated that Councilmembers currently serve on most of the Council-appointed citizens committees and suggested that the Public Safety Council Committee be established consisting of three Councilmembers and a City staff person to try on a six-month trial basis. Councilmember Davis volunteered to serve on the Public Safety Council Committee.

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Council recessed at 8:25 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

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Establishing a schedule for amending the Comprehensive Plan for 2001.

Community Development Director Bugher reviewed a proposed schedule for amending the Comprehensive Plan in 2001.

Discussion ensued on the fees for amendments, publicizing the proposed schedule for submitting amendments; and providing citizens with the opportunity to provide amendments through February 2001.

Amending the 2000 City of Lakewood Budget relative to parks related grants.

Finance and Systems Director Kidd reviewed the housekeeping amendments to the parks grant fund for the 2000 budget.

ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE DECEMBER 18, 2000 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Establishing a schedule for amending the Comprehensive Plan for 2001. - (Resolution - Consent Agenda)
2. Amending the 2000 City of Lakewood Budget relative to parks related grants. - (Ordinance)
3. Confirming the appointment of Municipal Court judges.
4. Proclamation declaring January 15, 2001 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

City Council Study Session Minutes -4- December 11, 2000

5. Presentation on teen pregnancy rates in Lakewood compared to Pierce County. - *Ms. Deb Cook, Regional Coordinator, You and Me Babe*

6. Awarding a bid to Harlow Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$95,995, for the construction of storm water drainage improvements at Hipkins Road. - (Motion - Consent Agenda)

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

City Manager Rohlfs distributed copies of an economic development informational brochure on Lakewood for Council's information.

City Manager Rohlfs asked Councilmembers for a head count on who would be attending the Thornewood Castle tour on December 13, 2000.

#### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Humphrey reported on the Tillicum/Woodbrook Neighborhood Association meeting he attended.

Councilmember Thomas indicated that the tenants of the Village Green Apartments are saying that they have been told by their landlords that the tenants must now pay for garbage service separately from what was included as part of the rent because of the City's mandatory garbage collection rates. Councilmember Thomas indicated that the tenants must be informed of what the City's ordinance does to clarify any misunderstandings. She asked that the Council be provided a copy of the letters given to landlords and tenants that clarifies this issue.

Councilmember Davis commented that she voted for the 6 percent utility tax for public safety and street improvements and believes it was a good investment. She reported that, at last week's Council meeting, it was her desire to keep the rate at 6 percent. As a compromise, she voted for 5 percent. She indicated that she was disappointed and perplexed that there was not a majority support for it. She reported that, at the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) conference, it was reported that cities who reaffirmed the utility tax was doing a good thing.

Councilmember Palmas reported on the AWC Telecommunications and e-government workshop he attended.

Deputy Mayor Thomas reported on the *Weed and Seed* and the neighborhood development sessions she attended at the AWC conference. She reported that Lakewood was heading in the right direction.

Deputy Mayor Thomas announced that the Human Services Collaboration will be meeting with Legislators on Wednesday, December 13, 2000.

#### **City Council Study Session Minutes -5- December 11, 2000**

Mayor Harrison reported on a meeting he attended with Ft. Lewis staff and urged staff to keep abreast of the Ft. Lewis' housing privatization project.

Mayor Harrison reported on the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce annual auction he attended.

Mayor Harrison commented on the Pierce County Regional Council meeting he attended on behalf of Councilmember Palmas.

Mayor Harrison commented on the December 8, 2000 *Coffee with the Mayor* session. He announced that the next session will be held at St. Clare Hospital.

Mayor Harrison commented on the Tillicum Community Center annual holiday dinner on December 8, 2000 and the Ft. Steilacoom Historical Society Holiday festivity.

Deputy Mayor Thomas asked about the possibility of annexing the Veterans Hospital into Lakewood. City Manager Rohlfs commented that the hospital is on Ft. Lewis property.

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Mayor Harrison announced that Council will recess into Executive Session for approximately 60 minutes to discuss

property acquisition and to evaluate the qualifications of applicants for public employment.

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Council recessed into Executive Session at 9:25 p.m. and reconvened at 10:25 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

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**BILL HARRISON, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**ALICE M. BUSH, CMC**

**CITY CLERK**