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LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, January 14, 2002

City of Lakewood

City Council Chambers

6000 Main Street SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 7 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Pad Finnigan; Larry Humphrey; Helen McGovern; JosÃ© Palmas and Doug Richardson.

Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; Assistant City Manager Jeff Butzlaff; Acting City Attorney Mike McKenzie; Finance and Systems Director Galen Kidd; Community Development Director David Bugher; Public Works Director Bill Larkin; Police Chief Larry Saunders; Human Resources & Services Director Debi Young; General Services Director/City Clerk Alice Bush; Community Relations Manager Candice Bock and Parks Manager Mary Dodsworth.

Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; Assistant City Manager Jeff Butzlaff; Acting City Attorney Mike McKenzie; Finance and Systems Director Galen Kidd; Community Development Director David Bugher; Public Works Director Bill Larkin; Police Chief Larry Saunders; Human Resources & Services Director Debi Young; General Services Director/City Clerk Alice Bush; Community Relations Manager Candice Bock and Parks Manager Mary Dodsworth.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Update on Veterans Memorial Project.

Bob Arndt, Chair, Lakewood Veterans Memorial Committee, reviewed the Committee's recommendation on the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the design and construction of a veterans memorial on the grounds at City Hall. He asked for the Council's consensus to proceed with the RFP. He then reviewed the process, its calendar and the goals and objectives for the memorial project.

Mr. Arndt reviewed the competition score sheets for Phase 1 and 2 of the selection process and explained that the Committee is looking to raise \$60,000.

Council suggested that a poster board be displayed showing the guidelines and standards for the memorial at public meetings when seeking citizens' input and that brochures be made available in 2002 to help with the fundraising campaign.

Mr. Arndt then asked for the names of organizations Council may be aware of that the Committee may contact for fundraising donations.

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Discussion ensued on the distribution of the RFP; contacting Greater Tacoma Foundation, Margaret McGroaty, Cheney Foundation and Fuchs Foundation as possible contributors; and placing a recognition plaque near the memorial or in City Hall. It was the consensus of the Council to proceed with the RFP and placing a plaque at City Hall.

Update on legislative items and Governor's proposed budget.

City Manager Rohlfs provided a legislative update on Initiative 695 backfill funding. He distributed a position paper on the backfill and sales tax equalization replacement funds.

Discussion ensued on informing the Pierce County delegation of Lakewood's position; preparing a letter to towns and cities in the 28th and 29th Districts asking for their support; signing a letter of support to send to State Representatives of the 28th and 29th districts; and showing actual cost impacts for Western State Hospital for the last two years.

Community Relations Manager Bock commented on the McNeil Island Secure Community Transition Facility and proposed a \$2 million set-aside for mitigation impacts in Pierce County.

Discussion ensued on concerns of Level 3 sex offenders riding on ferries with citizens and housing of these offenders in Lakewood neighborhoods.

City Manager Rohlfs reported that there are no Lakewood interchange improvements proposed in the Governor's ten-year transportation plan.

Discussion ensued on building a constituency for the State Route 512 interchange including Sound Transit, Pierce Transit, MBK Northwest, Lakewood Industrial Park and the Redevelopment Advisory Board.

Community Relations Manager Bock spoke about making the Automated Traffic enforcement a permanent program.

City Manager Rohlfs reported that the gambling tax proposal is to increase the gambling tax statewide on card room tax from 20 percent to 25 percent, and that cities collect the tax on behalf of the State for one percent of state revenues collected for this service which would amount to \$3,000 for Lakewood.

ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE JANUARY 22, 2002 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Proclamation recognizing Olympic Torchbearers runners. - *Ms. Judith Barber, Mr. Michael Kabisch, Mr. Del Linhart and Mr. Kent Olson*

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2. *Granting the Lakewood Water District a temporary extension of a nonexclusive franchise to construct, maintain, operate, replace and repair water systems in public rights-of-way through June 30, 2002. - (Ordinance - Consent Agenda)*

3. *Denying claims for damages. - (Motion - Consent Agenda)*

4. *Setting Monday, February 4, 2002, at approximately 7:00 p.m., as the date for a hearing before the City Council on the appeal of James and Kathleen Manza and Randall and Deborrah Bennett relative to a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit and Shoreline Variance to construct a dock system and retaining wall at 12761 Gravelly Lake Drive SW (Applicant: James and Kathleen Manza - LU010048/LU010082) - (Motion - Consent Agenda)*

Deputy Mayor Thomas suggested that the Council meet with Lakewood Water District Board on water-related matters.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

Update on McNeil Island Less Restrictive Alternative (LRA)

City Manager Rohlfs asked if the Council had any questions on the McNeil Island LRA memorandum.

There were no comments.

City Manager Rohlfs provided a preliminary report on the utility audit for Puget Sound Energy. He indicated that there were no errors for electric customers and, in the gas audit, there was a 24 percent error rate.

Mayor Harrison requested that Puget Sound Energy inform the City on how they intend to collect the tax prior to billing Lakewood citizens.

Community Relations Manager Bock distributed draft copies of the City's newsletter to be mailed the last week in January.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Humphrey reported on a Pierce College Board meeting he and Deputy Mayor Thomas attended in the Council Chambers.

Councilmember Humphrey reported on a Sound Transit meeting on the Lakewood Sounder Station.

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Councilmember Humphrey commented on the upcoming Pierce Transit ballot item in the February 2002 election. He reported on several presentations by Pierce Transit on the February 5 election, which will be held on January 17, 2002, at 7:00 a.m., at Happy Diner, and at 6:00 p.m., at the Lakewood Library.

Councilmember McGovern volunteered to present the Olympic torchbearers runners proclamation.

Councilmember Palmas questioned if all of the City Hall punch list will be completed by January 25, 2002. Councilmember Palmas asked if the acoustical panels are permanent. Public Works Director Larkin indicated that the panels are permanent.

Councilmember Palmas reported that he will not be attending the next two Council meetings.

Deputy Mayor Thomas commented on attending two Sound Transit meetings.

Mayor Harrison commented that Representative Adam Smith will be meeting with Deputy Mayor Thomas on Tuesday, January 15, 2002, at 4:00 p.m.

Mayor Harrison reported that the Cross Base Highway Ad Hoc Committee members are Councilmembers Humphrey, Richardson and McGovern.

Mayor Harrison reported that approximately 35 people attended the Coffee with the Mayor last week.

Mayor Harrison reported that on January 15-17, 2002, the Okinawa City delegation from Japan will be in Lakewood for the official signing ceremony.

Mayor Harrison reported that Councilmember McGovern will be representing the City at the Lakewold Gardens luncheon on January 15, 2002; that he will be attending the official signing ceremony on January 16, 2002, at 4:00 p.m. and the dinner and that Deputy Mayor Thomas will be attending the farewell ceremony on January 17, 2002, at 11:00 a.m.

Mayor Harrison asked that the City look into participating in Governor Locke's Martin Luther King program.

Mayor Harrison expressed concern about the article on the Lakewood Fire District regarding the lack of minorities in the department. He requested that the City assist the department, if they desired.

Mayor Harrison announced that February 23, 2002 is set as a Council Retreat date.

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ADJOURNMENT

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

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC
CITY CLERK

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