

**2002 04 08 SS**

**LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES**

**Monday, April 8, 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 7:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Present: 6 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Pad Finnigan, Helen McGovern; JosÃ© Palmas and Doug Richardson.

Councilmember Excused: 1 - Councilmember Larry Humphrey.

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Staff Present: City Manager D. Scott Rohlfs; Assistant City Manager Jeff Butzlaff; City Attorney Heidi Horst; 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:**

Discussion of the City's position relative to Fort Steilacoom Park.

City Manager Rohlfs reviewed a draft letter to Pierce County Council on the City's position relative to building a partnership to jointly provide for the maintenance and operation of Ft. Steilacoom Park in the future.

Discussion ensued on the County's budget; noting in the letter the date the County endorsed responsibility for maintenance and operation of Ft. Steilacoom Park; what amount of zoo tax is collected from Lakewood citizens and how much zoo tax revenue is allocated to Lakewood. City Manager Rohlfs indicated that Lakewood residents pay approximately \$500,000 in zoo tax and that the County provided \$300,000 for Ft. Steilacoom Park.

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Further discussion ensued on ensuring that all parties, such as Partners for Parks, the City, County and other entities working on Ft. Steilacoom Park were in close contact so that there is no miscommunication and in coordination with Partners for Parks on their fundraising efforts for restrooms at Ft. Steilacoom Park; status of soccer field improvements; and clarifying in the letter that the City is not interested in owning Ft. Steilacoom Park.

Update on the proposed Sound Transit Agreement.

City Manager Rohlfs reviewed the draft agreement on the transferring of funds and establishing financial responsibility for the Lakewood Sounder Commuter Rail Station.

Discussion ensued on the Central Business District improvements.

Authorizing the execution of an agreement with Berger/ABAM Engineers, Inc., for the design to reconstruct and widen 108th Street from Lakeview Avenue to Pacific Highway.

City Manager Rohlfs indicated that approximately \$1.2 million from the Sound Transit agreement will be used for improvements to 108th Street.

Discussion ensued on the estimated completion date of mid-October; what the selection process was for the design firm; the definition of a bioswale; and signage along 108th Street.

#### ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE APRIL 15, 2002 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Authorizing the execution of an agreement with Berger/ABAM Engineers, Inc., for the design to reconstruct and widen 108th Street from Lakeview Avenue to Pacific Highway.
2. Presentation of Lakewood Landscaping Awards. - *Community Relations Manager*
3. Proclamation declaring April 27, 2002 as Parks Appreciation Day. - *Mr. Roger Laybourn, Chair, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board*
4. Proclamation declaring April 21 - 27, 2002 as National Volunteer Week.
5. This is the date set for a public hearing by the City Council on the Fiscal Year 2002 Joint Tacoma/Lakewood Consolidated Annual Action Plan and proposed use of funds, and Fiscal Year 2000 Consolidated Annual Action Plan Amendment.

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6. This is the date set for a public hearing by the City Council to consider granting Lakeview Light and Power a twenty-year nonexclusive franchise to provide an electric light and power system in designated public rights-of-way in the City of Lakewood. - (Motion - Consent Agenda)
7. Amending Chapters 1.36, 5.02 and 18A.02 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to removing the City Council from certain zoning and land use appeals and reconsiderations. - (Ordinance - Regular Agenda)
8. Ordinance No. 275 - (Tabled from the meeting of April 1, 2002)

Creating Chapter 3.21 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to the collection of franchise fees. - (Ordinance - Regular Agenda)

Mayor Harrison called on City Attorney Horst who clarified that the Lakeview Light and Power Board will be considering the franchise in the first 10 days of May and staff is recommending that the Council's public hearing be rescheduled to May 20, 2002 with the ordinance on the franchise following the public hearing.

Mayor Harrison requested that the ordinance on the zoning and land use appeals be placed on the regular agenda.

Discussion ensued on additional modifications to Ordinance No. 275.

Discussion ensued on the rationale for imposing a late fee for the franchise; and when users already pay a late fee imposed by the franchise utility, if it means that the users may be paying again indirectly for the fees that the City would impose on the franchise utility company.

#### BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs reported that the City received approximately 150 calls on the low income housing programs as a result of The News Tribune article on Saturday, April 6, 2002.

City Manager Rohlfs reported that the City of Yakima's daily jail costs of \$48/day including transportation is less than Pierce County jail costs of \$62/day. He indicated that the City will investigate Yakima's proposal to jail Lakewood offenders.

#### CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Finnigan commented on the sewer problem at Cochise Lane and announced that a meeting will be held on April 16, 2002, at 7:00 p.m., at the Baptist Church with the affected parties, County and City staff. Community Development Director Bugher indicated that County Councilmember O'Malley has requested that the City organize a

meeting with the neighborhood residents, in addition to residents in Cochise Lane, to discuss concerns about tying into the main sewers.

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Councilmember McGovern complimented staff for the draft *City Connections* newsletter.

Councilmember McGovern suggested that the work crew weed in front of City Hall.

Councilmember McGovern asked if the Council will review the discussions at the Council's Retreat relative to Jimmy G's now, or wait until a new Council's Retreat date is set.

Councilmember Palmas asked when will staff respond to Mr. Dennis Haugen's concerns about eight blind intersections. Public Works Director Larkin indicated that staff can make a presentation before the Council at the April 22, 2002 study session.

Councilmember Palmas asked how the animal control's response calls were prioritized.

Deputy Mayor Thomas commented on the Word of Life Church celebration she attended representing the Council and presented a proclamation.

Deputy Mayor Thomas commented on the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce luncheon this week and the topic of discussion.

Deputy Mayor Thomas suggested that a sign be placed at the City Hall to identify that it is City Hall.

Deputy Mayor Thomas asked for an update relative to a citizen's comment last week about imposing utility fees based on kilowatt usage.

Mayor Harrison reported that Councilmember Humphrey is doing well.

Mayor Harrison reported on the "My Home Town" videotaping kickoff.

Mayor Harrison commented on the Tillicum/American Lake Gardens meeting.

Mayor Harrison indicated that a youth in Tillicum has started a petition for a skatepark in Tillicum.

Mayor Harrison commented on the baseball kickoff at Custer Elementary on April 6, 2002.

Mayor Harrison asked for additional information on the Auto Unlimited letter prior to responding to the letter.

Mayor Harrison asked for an updated map of construction and development projects in Lakewood.

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At a minimum, Mayor Harrison asked for an update on the Community Development and Public Works projects.

Councilmember McGovern spoke about the Fire District's intent and options relative to a fire station at Harry Todd Park and other proposed sites.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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**BILL HARRISON, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**ALICE M. BUSH, CMC**

**CITY CLERK**