

2003 01 13 SS

LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, January 13, 2003

City of Lakewood

City Council Chambers

6000 Main Street SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 6 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Councilmembers Pad Finnigan, Andie Gernon, Larry Humphrey, Helen McGovern and Doug Richardson.

Councilmember Absent: 1 - Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas (arrived at 7:10 p.m.)

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ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Consideration of options for regulating gambling.

City Manager Rohlfs provided a brief history on business applications for gambling since the City incorporated and the moratoriums that were imposed. He summarized that the two options that the State Gambling Commission recognizes are either to do nothing and let the current moratorium expire or impose an immediate ban on expanded cardrooms.

Deputy Mayor Thomas arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Discussion ensued on potential litigation and associated costs; insurance costs; and liability exposure.

City Manager Rohlfs then reviewed the zoning regulations (amusement and recreation) that provide for enhanced cardrooms and are allowed in transit-oriented zones (Lakewood Commuter Station), C1 and C2 zones along Interstate 5 and South Tacoma Way, industrial park 1 zone around the Lakewood Industrial Park area and the Tillicum and American Lake Gardens area, and certain zoning levels in the Central Business District.

City Council Study Session Minutes -2- January 13, 2003

Ms. Amy Patjens from the State Gambling Commission provided a history of the Commission's position when reviewing gambling applications.

City Manager Rohlfs proposed an option of adopting a Resolution versus an Ordinance and the difference between the two.

City Manager Rohlfs then reviewed the litigation costs to the City on business licenses received. He explained that

costs include litigation for adult entertainment and pawnshop licenses.

Discussion ensued on the proposed language of a Resolution; the impacts of parking and traffic requirements generated by gambling establishments; which areas along South Tacoma Way and Pacific Highway had large enough parcels for a mini casino; the number of cities and counties that prohibit some form of gambling; recent ruling on amortization; whether amortizations encourage gambling applications; option to do nothing; the constitutionality of banning a legal business; using tax revenues generated by gambling establishments to help resolve social issues of gambling; and establishing a Resolution accepting the existing businesses in the City, the City having the ability to zone, allowing the moratorium to expire and not pursue a ban, and letting the Legislature know about the City's concerns on gambling.

Council recessed at 9:10 p.m. and reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

Creating Sections 1.36.021 and 1.36.091 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to hearings and appeals on Local Improvement Districts.

City Attorney Wachter reviewed the process relative to hearings and appeals on Local Improvement Districts.

Discussion ensued on the Hearing Examiner's recommendation on proposed Local Improvement Districts.

Authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with Puget Sound Energy relative to electrical service issues.

City Attorney Wachter reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement with Puget Sound Energy on electrical service issues and noted that a corrected version of the agreement will be brought before the Council at next week's meeting.

Discussion ensued on the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee's work on developing the agreement language; what Puget Sound Energy's evaluation for proceeding a notification letter to customers relative to vegetation management entailed; and citizens concerns about interconnecting two transmission lines on Gravelly Lake Drive SW up Interlaaken Drive.

City Council Study Session Minutes -3- January 13, 2003

Appointing a Councilmember pro tempore representing Council Position No. 5 during the absence of the incumbent.

Mayor Harrison indicated that it is uncertain when and if Councilmember Richardson will be taking a leave of absence. He recommended that the procedure will be, that the City Manager Rohlf's will provide blank pieces of paper for Councilmembers to write the name of the candidate they would want to appoint and the City Clerk will tally the votes and announce the results.

Councilmember Finnigan asked whether a nomination process is needed. Mayor Harrison indicated that, if the Council agrees with his recommendation of considering Mr. Walter Neary and Mr. John Simpson, there is no need for a nomination process.

ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE JANUARY 21, 2003 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Consideration of options for regulating gambling. - (Memorandum)
2. Creating Sections 1.36.021 and 1.36.091 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to hearings and appeals on Local Improvement Districts. - (Ordinance - Consent Agenda)
3. Authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement with Puget Sound Energy relative to electrical service issues. - (Resolution - Consent Agenda)
4. Proclamation declaring January 21, 2003 as Kiwanis Appreciation Day. - *Mr. Roger Laybourn, Chair, Clover Park Kiwanis Club*
5. Report on the Tacoma Power electric rate adjustment process. - *Mr. Steve Klein, Superintendent, Tacoma Public*

Utilities

6. City Events Committee Annual Report.

7. Lakewood Historical Society Report. - *Mr. Glen Spieth, President, Lakewood Historical Society*

8. Amending Section 6.04.091 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to animal control noise nuisances. - (Ordinance - Consent Agenda)

9. Amending Sections 5.00.000; 5.02.050; 5.02.090; 5.02.110; 5.02.180; 5.02.190; 5.02.210; 5.12.000; 5.12.010; 5.12.020; 5.12.025; 5.12.050; 5.12.210; 5.28.040; 5.35.130; 5.35.240; 5.37.220; 5.40.020; 5.40.200; 5.48.050; 5.52.020; 5.52.030; 5.52.040; 5.52.060; 5.52.070; 5.52.100; 5.52.105; 5.52.110; 5.52.130; 5.52.140; and 5.52.150 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to business licenses. - (Ordinance - Consent Agenda)

City Council Study Session Minutes -4- January 13, 2003

10. Establishing a six-month moratorium on the filing of applications for licenses, permits and approvals for escort service businesses, and setting Monday, February 3, 2003, at approximately 7:00 p.m., as the date for a public hearing by the City Council on said moratorium. - (Ordinance - Consent Agenda)

11. This is the date set for a public hearing to consider a moratorium on the filing of adult entertainment licenses.

Discussion ensued on the reasons for a moratorium on escort services.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

None.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember McGovern commented on the Law Enforcement Support Agency (LESA) Board's action to increase copying costs from 15 cents to 75 cents per page.

Councilmember McGovern commented on the Clark County Jail Industry Board meeting she attended and spoke about the successes of the computer recycling program.

Councilmember McGovern asked why office supplies do not go out to bid.

Councilmember McGovern expressed concern about businesses along Gravelly Lake Drive SW and Steilacoom Boulevard being held hostage from making decisions about their businesses without knowing when construction will begin on the proposed improvements in that area. Public Works Director Larkin indicated that the City is currently in the process of obtaining appraisals and negotiating acquisitions.

Councilmember Gernon spoke about a meeting she and Deputy Mayor Thomas attended at the Shoreline School District.

Councilmember Gernon commented on the Lake City Neighborhood Association meeting she attended.

Councilmember Finnigan commented on the joint meeting he and other Councilmembers attended with the Pierce College Board of Trustees. He reported that a student expressed interest in volunteering to stencil all the storm drains in Lakewood.

Councilmember Finnigan commented on a staff retreat being planned out of town that can be done in town to save City funds.

City Council Study Session Minutes -5- January 13, 2003

Council concurred with expending funds for a staff retreat that is consistent with the budget.

Councilmember McGovern asked if the Council had a policy on how the Council spends its training/travel budget.

Councilmember Humphrey commented on the joint meeting with the Pierce College Board of Trustees.

Deputy Mayor Thomas reported on the Clover Park School District Board meeting she attended tonight representing the Council and read the Proclamation on the School Board Recognition Month.

Deputy Mayor Thomas commented on the Senior Citizens Board meeting she attended.

Deputy Mayor Thomas asked if there was a discounted fee for senior citizens to obtain pet licenses.

Deputy Mayor Thomas asked where the ".08 alcohol" signs are posted in Lakewood. She explained that some citizens commented to her that the ".08 alcohol" sign at the Veterans Hospital projected a negative image of the hospital. Police Chief Saunders indicated that he would talk with the Veterans Hospital.

Mayor Harrison reported that the Council Retreat is scheduled for February 7, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., at Pierce College International House. He asked Councilmembers to let him know of agenda topics they may have.

Mayor Harrison pointed out that, if there is a quorum, the Council must monitor which meetings Councilmembers will be attending so that notifications can be made.

Mayor Harrison commented on the Master Builders Association meeting he attended.

Mayor Harrison asked for an interested Councilmember to attend the Clover Park School District meeting. Council suggested a rotation.

Mayor Harrison announced the Chamber Chili Cook Off and asked for Council volunteers to prepare chili and serve it.

Mayor Harrison noted that on January 17, 2003, at 3:30 p.m., there will be a Chamber Literacy meeting. Several Councilmembers expressed an interest in attending. Mayor Harrison requested General Services Director/City Clerk Bush to prepare a notice.

City Council Study Session Minutes -6- January 13, 2003

Councilmember Richardson suggested that a Councilmember attend the meeting where Pierce County will be interviewing candidates for the Pierce County Council Position No. 6.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC

CITY CLERK