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LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, October 6, 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: 7 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers Pad Finnigan, Andie Gernon, Larry Humphrey, Helen McGovern and Doug Richardson.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Josh Albright, Troop 410, by request of Mayor Harrison.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Youth Council Report.

The Youth Council reported that they are working on a Make-A-Difference Day activity in October 2003; that the Youth Council is reading the book, "A Lesson Before Dying;" preparing a youth writing event; and writing articles for the American Community Journal every three months.

Proclamation recognizing the Okinawa City, Okinawa, Japan sister city exchange students.

Mayor Harrison presented a proclamation recognizing the Okinawa City, Okinawa, Japan sister city exchange students to Ms. Tomiko Kiyuna and Ms. Ayumi Sakoda of Okinawa City.

Ms. Kiyuna then presented a message from Mayor Nakasone to the Lakewood City Council and a message to the Superintendent and School Board of the Clover Park School District, from the Okinawa City Board of Education.

Mayor Harrison, Clover Park School District (CPSD) Board member Connie Coleman-Lacadie, and CPSD Superintendent Dr. Doris Walker presented a message and welcome gifts to the exchange students.

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Clover Park School District Board Report.

Clover Park School District Board member Connie Coleman-Lacadie thanked Mann Middle School for hosting the eight Okinawa City student exchange at their school and pairing each exchange student with a school buddy. She also commented on the festivities and pumpkin patch visit the students engaged in.

Lakewood Sister Cities Association Board Annual Report.

Dr. Pat Cavendish, President, Lakewood Sister Cities Association Board, presented the 2002-2003 annual report of the sister cities program. He reported that the Association had an increase in membership, conducted Lakewood's

International multi-cultural festival, and hosted a middle school student exchange and several citizen tour groups, including the Murokawa Boys and Girls Club. He then reported that a Lakewood delegation will be visiting Okinawa City to reciprocate a visit from Okinawa City later in October 2003. He indicated that a Lakewood student exchange visit to Okinawa City is planned for 2004. He also reported that the Association is working on a potential relationship with cities in the Philippines and Korea. He thanked the Council for supporting the efforts of the Association and the sister cities program.

Presentation of a check to Lakewood's Promise from Office Depot.

Human Resources and Services Director Young presented a \$500 check to Lakewood's Promise from Office Depot.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlfs reminded Councilmembers to provide their comments on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizens Advisory Board and the Citizens Transportation Committee appointments to the Mayor by Monday, October 13, 2003.

Mayor Harrison spoke about the discussion the City and Pierce County had about the police contract. He explained that the City will not continue its contract with Pierce County due to economics; therefore, the existing contract will terminate on December 31, 2004 and the City will form its own Police Department. City Manager Rohlfs then displayed and reviewed the projected City revenues and expenditures of the proposed police contract.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Speaking before the Council were:

Parley Applegate, 14507 Woodbrook Drive, spoke about vehicle access concerns that the traffic light at the south end of Tillicum was causing for businesses in that area. He then spoke about the need for sidewalks on 150th Street near Woodbrook Middle School and submitting a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for constructing these sidewalks.

Richard Rabisa, #2 Thornewood Lane, spoke about the gate to the Thornewood Castle being vandalized. He added that homeowners paid \$3,500 in damages. He then spoke about evictions, and questioned the landlord's right to place property of evicted tenants in the right-of-way and the City paying for the removal of such property.

Eric Conrad, 9702 South Tacoma Way, Eye Glass Frame Repair, spoke about the violation notices he received for placing "A" Board signs at his business and how such signs have helped his business.

Mike Brandstetter, 9005-81st Street SW, spoke in support of having a no-grace period for implementing fines for off-leash dog violations.

Lisa Ikeda, 12837 Pacific Highway, distributed a City listing of the number of sign code violations under Title 18A.600 showing that a majority of the sign code violations were generated by City staff than citizens' complaints contrary to what was mentioned at the September 2, 2003 Council meeting. She asked that there be more specificity of the Sections of the code when citing sign violations. She indicated that the City Manager and Councilmember Gernon, at the candidates' forum, stated that 90 percent of the sign violations resulted from citizens' complaints which contradicted the handout of sign violations she distributed. Councilmember Gernon and City Manager Rohlfs explained that their comment about 90 percent of the code violations included all code violations and not just sign code violations.

Dennis Haugen, 6528 Mt. Tacoma Drive SW, expressed concern about the accuracy of information City management was providing to the Council and that City management can provide bad information. He spoke about how the Midwest states will gain businesses and how the West is losing businesses.

Joe Sullivan, Car Tech, Lakewood, spoke about "A" board signs that he had made for his vehicle to advertise his business which he received a violation. He then received a violation for placing it at his business. He indicated that his

business is now closed because he cannot advertise by using affordable "A" board signs for small businesses.

Todd Smith, 8192 Hudson Place, expressed concern about incorrect financial information on the proposed police contract that is being presented to the Council by management.

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C O N S E N T A G E N D A

A. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of September 15, 2003.

B. Approval of the minutes of the City Council Special Meeting of September 17, 2003.

C. Approval of the minutes of the City Council Study Session of September 22, 2003.

D. Approval of payroll check numbers 106102 to 106133, in the amount of \$227,882.97, for the period September 1-15, 2003.

E. Approval of claim voucher numbers 23058 to 23113, in the amount of \$1,608,668.68, for the period ending September 17, 2003.

F. Approval of claim voucher numbers 23114 to 23178, in the amount of \$82,925.41, for the period ending September 24, 2003.

G. Items Filed in the Office of the City Clerk:

1. City Events Committee meeting minutes of August 21, 2003.

2. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizen's Advisory Board meeting minutes of August 20 and September 17, 2003.

H. [Ordinance No. 317](#)

Amending Sections 18A.02.140, 18A.20.600, 18A.20.700, 18A.30.530, 18A.30.830, 18A.50.135, 18A.50.170, 18A.50.410, 18A.50.420, 18A.50.425, 18A.50.430, 18A.50.445, 18A.50.530, 18A.50.665, 18A.50.675, 18A.70.250, 18A.70.910, 18A.70.920, 18A.70.930 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to the Land Use and Development Code.

I. [Resolution No. 2003-21](#)

Amending the fee schedule relative to land use permits, zoning certification and site plan reviews, State Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) and wetland fees, and appeals and reconsideration fees.

J. [Resolution No. 2003-22](#)

Setting Monday, October 20, 2003, at approximately 7:00 p.m., as the date for a public hearing by the City Council to consider extending the moratorium on the filing of licenses for adult entertainment businesses for an additional six months.

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K. [Motion No. 2003-33](#)

Denying claims for damages.

MAYOR HARRISON ANNOUNCED THAT RESOLUTION NOS. 2003-20 AND 2003-21 WERE MISNUMBERED, AND THAT RESOLUTION NO. 2003-20 SHOULD READ AS RESOLUTION NO. 2003-21 AND RESOLUTION NO. 2003-21 SHOULD READ AS RESOLUTION NO. 2003-22.

Deputy Mayor THOMAS MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS CORRECTED. SECONDED BY

Councilmember McGovern. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPEALS

This is the date set for a public hearing by the City Council on the proposed use of the 2003 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant funds.

Speaking before the Council was:

Mike Brandstetter, 9005-81st Street SW, asked that the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant funds continue to be used for police services.

There being no further testimony, the hearing was declared closed.

There being no further testimony, the hearing was declared closed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

None.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

None.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Humphrey asked if the traffic signal at the intersection at 112th Street and Bridgeport Way SW can be adjusted to accommodate the increased traffic. He also asked if City staff also looked at 108th Street.

Councilmember Humphrey commented on the Keep Lakewood Beautiful Committee meeting. He announced that the Committee is hosting a Thornewood Castle fundraiser on November 5, 2003.

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Councilmember Humphrey asked that the Council be provided a response to the L&S Tire Company's letter.

Councilmember Richardson commented on the Tillicum Neighborhood Association meeting discussion about the closure of McChord Gate Air Force Base. He asked how the rerouting of commercial traffic will affect 150th Street and the Thorne Lane interchange.

Councilmember McGovern announced that Pierce County Councilmember Paul Bocchi was instrumental in obtaining \$25,000 for Partners for Parks.

Councilmember McGovern indicated that sustained silent reading is an important program and that the Parent Teacher Student Association is looking for 4,000 books to place in the silent reading library. She added that the titles of books being sought for this program will be placed on the website.

Councilmember Gernon thanked City staff for providing prompt responses to questions by the Tai Chi business relative to sidewalks.

Councilmember Gernon commented on the fatality of an animal due to the algae from Steilacoom Lake. She asked that the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department be requested to provide notices to homeowners on the lake that toxic algae can be fatal.

Councilmember Gernon spoke about information that is provided by City staff, and that she would not intentionally mislead any member of the public.

Deputy Mayor Thomas commented on the September 28, 2003 Ft. Steilacoom Park ceremony she attended in honor of those who were buried at the ceremony.

Deputy Mayor Thomas commented on the NatureFest event she attended.

Deputy Mayor Thomas asked that notices be sent to businesses about the changes the Council adopted relative to the sign code.

Mayor Harrison commented on a luncheon meeting he had with Senator Jim Kastama relative to State Route 512 and sewers in Tillicum.

Mayor Harrison clarified that the sign Ordinance since incorporation was developed together with the Lakewood Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Harrison clarified that, when it is necessary, the Council has hired an independent counsel.

Mayor Harrison clarified that as a City, we have made mistakes, but mistakes that have been made have been unintentional. He indicated that he has not doubted the honesty and integrity of City staff's professionalism.

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Mayor Harrison commented that some of the Council will be attending the October 9 and October 16, 2003 meetings with the Legislators. He asked that Councilmembers be emailed the schedule and list of Councilmembers who will be attending these meetings.

At the request of Councilmember Finnigan, Mayor Harrison asked that the discussion on procedures for selecting Councilmembers to attend legislative meetings be placed in a Study Session agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC

CITY CLERK