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LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, December 1, 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 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 7 - Mayor Bill Harrison; Deputy Mayor Claudia Thomas; Councilmembers John Arbeeny, Pad Finnigan, Larry Humphrey, Helen McGovern and Doug Richardson.

FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Jean Harris, VFW Auxiliary, by request of Mayor Harrison.

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Youth Council Report.

The Youth Council reported on the activities of the Youth Council including a Community Food Drive, assisting with the Holiday Tree Lighting celebration, and sponsoring a youth event in honor of "A Lesson Before Dying" - One City, One Book. The Youth Council also provided an update on activities at each of the high school.

Clover Park School District Board Report.

Clover Park School District Board member Connie Coleman-Lacadie reported on the Regional Committee's decision on the Steilacoom/Clover Park School Districts boundary issue and the transfer of assets to the Steilacoom School District in 2006. She announced that the Clover Park School District Board will hold a special meeting on December 8, 2003 to discuss the next steps.

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REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Rohlf announced that on December 5, 2003, at 4:00 p.m., there will be a Tree Lighting and Holiday celebration at City Hall.

Proclamation recognizing Private Robert Hugh Benton, Lakewood's oldest veteran.

Mayor Harrison presented a proclamation recognizing Private Robert Hugh Benton, Lakewood's oldest veteran, to Private Robert Hugh Benton. Mayor Harrison wished Mr. Benton a happy 108th birthday and members of the audience

sang "Happy Birthday."

Mr. Bob Arndt, Chair of the Lakewood Veterans Memorial Committee, presented the City with flags of each of the military services.

Council recessed at 7:25 p.m. and reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Annual Report.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chair Roger Laybourn introduced members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and reported on the 2003 accomplishments in the City's parks.

Mr. Laybourn highlighted significant accomplishments such as the removal of a fence and adding a play structure at Active Park; installation of web cameras at Kiwanis Park; and starting the improvements at Wards Lake Park. He spoke about vandalism at some of the parks, and hosting special events such as Parks Appreciation Day.

Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board Annual Report.

Mr. Walter Neary, Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board Chair, spoke about the transition of City staff support from the City Attorney's office to the Community Development Department. He announced that Jack Avril will be succeeding him as Chair of the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board. He then reported that the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board and the Lakewood Historical Society will be conducting a historical road show in 2004.

Mr. Neary then presented Mr. Mark Griggs with a historical marker plaque in recognition of a Frank Lloyd Wright house.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Speaking before the Council were:

Dennis Haugen, 6528 Mt. Tacoma Drive SW, spoke about the penalties for violating the Executive Session confidentiality law. He then spoke about the City's ability to provide liability insurance in running a police department. He also spoke about a code enforcement ticket for A-board signs and the behavior of City management.

John Kurmel, 14312 West Thorne Lane, spoke about forming a skatepark at Harry Todd Park. He complimented the City Manager and the Council for forming a Police Department. He indicated that a City Police Department will improve the service to Lakewood residents.

Bob Vigers, 10026-100th Avenue SW, thanked Police Chief Saunders and the Police Department for their assistance. He spoke about the need for a street light in his neighborhood. He asked that there be police officer presence in his neighborhood to serve as a deterrent for burglary.

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

A. Approval of the minutes of the City Council Study Session of November 10, 2003.

B. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of November 17, 2003.

C. Approval of payroll check numbers 106261 to 106291, in the amount of \$236,339.02, for the period November 1-15, 2003.

D. Approval of claim voucher numbers 23709 to 23786, in the amount of \$1,218,829.83, for the period ending November 19, 2003.

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

1. Planning Advisory Board Public Hearing minutes of August 13, September 18 and 24, and October 15, 2003.
2. Planning Advisory Board Study Session minutes of September 10 and 17, and October 23, 2003.

F. [Ordinance No. 324](#)

Creating Chapter 2.45 of the Lakewood Municipal Code establishing the Reclaiming Our Youth Advisory Board.

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G. [Ordinance No. 325](#)

Adopting the 2004 mill levy rate of \$1.4799 per \$1,000 assessed value of taxable properties within the city limits.

H. [Ordinance No. 326](#)

Amending the Comprehensive Plan by deleting references to sexually oriented adult businesses from the goals and policies of said Plan.

I. [Resolution No. 2003-28](#)

Declaring certain property as surplus and authorizing its disposal to public entities and charitable nonprofit organizations or as otherwise available under the law.

J. [Motion No. 2003-45](#)

Awarding a bid to R. W. Scott Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$192,892.50, for the construction of curbs, gutters and sidewalks along the south side of San Francisco Avenue between Bridgeport Way and Lincoln Boulevard and along the east side of Lincoln Boulevard between San Francisco Avenue and Chicago Avenue.

Councilmember Humphrey MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY Deputy Mayor THOMAS. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R E G U L A R A G E N D A

ORDINANCES

[Ordinance No. 327](#) creating Chapter 2.14 of the Lakewood Municipal Code establishing a Lakewood Police Department.

DEPUTY MAYOR THOMAS MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 327. SECONDED BY Councilmember Richardson.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN RESULTING AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: 7 - ARBEENY, FINNIGAN, HUMPHREY, MCGOVERN, RICHARDSON, THOMAS, AND MAYOR HARRISON.

NAYS: 0

ORDINANCE NO. 327 WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

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[Ordinance No. 328](#) creating Chapter 2.10 of the Lakewood Municipal Code establishing a Police Civil Service Commission.

councilmember mcgovern MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 328. SECONDED BY Councilmember Richardson.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN RESULTING AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: 6 - HUMPHREY, MCGOVERN, RICHARDSON, THOMAS, ARBEENY, AND MAYOR HARRISON.

NAYS: 1 - FINNIGAN.

ORDINANCE NO. 328 WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

[Ordinance No. 329](#) providing for the exercise of police powers by members of the Lakewood Police Department.

Councilmember Richardson MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 329. SECONDED BY Deputy Mayor THOMAS.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN RESULTING AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: 7 - MCGOVERN, RICHARDSON, THOMAS, ARBEENY, FINNIGAN, HUMPHREY, AND MAYOR HARRISON.

NAYS: 0

ORDINANCE NO. 329 WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

[Ordinance No. 330](#) amending the Employee Compensation and Benefits Plan to add the position of Police Chief.

Deputy Mayor THOMAS MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 330. SECONDED BY Councilmember McGovern.

ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN RESULTING AS FOLLOWS:

AYES: 7 - RICHARDSON, THOMAS, ARBEENY, FINNIGAN, HUMPHREY, MCGOVERN, AND MAYOR HARRISON.

NAYS: 0

ORDINANCE NO. 330 WAS DECLARED ADOPTED.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

None.

Council recessed at 9:40 p.m. and reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

Continued Discussion of 2004 Budget.

City Manager Rohlfs reviewed the compensation levels of certain employee positions in comparison to the 2003 Association of Washington Cities (AWC) salaries and benefits survey for Puget Sound cities. City Manager Rohlfs explained that he is recommending to broaden the range of the classifications by two percent in 2004 and two percent in 2005. He explained that broadening the range will cost approximately \$9,663 in 2004.

City Manager Rohlfs recommended that due to increased costs in health insurance premiums, he is recommending that employees pay 50 percent of the share in premium increases. He explained that City employees have agreed to split the cost of health insurance premiums. He then distributed a draft ordinance for personnel adjustments.

Discussion ensued on the salary range for police officers; the possibility of employees dropping dependent coverage because of the increase in health premiums; and whether Pierce County police officers currently pay for health insurance premiums.

City Manager Rohlf then reviewed some recommended employee range classification changes and the reasons for the adjustments.

Discussion ensued on budgeting impacts; and the cost of insurance premium costs paid by the City.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Humphrey reported on the Keep Lakewood Beautiful Committee meeting in which they discussed the success of their auction.

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Councilmember Finnigan expressed concerns of a citizen who had expressed difficulty with the acoustics in the Council Chambers and could not hear Councilmembers. Public Works Director Larkin indicated that staff is working with the audio-visual vendor to investigate options for the sound system.

Councilmember Arbeen commented on a meeting he had with several Koreans about the October 15, 2003 public hearing on sexually-oriented businesses. He recommended that, in the future, sufficient and proper notification and information be provided to citizens throughout the process.

Deputy Mayor Thomas thanked Community Relations Manager Bock for preparing and compiling the website survey. She requested that the results of the survey be included in the next City newsletter.

Mayor Harrison asked that Councilmembers please respond to Executive Assistant Jacobs on available dates in January 2004 to hold a Council Retreat.

Mayor Harrison announced that Council will recess into Executive Session for approximately 20 minutes to discuss litigation update and land acquisition.

Council recessed into Executive Session at 10:48 p.m. and reconvened at 11:07 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m.

BILL HARRISON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, CMC

CITY CLERK