

2006 07 10 Study Session

LAKESWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, July 10, 2006
City of Lakewood
City Council Chambers
6000 Main Street SW
Lakewood, WA 98499

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 6 ? Mayor Claudia Thomas; Deputy Mayor John Arbeeney; Councilmembers Ron Cronk, Pad Finnigan, Helen McGovern and Doug Richardson.

Councilmember Excused: 1 ? Councilmember Walter Neary.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Presentation on Industrial Development Revenue Bonds (Blade Technology and JNB Enterprises dba Print NW).

Ms. Susan Suess, Vice President of the Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County provided an overview of the merits of Industrial Development Revenue (IDR) Bonds financing. She then provided success stories of what other companies did as a result of IDR Bonds they received. She explained that Blade Technology and JNB Enterprises have applied for IDR Bonds for tax exempt financing to acquire land and construct and equip their facilities.

Discussion ensued on when does the land use and permitting process occur in the IDR Bonds issuance process; the locations and land use designations of the properties proposed to be acquired; how the building at 32nd Avenue South is proposed to be sited on the land; and whether it will be constructed within the clear zone.

Further discussion ensued on the number of new jobs created and retained.

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Lakewood Municipal Code amendments relative to parks facility use; and amending the fee schedule relative to associated park fees.

Parks and Recreation Director Dodsworth reviewed the proposed changes to the Lakewood Municipal Code changes relative to parks and facility uses, and proposed fees on the use of City parks.

Discussion ensued on designated areas where alcohol is allowed (i.e. Rowing Club, Lakewood Senior Center for fundraising activities); cost of liability insurance for users of the parks, horseback riding in the parks; canceling permittee's reservations if the City needs to make use of the facility which, in the judgment of the City Manager, supersedes the need of the permittee; posting of signs in parks that firearms are not allowed to be possessed in a City park; concerns of a potential legal challenge of the proposed language in Section 08.76.070 relative to religious service in the parks, for example, people who may pray before a meal; citizens being given less time to cancel their event and receive less of a refund for cancellations when City staff have up to five days to cancel a permittee's event; requiring a staff person to be on site throughout any non-City event at the Senior Center; priorities for scheduling public facilities; combining Sections 08.76.040, 08.76.050, and 08.76.070 and not call out specific types of groups when all groups are required to obtain a permit for use of City facilities; fees for cross-country teams and practices; senior discounts; having more comparables for boat launch fees; what would be the impact if no fees were charged for the use of parks; and if there is a boat launch fee for canoes (yes, if the canoe uses the boat launch only).

Speaking before the Council was:

Dennis Haugen, Lakewood resident, expressed concern that citizens are not allowed to possess firearms in the parks and suggested putting up a sign that states "senior citizens carry firearms in parks to help deter crime in the parks." He then spoke about allowing boat launch uses in the parks on only hot days and that fees should not be raised. He spoke about using park equipment and the mowing of dry grass at Ft. Steilacoom Park when it did not need to be mowed.

Deputy Mayor Arbeeney indicated that licensed permit holders of concealed weapons has not been a problem and asked the City Attorney to review the legality of the proposed Ordinance language to not allow the possession of firearms for someone who has a permit to possess a concealed weapon.

City Council Study Session Minutes -3- July 10, 2006 **Appointing individuals to serve on the Public Safety Advisory Committee.**

Mayor Thomas indicated that, at last week's Council meeting, the confirmation of appointments failed and it is her intent to bring forth the appointees before the Council next week.

Discussion ensued on the Council setting the criteria and merits for selecting appointees to Committee/Boards; the diversity on Committees; concerns about appointing a candidate who already serves on one police advisory committee and to appoint that individual to the City's Public Safety Advisory Committee; and concerns about comments made about applicants who are affiliated with Lakewood

CARES.

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Neiditz reported on the two properties at 3418 84th Street West and at 15223 Portland Avenue that are being abated and will be coming before the Council next week seeking authorization to expend funds. He spoke about fencing the property at 11404 Cloverdale Court SW to enclose the house that burned. He commented on code enforcement staffing constraints that has been a concern and will be addressed during the budget process.

As a follow up to the Tillicum/American Lake Gardens sewer discussion, he reported that three community outreach meetings will be scheduled to discuss the sewer project, hookup capability, and meeting federal requirements and the Environmental Justice requirements. On August 10, 2006, a meeting is scheduled at Woodbrook Middle School mainly for property owners along the alignment of the sewer trunk line. Two general community meetings are scheduled for Tillicum residents on August 22, 2006 at Woodbrook Middle School and on August 29, 2006 at the Tillicum Community Center. He indicated that notices will be sent out. He added that, after the community outreach, the staff will also be holding "bigger picture" discussions with the Council about setting policy direction about potential sub-area plans, and with developers to express their interest and other strategies for those areas.

Councilmember Cronk inquired about a potential liability for the City at the fenced area at 84th Street across from the flea market that is being used as a parking lot. City Manager Neiditz indicated that the City does not own that property but will investigate this matter.

ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE JULY 17, 2006 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Amending Chapter 8.76 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to parks facility use and associated fees. (Ordinance ? Regular Agenda)

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2. Setting Monday, August 7, 2006, at approximately 7:00 p.m., as the date for a public hearing by the City Council relative to an abated property tax assessment and lien at 3418 84th St. South. (Resolution ? Consent Agenda)
3. Creating Chapter 1.29 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to adopting the powers of initiative and referendum for the qualified electors of the city. (Ordinance ? Regular Agenda)
4. Adopting the findings, conclusions and recommendations of the Hearings Officer relative to the final assessment rolls for Local Improvement Districts (LIDs) Nos. 1101, 1102 and 1103; confirming the principal amount of \$3,090,640.25 for the three LID assessments and the terms of the payments; and amending Section 9.24.030 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relative to penalties for delinquent payment of LID assessment installments. (Ordinance ? Regular Agenda)
5. Adopting the findings of fact and extending the moratorium for the filing of applications for licenses, permits and approvals for correctional facilities located within Public/Institutional Zoning Districts for six months. (Ordinance ? Regular Agenda)
6. Amending the fee schedule relative to parks and senior center facility use. (Resolution ? Regular Agenda)

Speaking before the Council were:

Dennis Haugen, Lakewood resident, expressed concern about a proposed candidate for the Public Safety Advisory Committee that has an affiliation with the Police Chief.

Glen Spieth, Lakewood resident, spoke about the time when he served on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and then served on the Planning Advisory Board. He indicated that he received a call from former Mayor Harrison informing him that he could not serve on two committees at the same time.

Fredric Cornell, Lakewood resident, commented that the proposed candidates for the Public Safety Advisory Committee should not serve on two committees. He then spoke about the Council accepting public comments from citizens.

City Council Study Session Minutes -5- July 10, 2006 **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Richardson asked that staff look into whether the proposed Industrial Development Revenue Bonds proposals will be encroaching in the clear zone.

Councilmember Richardson asked that staff respond to a citizen's letter about an animal control issue.

Councilmember McGovern commented on the tour of Jim Senko's Park.

Deputy Mayor Arbeeney spoke about the Pierce Transit Commissioners' meeting he attended where they announced the creation of a new position of Government Affairs Officer.

Councilmember Finnigan commented on the Tillicum meeting with Code Enforcement staff with discussions on the properties that are being abated.

Councilmember Cronk thanked Mayor Thomas for the opportunity to have an open discussion among the Council.

Councilmember Cronk spoke about the Code Enforcement tour of Tillicum. He thanked the City Manager for posting the Council's voting record on the City's website.

Mayor Thomas also commented on Jim Senko's Park tour.

Mayor Thomas noted that there has been an increase of signs affixed to light poles and asked that an article be published in the City's newsletter informing citizens of the sign code regulations.

Mayor Thomas reported that the Arts Task Force has been meeting and their recommendations will be coming before the Council soon.

ADJOURNMENT

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

CLAUDIA B. THOMAS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, MMC
CITY CLERK
