



## LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, June 28, 2021

City of Lakewood

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>

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### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 6 – Mayor Don Anderson, Councilmembers Mary Moss, Mike Brandstetter, Patti Belle, Paul Bocchi and Linda Farmer.

Councilmembers Excused: 1 – Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Present: 3 – Chair Jason Gerwen, Fred Ramey, and Michael Lacadie.

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

#### **South Sound Housing Affordability Partners (SSHA<sup>3</sup>P) Update.**

Mr. John Howell, Cedar River Group, was joined by Executive Dammeier, Tacoma Mayor Woodards, Orting Mayor Penner and Mr. Marty Kooistra.

Executive Dammeier discussed the primary areas that SSHA<sup>3</sup>P works together such as joint advocacy in Olympia, joint advocacy around policy issues and Capital Projects.

Mayor Woodards discussed the benefits for the community of collaborating with various jurisdictions for affordable housing in the county and explained that the impact would be greater if jurisdictions within the county work together.

Mayor Penner spoke about the diversity of the opinions of this organization. He shared that the problem is the same amongst the county but the solution will be different amongst cities. He also mentioned the benefits of collaborating with other jurisdictions. Discussion ensued related to concerns about the construct of the intergovernmental agreement, perpetuity of the organization, staffing, the cost of lobbying and the ability for parties to join in the future.

City Manager Caulfield then shared that the intergovernmental agreement will come forward for City Council consideration on July 19, 2021.

**Joint Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting.**

Chair Gerwen reviewed the 2021 work plan for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB). Discussion ensued related to prioritizing capital spending on parks, the addition of a parks safety plan discussion to future PRAB agendas, long-term impacts of COVID-19 on city parks and park signs.

**Prosecution Services Update.**

City Prosecutor Johnson and City Attorney Wachter shared a PowerPoint about Prosecution and related services. They discussed the decline in case filings and shared information about charges related to Domestic Violence, Driving under the Influence and Possession of Controlled Substance. Prosecutor Johnson discussed new legislation that requires officers to give suspects a referral for services twice before they arrest on the drug charges and what Lakewood Police are doing to be in compliance. She then discussed Veteran's Court, Friendship Diversion and the charging standards for these programs. Discussion ensued.

**Review of state law related to legal holidays.**

City Attorney Wachter and Human Resources Director McDougal discussed Juneteeth and the cost of adding a paid holiday for City employees. Discussion ensued.

**ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE JULY 6, 2021 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:**

1. Proclamation in recognition of the Pierce County Library Systems 75 Years of Service.
2. Clover Park School District Report.
3. Reappointing Chelene Potvin-Bird and Linda Smith to serve on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee through November 1, 2023. – (Motion – Consent Agenda)
4. Amending Lakewood Municipal Code Chapter 1.12 related to City Holidays. – (Ordinance – Regular Agenda)
5. Adopting the 2021 Comprehensive amendments. – (Resolution – Regular Agenda)

**REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

Planning Manager Speir provided an update on discussions that have been held with Tacoma and Pierce County about acquiring the Comfort Inn for use as an emergency shelter. She reviewed options for using the Comfort Inn through 2023 as an emergency shelter then as using the building for Permanent Supportive

Housing. She discussed the use of American Rescue Plan Act funding and costs associated with acquisition, operations, future funding for the program as well as how the emergency shelter would work between the three jurisdictions.

Discussion ensued specific to concerns about future costs of operations, benefits of the location from a real estate and public safety standpoint. The City Council gave consensus for the City to continue discussions related to the acquisition.

City Manager Caulfield shared the need for an updated City Council picture and recommended taking that picture at either the July 12 or July 19 meeting. He then shared that SummerFest is cancelled this year and Summerfest 2022 is currently being planned tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 23, 2022.

City Manager Caulfield discussed fireworks and shared that the City is working with West Pierce Fire and Rescue about discharge of fireworks and what is legal. He also mentioned that next year fireworks will only be legal on July 4 and December 31.

He then shared that the City is applying for a \$5.1 Million grant for defense community infrastructure for the JBLM North Access Improvement Project.

He shared that the City hosted its first drive in movie on June 25, 2021 where 115 vehicles were in attendance and the next drive in movie will be July 9, 2021.

City Manager Caulfield discussed body worn cameras for the Lakewood Police Department. He shared that the goal is to get every officer a body camera and is requesting \$2 Million from the American Rescue Plan Act funds to be used for this. This will be funding for 5 years. It be presented at the study session July 12 and up for consideration on July 19.

Police Chief Zaro then provide an update on the homicide that occurred at American Lake Park. He shared that the suspect is in custody and was charged with Murder 1. The park was closed for investigation but reopened on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Chief Zaro also reported that there was another shooting on Bridgeport Way this past weekend and the juvenile suspect in this case is in custody.

City Manager shared that he, Dave Bugher and Becky Newton will be meeting with RPAI to discuss the possibility of a downtown park.

### **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Brandstetter reported that he visited the cooling center in City Hall and shared that people who were visiting the cooling center were very appreciative.

Councilmember Belle commended the city and staff for opening the cooling center and efforts at American Lake.

Mayor Anderson shared that last week he attended the Puget Sound Regional Council meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.



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DON ANDERSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



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ALICIA O'FLAHERTY  
ACTING CITY CLERK