



LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, August 23, 2021

City of Lakewood

Council Chambers

6000 Main Street SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

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

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Participant ID: 868 7263 2373

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 7 – Mayor Don Anderson, Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen, Councilmembers Mary Moss, Mike Brandstetter, Patti Belle, Paul Bocchi and Linda Farmer.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Economic Development Update.

Economic Development Manager Newton shared that there are approximately 5,000 active business in Lakewood of which 3,200 are physically located in the City and 1,100 are home based. She shared that outreach was conducted to 54 businesses this quarter and challenges they identified were supply chain, hiring and retaining talented workforce, the uncertainty of COVID-19 and increased demand. She highlighted workforce data, employment, wage trends, and shared that there were 1,900 new jobs in companies with five or more employees. She then shared that the total permit valuation was \$88 Million in the 2nd quarter of 2021.

She then provided a status update of contaminated sites in the Downtown area. She shared that the city continues discussions related to options for a downtown park and is working with the Pierce County Library System on options for building a new library. She spoke about the Lakewood Landing project as well as permitting projects in the Woodbrook and Springbrook neighborhoods.

She shared that the Build Your Better Here campaign has been refreshed with an updated website, new videos and articles. She shared that nearcation.com has been created as well as a monthly business update.

She then highlighted each of the objectives of the Economic Development Strategic Plan and goals. She shared that local retail is strong with attracting businesses from outside the area; employment has increased on average 3.1% per year and by 23%

since 2012. She reported that approximately 3,800 or 13% of people live and work in Lakewood.

She highlighted citywide focus area strategies that include redevelopment of the Downtown area, International District, North Clear Zone property acquisition and relocation assistance, as well as investments in the Springbrook, Woodbrook Business Park and Tillicum neighborhood.

She shared that next steps include continuing to work on the draft Economic Development Strategy which will be reviewed with the City Council in the fall of 2021. Discussion ensued.

Review of compiled community engagement feedback and review of draft Resolution formalizing City Council policies and priorities for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Planning Manager Speir, who was joined by Ted Thelin, ARPA Intern, shared that it is recommended the City Council adopt an Ordinance identifying policies and priorities for use of ARPA funds and allocate initial portions of the funds. She reported that the City is eligible for \$13.7 Million and received its first tranche today in the amount of \$6.8 Million. She shared that eligible costs must be committed by 2024 and exhausted by 2026. She then provided a high level overview of the ARPA program and areas in which funding can be directed such as public health response, public sector revenue loss, water and sewer infrastructure, addressing negative economic impacts, premium pay for essential workers and broadband infrastructure. She also noted that local governments are authorized to provide financial support to 3rd parties.

She then reviewed Federal, Washington State and Pierce County ARPA allocations as well as the policy direction provided by the City Council to date which included treating ARPA funding as onetime monies, providing a 1% set aside for human services programs, filling in gaps rather than duplicating services and conducting community engagement efforts.

She highlighted the Department of Treasury categories for funding categorizations, rules and administrative reporting requirements and recommended that the City use 10% of ARPA funds to cover program administration costs. She then reviewed eligibility for use of funds to serve disproportionately impacted populations noting that the qualified census tracts in Lakewood are in the neighborhoods of Tillicum/Woodbrook, Springbrook, Lakeview and Monte Vista.

Mr. Thelin highlighted the feedback received at community engagement events, stakeholder meetings and the online survey results.

Ms. Speir then reviewed opportunities for collaboration with other governments and non-profits organizations such as the purchase of a hotel for emergency housing, supporting a BIPOC business support program, community navigator program, infrastructure funding and contributions to a capital project through SSHA³P.

She reviewed the proposed policies for use, expenditure recommendations, initial program allocations and external requests. She shared that the policies and priorities outlined in the draft Ordinance are consistent with the City Council's adopted 2021-2024 goals.

Deputy Mayor Whalen departed the meeting at 9:08 p.m. and returned at 9:19 p.m.

Ms. Speir then spoke addressing homelessness with ARPA funding. She highlighted Pierce County's Comprehensive Plan to end homelessness, current shelter locations, capacity, point in time counts by zip code and a timeline for providing additional shelter beds in the community.

She then outlined three examples of potential funding allocation scenarios.

She shared that a public hearing on the draft Ordinance will be held on September 7th, followed by a study session on September 13th and action to adopt the proposed Ordinance on September 20. Discussion ensued.

ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Proclamation declaring September 11, 2021 as Patriot Day and Day of Remembrance.
2. Youth Council Report.
3. Clover Park School District Report.
4. This is the date set for a Public Hearing on the draft Resolution formalizing City Council policies and priorities for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. – (Public Hearings and Appeals – Regular Agenda)
5. Review of County Buildable Lands Report and GMA Population Allocation. – (Reports by the City Manager)

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

Assistant City Manager for Community and Economic Development Bugher provided an update on the Comprehensive Plan amendments. He shared that the process kicks off on September 1st with a review by the Planning Commission. He shared that items for review include tree preservation, land use change on a three-acre site behind St. Clare Hospital, updates to the Tillicum Neighborhood Plan, zoning policies related to housing, a review of adult family homes in the Air Corridor zones and a site specific rezone request from Habitat for Humanity in the Tillicum neighborhood. Discussion ensued and it was noted that the Planning Commission will be reviewing the Climate Change Chapter again in October.

Councilmember Farmer requested a presentation at an upcoming study session related to the tree preservation code.

City Manager Caulfield confirmed Wednesday, October 13th at 6 p.m. for a City Council special meeting to review the 2022 Legislative Agenda and Priorities.

He then shared that Lakewood Police Citizens Academy has been postponed due to limited interest and the Department of Social and Health Services has scheduled an in person open house on August 31st at Custer Elementary School and a virtual meeting on September 9th related to the Western State Hospital Master Plan.

He reported that city was not selected for Defense Communities Infrastructure Program (DCIP) funding for the JBLM North Access Improvement Project and the team will participate in a debriefing to gather information as to why the project was not selected.

He complimented Communications Manager Kopriva who is coordinating with Q13 Fox on donations of new household items for Afghan refugees.

Deputy Mayor Whalen departed the meeting at 9:41 p.m.

City Manager Caulfield reported that the city received notification that a sex offender will be released to an Adult Family Home in the Oakbrook neighborhood. The city has requested that the individual not be placed in the community and doesn't believe SB 5163 is being followed related to the placement. He shared that the individual is expected to be placed on September 13th and the city is working with State Legislatures and the Department of Social and Health Services to get additional information on the placement as well as information out to the community. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Brandstetter commented that no applications for Youth Council were received from Lakes High School students and the city will continue to engage with the school and students to seek representatives.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Moss requested a list of activities available to youth in the community.

Councilmember Farmer shared that Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be hosting a summer social tomorrow evening and shared that Sugar Bones restaurant opened near Stellar Mart on Steilacoom Boulevard.

Councilmember Belle spoke about Craft Theory on Gravelly Lake Drive.

Mayor Anderson spoke about the history of the disc golf course at the former Fort Steilacoom Golf Course property.

Mayor Anderson announced that the City Council will recess into Executive Session for approximately 15 minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency potential litigation. The City Council is not expected to take action following the Executive Session.

The City Council recessed into Executive Session at 10:08 p.m. At 10:23 p.m., Mayor Anderson announced that Executive Session will be extended for 5 minutes. At 10:28 p.m., Mayor Anderson announced that Executive Session will be extended for 5 minutes. At 10:33 p.m., Mayor Anderson announced that Executive Session will be extended for 5 minutes. The City Council reconvened at 10:38 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:38 p.m.



DON ANDERSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



BRIANA SCHUMACHER
CITY CLERK