



## **LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

Monday, September 18, 2023

City of Lakewood

6000 Main Street SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

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

Telephone via Zoom: +1(253) 215-8782

Participant ID: 868 7263 2373

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **ROLL CALL**

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

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Whalen paused for a moment of silence and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Proclamation declaring September 23, 2023 through October 1, 2023 as Blue Star Welcome Week.**

MAYOR WHALEN PRESENTED A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 THROUGH OCTOBER 1, 2023 AS BLUE STAR WELCOME WEEK TO RACHEL CARPENTER, PUGET SOUND PROGRAM MANAGER, BLUE STAR FAMILIES.

#### **West Pierce Fire and Rescue Recognition of Lakewood Police Department.**

CHIEF JIM SHARP, WEST PIERCE FIRE AND RESCUE PRESENTED A CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO LIEUTENANTT PETER JOHNSON, ON BEHALF OF CHIEF PATRICK SMITH, LAKEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP AND RESPONSE TO RECENT FIRE EVENTS.

**Eagle Scout Recognition.**

MAYOR WHALEN AND DEPUTY MAYOR MOSS PRESENTED A CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO EAGLE SCOUTS GERARD BEGA, GUILLAUME (GUY) BEGA, AND CAL TSUNEYOSKI FOR COMPLETING EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS AT THE SPRINGBROOK COMMUNITY GARDEN AND FORT STEILACOOM PARK.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Speaking before the Council were:

*Tichomir Dunlop, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the responsibility of the city to care for existing trees specifically the maple trees at Chase Bank and in opposition to repossession of the house for Edgewater Park.

*Addo Aequitas, Panther Party*, spoke in opposition to the repossession of the house for a parking lot at Edgewater Park.

*Licentia Immortalis, Lakewood resident*, spoke in opposition to the taking of personal property by force specifically the house for a parking lot at Edgewater Park.

*James Dunlop, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the types of arguments, vested rights, the view that the public needs to be educated is patronizing, and the decision made by Richardson and Thomas to allow trees to be cut on lots.

*Helen Wagner, Lakewood resident*, spoke about enjoying leaf watching, the trees located at Chase Bank that are dying and in support of the tree code requiring tree maintenance.

*Bunchy Carter, Black Panther Party*, spoke about the concept of electoral politics and putting the interest of the community before the interest of revenue.

*Christina Manetti, Lakewood resident*, spoke in opposition to the Edgewater Park Master Plan agreement, repossession of a house for a parking lot at Edgewater Park and impacts to displacing the property owner.

*Alan Mason, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the addressing the parking at Edgewater Park, impacts to making the park more accessible to the public, considering future budget allocations to maintain the improvements and the return on investment.

*Tamra Cook, Lakewood resident*, spoke about liberty and licenses being posted to conduct business in the city, the lack of brick and mortar stores that provide information about insurance plan options.

*Tricia Parsons, Lakewood resident*, spoke in opposition to the expansion of Edgewater Park, imposing eminent domain on a tax payer's property, lack of public safety at current parks and questioned who would monitor safety and cleanliness of the park.

*Cindy Baij, Lakewood resident*, spoke in opposition to the expansion of Edgewater Park, impacts to traffic on Edgewater Drive and acknowledged West Pierce Fire and Rescue for their service to the community.

*Ovunayo X, Black Panther Party*, spoke about cutting down of Garry Oak trees, the demolition of Woodbrook Middle School to build an Amazon facility, the definition of eminent domain and in opposition to the acquisition of the Edgewater Park property.

*Ebrahim Mirijalili, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the history of the 9132 Edgewater Drive SW property.

*Jody Polaski, Lakewood resident*, expressed concerns about the scope of work in the contract for the Edgewater Park Master Plan.

*Anita Arnold*, spoke about the history of and impacts of eminent domain and requested that the consultants to do more in the scope of work for the Edgewater Park Master Plan update.

*Yvonne Carson, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the lack of current monitoring and maintenance of Edgewater Park and expressed concerns related to the expansion of Edgewater Park.

*Steve Carson, Lakewood resident*, spoke about access to Edgewater Park, in opposition to the taking the house for a parking lot and the homeless population.

*Susan Mason, Lakewood resident*, spoke about parking issues along Edgewater Park and the lack of emergency response or patrols.

## **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 August 28, 2023.

B. Motion No. 2023-86

Authorizing the execution of an agreement with JA Brennan Associates, PLLC, for the Edgewater Park Master Plan Update.

C. Motion No. 2023-87

Accepting the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant, in the amount of \$45,000, for technological advancement for crime detection, response and protection.

D. Motion No. 2023-88

Authorizing the execution of an amendment to the agreement with Doolittle Construction for the 2023 Chip Seal Program.

E. Motion No. 2023-89

Appointing Amelia Escobedo to serve on the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board through December 31, 2026.

F. Resolution No. 2023-09

Authorizing the City Manager to seek grant funding assistance managed through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for Lakewood Parks Maintenance.

## G. Items filed in the Office of the City Clerk:

1. Planning Commission meeting minutes of June 21, 2023.
2. Community Services Advisory Board meeting minutes of June 21, 2023.
3. Community Services Advisory Board meeting minutes of July 19, 2023.

Councilmember Brandstetter Requested Item No. B, Motion No. 2023-86 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

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Councilmember Anderson requested Item No. E, Motion No. 2023-89 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

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COUNCILMEMBER BOCCHI MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA MINUS ITEM NO. B, MOTION NO. 2023-86 AND ITEM NO. E, MOTION NO. 2023-89. SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MOSS. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON MOVED TO ADOPT MOTION NO. 2023-86. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOCCHI. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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COUNCILMEMBER BOCCHI MOVED TO ADOPT MOTION NO. 2023-89. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BRANDSTETTER. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN WITH ANDERSON, LAURICELLA AND MOSS VOTING IN OPPOSITION. MAYOR WHALEN ABSTAINED FROM VOTING. MOTION NO. 2023-89 FAILS.

## **R E G U L A R   A G E N D A**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

### **REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

Acting City Manager Kraus shared that the Lakewood Community Foundation Fund is accepting applications for the 2023 Larry Saunders Service Award. The City Council will need to identify a member to serve as a Representative on the Awards Recognition Committee. Councilmember Brandstetter will serve as the City's Representative.

She shared that the City received notice from notice from the 2/2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team that they are no longer available on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> for the Community Connector Event. The City Council reviewed calendars are available on Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup> as the date for this event, pending Thornewood Castle availability.

She then announced the following upcoming meetings and events:

- September 27, 5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M., Volunteer Recognition Event, Clover Park Technical College Rotunda
- September 27, 6:30 P.M., Pierce County Council District 6 meeting, DuPont City Council Chambers, 1700 Civic Drive
- September 28, 6:00 P.M., Mayor's Coffeehouse, Fort Steilacoom Park Pavilion
- October 5, 1:00 P.M., Economic Development Board Manufacturing Day, Clover Park Technical College

- October 14, 12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M., Truck & Tractor Day, Fort Steilacoom Park
- November 2, 8:00 A.M., SSMCP Elected Officials Council
- November 11 and 12, Fall 2023 Community Cleanup, 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Waste Connections Transfer Station, 3869 94<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Lakewood, WA 98499

## **CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Bocchi shared that he attended the Planning Commission meeting and this week he will attend the Pierce County Regional Council meeting.

Councilmember Belle shared that she attended the Youth Council meeting.

Councilmember Lauricella shared that he attended the Youth Council meeting, visited the Springbrook Community Garden and thanked West Pierce Fire and Rescue for their relationship with the Lakewood Police Department and commented on the Eagle Scouts who completed community service projects.

Councilmember Brandstetter shared that yesterday was Constitution Day, spoke about the Association of Washington Cities Legislative Priorities and the closure of the Youth for Christ Youth Center. Brandstetter shared that he will be absent from the September 25<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

Councilmember Anderson spoke about Constitution Day, looking at the Constitution for guidance and improvements for Edgewater Park.

Deputy Mayor Moss shared that she attended the Lake City Neighborhood Association meeting and the Air Force Association Ball.

Mayor Whalen shared that he attended the Fort Steilacoom Invitational Cross Country event at Fort Steilacoom Park. He shared that this week he will attend the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners meeting, the Pierce County Regional Council meeting and the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meeting. He spoke about the five applications under review for two vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

  
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JASON WHALEN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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BRIANA SCHUMACHER  
CITY CLERK