



LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, June 26, 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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Whalen called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Review of Multifamily Tax Exemption Code.

Economic Development Director Becky Newton was joined by Assistant City Manager Dave Bugher. Newton shared that Lakewood Municipal Code Section 3.64.020 provides for property tax exemptions for multifamily housing and in 2021 the State of Washington amended several statutes related to multifamily tax exemption programs. She shared that the potential impacts were previously presented to the City Council in January, 2022. She reported that the purpose of the legislation is to incentivize multifamily housing, increase densities, increase production of market rate housing, develop permanent affordable housing opportunities, promote economic development and to create family wage jobs. She then shared that the Planning Commission held a public hearing on May 17th and adopted Resolution 2023-02 on June 7th formalizing its recommendations for City Council consideration. She reviewed each of the recommendations and shared that next steps will include review of the Housing Needs Assessment followed by City Council action by Ordinance. Discussion ensued.

Review of Public Nuisance Code Amendments.

Assistant City Manager Dave Bugher shared that the proposed code amendments will consolidate under Title 8 Public Nuisances, common nuisance violations specific to the Rental Housing Safety Program. This item will come forward for City Council approval on July 3rd.

Review of Tactical Tailor lease modification agreement.

Economic Development Director Becky Newton was joined by City Attorney Heidi Wachter. Newton shared that Tactical Tailor has requested a proposed lease amendment to reduce the monthly lease payment from \$18,000 to \$10,000 beginning in July 2023 through December, 2025. In addition, the lease would be reduced by one year along with a specific timeline for Tactical Tailor to relocate to a new property and return the property back to City by the end of 2025. Discussion ensued.

2023-2024 Strategic Plan Update.

Assistant to the City Manager Michael Vargas provided an overview of updates to the 2023-2024 Strategic Plan. He shared that the current City Council goals were adopted in 2021 and the 2023-2024 Strategic utilizes the same format as the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan. He shared that it is recommended that the City Council adopt the 2023-2024 Strategic Plan and after discussion the City Council recommended that the Strategic Plan come forward for review at a future study session.

ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE JULY 3, 2023 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Proclamation recognizing July as Parks and Recreation month.
– *Jason Gerwen, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board*
2. Business Showcase. – *Biscuit House*
3. Clover Park School District Report.
4. Authorizing the execution of a lease modification agreement with 107th Street Building, LLC for Tactical Tailor. – (Motion – Consent Agenda)
5. Approving the 2023-2024 Strategic Plan. – (Motion – Consent Agenda)
6. Approving the 2023 Comprehensive Plan amendments. – (Ordinance – Regular Agenda)
7. Amending Lakewood Municipal Code Chapter 8.16 Public Nuisances.
– (Ordinance – Regular Agenda)
8. Adopting the Six-Year (2024-2029) Transportation Improvement Program.
– (Resolution – Regular Agenda)

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Caulfield shared that the City received notification that the Mayor of Sister City Buaung, Philippines is travelling to Lakewood and is available to meet with city officials on the morning of July 11th.

He reported that Historic Fort Steilacoom Association is in support in transferring ownership of that property to the City and five applications have been received for the Independent Salary Commission, those applications will come forward for confirmation by the City Council on July 17th.

The City Council discussed an Oak Tree that is being removed as part of American Lake Park Improvements. The purpose of these park improvements is to make the park and access to the lake shoreline ADA accessible as well as addressing degraded and failing facilities such as retaining walls and the restroom building. After discussion the City Council agreed to place \$9,000 in the tree fund even though a tree permit was not required for this project.

He then announced the following upcoming meetings and events:

- June 27, 2:00 P.M., Lakewood Farmers Market, Fort Steilacoom Park
- June 27, 6:30 P.M.; Summer Concert, Fort Steilacoom Park Pavilion
- July 15, 11 A.M.; SummerFEST, Fort Steilacoom Park
- July 15 and July 16; JBLM Air Show and Warrior Expo, Joint Base Lewis McChord
- July 27, 5:00 P.M.; Groundbreaking Ceremony for Fort Steilacoom Park Athletic Fields

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Bocchi shared that he attended the South Sound Housing Affordability Partners (SSHA³P) meeting.

Councilmember Brandstetter shared that he attended the Association of Washington (AWC) Annual Conference.

Councilmember Belle shared that she also attended the Association of Washington (AWC) Annual Conference and thanked the Lakewood Water District Board for meeting this evening.

Councilmember Lauricella shared that last week he attended the Lakewood Farmers Market, the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board meeting and a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Windermere Abode. He shared that he had his Diversity, Equity and Inclusion interview and he thanked the residents who provided comments at the June 20th meeting and the Lakewood Water District Board for meeting this evening.

Councilmember Anderson shared that he travelled to Washington, D.C. where he attended the Association of Defense Communities Board meeting.

Deputy Mayor Moss shared that she attended the Association of Washington (AWC) Annual Conference and had her Diversity, Equity and Inclusion interview.

Mayor Whalen shared that he attended the Association of Washington (AWC) Annual Conference, he thanked the Lakewood Water District Board for meeting this evening and encouraged attendance at the Farmers Market. He spoke about public comments during the June 20th Council meeting and building trust with residents.

ADJOURNMENT

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

ATTEST:



JASON WHALEN, MAYOR



BRIANA SCHUMACHER
CITY CLERK