



## LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, September 5, 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 11, 2023 as Patriot Day and Day of Remembrance.**

MAYOR WHALEN PRESENTED A PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 AS PATRIOT DAY AND DAY OF REMEMBRANCE TO CHIEF JIM SHARP, WEST PIERCE FIRE AND RESCUE AND CHIEF PATRICK SMITH, LAKEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT.

**Proclamation recognizing National Hispanic Heritage month.**

COUNCILMEMBER BELLE PRESENTED A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH TO MAURICIO ROBALINO, FIESTA DE LA FAMILIA PLANNING COMMITTEE.

**Business Showcase. - *Lakewood Barbershop, Jordan and Kyro Parker***

MAYOR WHALEN PRESENTED A CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION TO JORDAN AND KYRO PARKER, OWNER, LAKEWOOD BARBERSHIP AS THE SEPTEMBER 2023 BUSINESS SHOWCASE FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO LAKEWOOD YOUTH AND FOR CREATING A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SPACE FOR MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY TO BOND AND GROW.

**Youth Council Report.**

Youth Councilmembers Angel Calderon Ramirez and Ariana Melo shared changes to Youth Council meeting schedules and details on the committees they have developed within Youth Council. Discussion ensued.

**Clover Park School District Report.**

Clover Park School District (CPSD) Boardmember Carole Jacobs shared that schools are now open, that CPSD is still facing staffing shortages and their plans to recruit new staff. She then shared that CPSD has received approval to provide free lunches and breakfasts to all students. She also shared details on new curriculum that will be introduced this year and that Wednesdays will now start 1 hour later to allow staff to discuss and plan, as well as to work with students more closely. Discussion ensued.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The City Council received a written comment in advance of the meeting from Janet Spingath.

Speaking before the Council were:

*Kerry Hills, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the traffic circles near American Lake Park and city beautification and offered a donation of an oak tree to improve the greenery in the traffic circles.

*Shaun Hill, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the affordable housing situation facing Lakewood, programs for low-income homeowners, and removal of trees.

*Ebrahim Mirjalili, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the removal of trees, the condemnation of homes, and the environmental impacts on houseless citizens.

*James Dunlop, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the removal of trees and construction of warehouses at 123<sup>rd</sup> Street.

*Christina Manetti, Lakewood resident*, asked the City to publish a Master Plan for Edgewater Park, for a town hall meeting for residents of Edgewater Park, and for revision of code to reduce environmental impacts.

*Jasmin Smith, unincorporated Pierce County resident*, spoke in opposition of the City of Lakewood being given a sustainability award, the removal of trees, the condemnation of a neighbor's home, and asked for increased public notice when a home is being condemned.

*Helen Wagner, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the removal of trees and the environmental impacts.

*Daniel Dobler, Lakewood resident*, spoke about the increased traffic near bridges due to fishing, the condemnation of homes, the noise and parties in his neighborhood, and asked for increased police presence and time limits for the visitors.

*Dennis Haugen, Sioux Falls resident*, spoke about educational and nutritional concerns regarding Clover Park School District, the availability of jobs in South Dakota, and immigration, drug usage, and housing costs in Washington.

*Pepper Lisowska, California resident*, spoke about the removal of trees and the impact on the environment.

*Tíchomir Dunlop*, spoke in opposition to the authorization of the Microsoft 365 subscription and to provide suggestions for alternatives.

## 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 14, 2023.
- B. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of August 21, 2023.
- C. Approval of claims vouchers, in the amount of \$4,348,096.44, for the period of July 19, 2023 through August 16, 2023.
- D. Approval of payroll checks, in the amount of \$2,864,512.56, for the period of July 16, 2023 through August 15, 2023.
- E. Motion No. 2023-82

Authorizing the execution of an amendment to the agreement with Tetra Tech for the Waughop Lake Alum Treatment project.

F. Motion No. 2023-83

Authorizing the execution of an agreement with LiftOff, LLC, for the Microsoft 365 subscription.

G. Motion No. 2023-84

Reappointing Mark Peila to serve on the Public Safety Advisory Committee through August 6, 2026.

H. Items filed in the Office of the City Clerk:

1. Independent Salary Commission meeting minutes of July 25, 2023.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON MOVED TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BOCCHI. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R E G U L A R A G E N D A

ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. 780 Amending Lakewood Municipal Code Chapter 2.14 related to training required of Court Compliance Officer.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 780. SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MOSS.

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COUNCILMEMBER BRANDSTETTER MOVED TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 780 BY REMOVING THE TERM "BUILDING OFFICIALS". SECONDED BY COUCILMEMBER BOCCHI. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND FAILED WITH ANDERSON, BELLE, BOCCHI, LAURICELLA, MOSS, AND WHALEN VOTING IN OPPOSITION.

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VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN ON ORDINANCE NO. 780 AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

## REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

### Mandatory Sewer Connections Update.

Public Works Engineering Director Paul Bucich provided an update on the properties that are nearing the end of deferral to connect to city sewers. He shared a history on the timeline of the sewer project and the requirement from grant funding to ensure compliance by the deadline. He also discussed which properties are affected, the difficulties they may face in connecting to the sewers, and detailed the City-provided resources available to the owners.

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City Manager Caulfield shared an update on a Puget Sound Energy pilot project that received positive feedback which would aim to reduce energy consumption between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Discussion ensued.

He then announced the following upcoming meetings and events:

- September 12<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at Fort Steilacoom Park, Lakewood Farmer's Market
- September 8th at 12:00 p.m. at Lakewood City Hall September 11 Remembrance Ceremony
- September 9th from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 pm at Fort Steilacoom Park, Fiesta de la Familia
- September 27th from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. at the Clover Park Technical College Rotunda, Volunteer Recognition Event
- September 27th at 6:30 p.m. at DuPont City Council Chambers, Pierce County Council District 6 meeting.
- October 14<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Fort Steilacoom Park, Truck & Tractor Day

## CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Bocchi shared that Councilmember Brandstetter will attend the South Sound Housing Affordability Partners (SSHA3P) meeting Friday in his place and then spoke about a Planning Commission meeting.

Councilmember Lauricella shared that he attended the Farmer's Market and expressed his appreciation for the Lakewood Barbershop. He also shared that a tree ordinance was passed to help prevent tree removal, but that the agreements on the oaks removed recently occurred prior to it being passed.

Councilmember Belle shared that she attended the Buffalo Soldier Museum's event at Cheney Stadium and that she plans to attend Fiesta de la Familia.

Councilmember Brandstetter discussed the tree removal comments from the public tonight and seconded Councilmember Lauricella's comments on the tree ordinance having taken effect too late to prevent it, but that he sees the mitigation fee that was awarded as a success. He also discussed funds appropriated to affordable housing by the City Council in the past few months in excess of \$2 million. He then shared encouragement for his fellow councilmembers.

Councilmember Anderson added to Councilmember Brandstetter's affordable housing commentary to include information about the remediation of dilapidated homes in the Steilacoom area, resulting in 50 new low-income homes in partnership with Habitat for Humanity. He shared his appreciation for the Fiesta de la Familia event, and that he had lunch on Wednesday with the Commander of the 2/2 Stryker Brigade.

Deputy Mayor Moss expressed concerns on the issue of the public not knowing the extent of efforts that have been made towards affordable housing and provided suggestions on how the City could be more transparent with their communication. She also shared her surprise at the rate of regrowth in Lake Steilacoom Park.

Mayor Whalen shared that he will be attending the 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony and Fiesta de la Familia. He then shared feedback on the public comments tonight, seconding Deputy Mayor Moss' comments on opening communication and providing his suggestions on how to achieve this goal. He also shared his feedback on the condemnation and suggestions for transparency in that process.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.



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JASON WHALEN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



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AMELIA HERNANDEZ  
ACTING CITY CLERK