



LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, October 2, 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 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 6 – Mayor Jason Whalen, Deputy Mayor Mary Moss, Mike Brandstetter, Don Anderson, Patti Belle, and Paul Bocchi.

Councilmembers Excused: 1 – Councilmember J. Trestin Lauricella.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Proclamation recognizing Filipino American History month.

COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON PRESENTED A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORNY MONTH TO MARIA MANLAC, BOARDMEMBER, FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, GREATER PUGET SOUND CHAPTER. MAYOR WHALEN THEN CALLED UPON FILIPINO YOUTH AND RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE WHO SANG THE PHILLIPINE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

Proclamation recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness month.

COUNCILMEMBER BRANDSTETTER PRESENTED A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH TO LISE SCHUMACHER, ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY, CITY OF LAKEWOOD.

Youth Council Report.

Youth Councilmembers Violet Johnson, Ruffaro Guzha and Dylan Pant introduced themselves. Guzha reported that at last months meeting students were assigned to advisory boards and committees and elected Chair and Vice Chair. Pant shared that committees began planning goals and activities for their term on the Youth Council. Johnson shared that goals for the Justice and Safety Committee.

Clover Park School District Report.

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City Council received written comments in advance of the meeting from Amelia Escobedo.

Speaking before the Council were:

Cindy Baij, Lakewood resident, spoke about the inability to punish people due to state law and creating lake access on Gravelly Lake and not just Steilacoom Lake.

Amelia Escobedo, Lakewood resident, thanked the City Council for issuing the Proclamation recognizing Hispanic Heritage month. Escobedo spoke about Motion No. 2023-89, slander that was used against her during the vote for appointment to the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board and requested to be reconsidered for the position.

Christopher Escobedo, Lakewood resident, spoke about the right to assemble, protest and freedom of speech. Escobedo spoke in support of Amelia Escobedo for her work in the community and police leadership for hosting the Police Citizens Academy.

Ebrahim Mirjalili, Lakewood resident, spoke about humanity, violence and read poetry regarding human pain.

Christina Manetti, Garry Oak Coalition, spoke in support of Amelia Escobedo for the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board. Manetti spoke about the importance of the city educating employees regarding the tree protection code requirements and in support of tree preservation.

Bunchy Carter, Black Panther Party, spoke about not seeing Amelia Escobedo at SummerFEST and elected officials lying on the community they serve.

James Dunlop, Lakewood resident, spoke in support of preservation of the tree canopy, the cutting of trees at the temporary Lakewood Library location and reconsidering the issue of de-annexation from the Pierce County Library System.

Addo Aequitas, Panther Party, spoke about the false statements made about Amelia Escobedo and elected officials not working for the community they serve.

C O N S E N T A G E N D A

- A. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of September 5, 2023.
- B. Approval of the minutes of the City Council study session of September 11, 2023.
- C. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of September 18, 2023.
- D. Approval of claims vouchers, in the amount of \$3,310,532.68, for the period of August 17, 2023 through September 15, 2023.
- E. Approval of payroll checks, in the amount of \$3,259,455.62, for the period of August 16, 2023 through September 15, 2023.
- F. Motion No. 2023-85

Authorizing the execution of an amendment to the interagency agreement with the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services for the Lakewood City Hall Investment Grade Audit Phase 1 Implementation.

- G. Motion No. 2023-90

Ratification of the Proclamation terminating the civil emergency proclamation on August 16, 2023 related to fire at Fort Steilacoom Park.

- H. Motion No. 2023-91

Appointing Youth Councilmembers Alli Laska, Alexis Lynn, Katherine Kaiser and Launa Nieto-Johnson to serve on the Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board for the 2023-2024 school year.

- I. Items filed in the Office of the City Clerk:
 1. Planning Commission meeting minutes of June 7, 2023.
 2. Planning Commission meeting minutes of September 6, 2023.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

Review of 2024 Property Tax Levy.

Acting City Manager Kraus shared that it is recommended that the City Council increase the property tax by 1% which will result in a decrease of \$15.01 or 4.0%. She shared that a public hearing will be held at the November 6th City Council meeting.

She then announced the following upcoming meetings and events:

- October 5, 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., Pierce County Manufacturing Day Expo, Clover Park Technical College, Advanced Manufacturing, Building 24
- October 13, 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Filipino American History Month Youth and Community Summit, Thomas Middle School
- October 14, 12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M., Truck & Tractor Day, Fort Steilacoom Park
- October 18, 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., Pierce County Thriving Together Small Business Resource Event, McGavick Conference Center
- November 2, , 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M., SSMCP Elected Officials Council (EOC), Eagle's Pride Golf Course

- November 11 and 12, Fall 2023 Community Cleanup, 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Waste Connections Transfer Station, 3869 94th Street SW, Lakewood, WA 98499
- December 9, Association of Washington Cities, Elected Officials Workshop
- December 9, 4:30 P.M., Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Event
- January 5, 6:00 P.M., 2/2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team Community Connector Event, Thornewood Castle

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Bocchi shared that this week he will be attended the South Sound Housing Affordability Partnership (SSHA³P) meeting.

Councilmember Brandstetter spoke about the discussion regarding naming of Colonial Plaza and shared that on October 19th he will attend the Lt. Governor's Civic Summit event.

Councilmember Belle complimented the Volunteer Recognition Event that took place last week and shared that she attended the Artist Reception this evening.

Councilmember Anderson apologized for misidentifying Amelia Escobedo as being in attendance at SummerFEST.

Deputy Mayor Moss shared that she enjoyed attending the Volunteer Recognition Event and shared that tomorrow she will attend the Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board meeting.

Mayor Whalen complimented those who coordinated the Volunteer Recognition Event and shared that last week he hosted Coffeehouse with the Mayor. He shared that this week he will attend the Economic Development Board of Pierce County Manufacturing Day event, spoke about the vehicle burnouts at Colonial Plaza, the tree removal at the interim Lakewood Library site and questioned whether or not the City Council would like to revisit the recommendation of appointment of Amelia Escobedo to the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board.

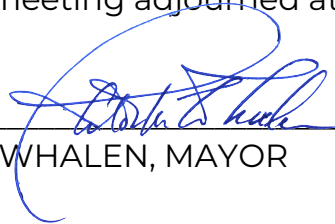
Mayor Whalen announced that the City Council will recess into Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the performance of a public official. The City Council is not

expected to take action following the Executive Session other than to adjourn the meeting.

The City Council recessed into Executive Session at 8:14 p.m. At 8:44 p.m., Mayor Whalen announced that the Executive Session will be extended an additional 10 minutes. The City Council reconvened at 8:54 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



JASON WHALEN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



BRIANA SCHUMACHER
CITY CLERK