



LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 4, 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, Councilmembers Mike Brandstetter, Patti Belle, J. Trestin Lauricella and Paul Bocchi.

Councilmember Excused: 1 – Councilmember Don Anderson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PROCLAMATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Clover Park School District Report.

Carole Jacobs, Clover Park School District (CPSD) Board Vice President shared that she is proud of the efforts between the City Council and CPSD throughout her tenure. She spoke about the levy expiring in 2024 and the current potential replacement as the Washington State basic education fund legislation that passed does not cover all CPSD financial needs. She then announced that CPSD is receiving recognition from Pierce County Health Department (PCHD) for their teen mental health first aid program. She shared that there was a high percentage of families in attendance at conferences this year, CPSD will have a princess in the Daffodil Parade, will be participating in the holiday parade on Saturday, and the Lakes High School dance coach was added to the Washington Dance and Drill Coaches Association Hall of Fame. She then advised that CPSD is continuing to recruit para educators and bus drivers, with winter break approaching, it is important to note that CPSD is not Lakewood when watching weather reports for closures. She then shared that three members of the CPSD Board will be completing their terms of office soon,

and that CPSD is releasing two monthly videos on social media. Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The City Council did not receive any written comments in advance.

Speaking before the Council were:

Barbara, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Dennis Haugen, Sioux Falls resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Ovunayo X, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Judy Stroyer, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Richard, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

James Dunlop, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Christina Manetti, Lakewood Resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Rudy Hess, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Marcus Johnson, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Ursula Haverback, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

William Cooper, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Tyrone Jackson, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

Ebrahim Mirjalili, Lakewood resident, spoke about topics not on the agenda.

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 November 13, 2023.

- B. Approval of the minutes of the City Council meeting of November 20, 2023.
- C. Approval of the minutes of the City Council study session of November 27, 2023.
- D. Approval of claims vouchers, in the amount of \$3,848,332.35, for the period of October 21, 2023 through November 15, 2023.
- E. Approval of payroll checks, in the amount of \$2,938,200.16, for the period of October 16, 2023 through November 15, 2023.

F. Motion No. 2023-108

Authorizing the execution of an interlocal agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation for the Olympic Region Traffic Management Center Communications Services.

G. Motion No. 2023-109

Authorizing the execution of an amendment to the agreement with Heritage Bank Northwest for banking services.

H. Motion No. 2023-110

Authorizing the execution of an amendment to the agreement with Systems for Public Safety, Inc. for fleet maintenance services.

I. Motion No. 2023-111

Authorizing the award of a construction contract to Miles Resources, LLC, in the amount of \$882,340.40, for the construction of the Pine Street Sidewalk project.

J. Motion No. 2023-112

Approving reallocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to amend Contract 2022-241 with BERK Consulting for the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Review and Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS).

K. Motion No. 2023-113

Appointing Mark Herr, Philip Lindholm, Ellen Talbo and Sharon Kay Wallace to serve on the Planning Commission through December 15, 2028.

L. Motion No. 2023-114

Reappointing Bethene Campbell and Christina Manetti to serve on the Landmarks and Heritage Advisory Board through December 31, 2026.

M. Motion No. 2023-115

Canceling the Monday, December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting and the Monday, December 25, 2023 Study Session.

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

1. Community Services Advisory Board meeting minutes of October 18, 2023.
2. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting minutes of October 24, 2023.
3. Planning Commission meeting minutes of November 1, 2023.

COUNCILMEMBER BRANSTETTER 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. 795 Amending the 2023-2024 Biennial Budget.

COUNCILMEMBER BRANSTETTER MOVED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 795. SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LAURICELLA. VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

MAYOR WHALEN MOVED FOR THE RECONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 792, AMENDING LAKEWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 3, REVENUE AND FINANCE, PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR MULTIFAMILY HOUSING, CHAPTER 3.64. SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR MOSS.

VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER ORDINANCE NO. 792 AND FAILED WITH DEPUTY MAYOR MOSS AND

COUNCILMEMBERS BELLE, BOCCHI, BRANDSTETTER AND LAURICELLA VOTING IN OPPOSITION.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Caulfield spoke about the upcoming Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony, notified the City Council that they will be filming a holiday video message to the community in advance of next week's meetings, and there will be a group photo at the January 16, 2024 meeting. He then shared that, of the three transportation improvement grants applied for by the City, two were granted: the Custer Road project and construction of a traffic signal at South Tacoma Way and 92nd Street. He then spoke about park improvements beginning in January, the Ardmore/Whitman improvements have recently begun, and that Hipkins Road improvement are set to begin next week. He advised sidewalk infills will be coming near Lakes High School, South Tacoma Way between 80th and 88th, and on Steilacoom Blvd from Wellard to 87th. Discussion ensued. He also shared that next weeks' study session will be the last official business meeting for the year, with December 18's being a special meeting to recognize Councilmember Don Anderson.

He then announced the following upcoming meetings and events:

- December 9, 4:30 P.M., Holiday Parade of Lights, Lakewood City Hall
- December 6, 8:00 A.M., City of Lakewood Employee Recognition Event, Clover Park Technical College
- December 9, 8:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M., Association of Washington Cities' Elected Officials Essentials Workshop

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Whalen spoke about the virtual public comment portion of this evenings meeting, referencing previous legislation against intolerant and hate speech. City Attorney Heidi Wachter shared information from the Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington (MRSC). Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Brandstetter shared that he found the public comment session uncomfortable and inappropriate, suggesting the City Council review their Rules of Procedure specific to public comment. He then shared he will be attending the Holiday Parade and tree lighting and tomorrow evening he will attend a Pierce County focus group. He shared he is looking forward to recognizing Councilmember Anderson and that he attended the Flag Changing Ceremony at Blue Steele Coffee Shop on November 29.

Councilmember Belle spoke about the Lakewood survey sent to random citizens, encouraging participation from all those who received them. She then shared that she will attend the Wednesday employee recognition event and the holiday events on Saturday. She spoke about free speech and requested additional guidance on how to better address public comment.

Councilmember Bocchi advised he will try to make it to the employee event on Wednesday and will be there Saturday for the holiday events. He spoke about drainage systems in Lakewood, free speech and public comments, and requested legal guidance on public commentary.

Councilmember Lauricella spoke about free speech, discussing how this forum should have civility due to live broadcast and that he is looking forward to receiving legal guidance on options for public comments. He then shared that he is looking forward to the Holiday parade, will participate in the the Jingle Bell Dash 5k, and thanked Carole Jacobs for her service to CPSD. He then discussed the Central Business District Residential Target Area (CBD RTA) and feels expeditious action is best for community. He shared that he attended the Fallen Officers Memorial, wished everyone a happy holiday, and asked everyone to check on neighbors and loved ones during this season.

Deputy Mayor Moss shared that she attended the Flag Changing Ceremony at Blue Steel Coffee Shop, and that she will be at the parade on Saturday. She then discussed the public comment portion of the meeting, possible changes to procedure, and wished everyone happy holidays.

Mayor Whalen shared that he attended the Fallen Officer Flag Changing Ceremony, met with the Executive Director of the Korean Women's Association and shared a collaboration is incoming, and attended the Tacoma and Pierce County Association of Realtors (TPCAR) event about housing opportunities and feedback. He shared that there is an upcoming Pierce Transit Board meeting to review their 6-year Strategic Plan, that he will attend the holiday events on Saturday, and the Jingle Bell Dash 5k. He then spoke about free speech, tonight's public comment session, and advised he is looking forward to legal guidance.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

ATTEST:



AMELIA HERNANDEZ
ACTING CITY CLERK



JASON WHALEN, MAYOR