



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held November 16, 2021

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Wood in the Weingart Ballroom at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Mayor Jeff Wood

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Jeff Wood
Vice Mayor Steve Croft
Council Member Ariel Pe
Council Member Todd Rogers
Council Member Vicki Stuckey

1.1 • SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE WITH ACCOMPANYING RESOLUTION SELECTING FINAL MAP AND ESTABLISHING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND ELECTION SEQUENCE FOR EACH COUNCIL DISTRICT

City Manager Thaddeus McCormack provided a brief summary regarding the process of the transition from at large to by district elections.

Steve Skolnik, for the City Attorney, stated that with regards to the order of actions to be taken, he recommended that the City Council not adopt the proposed ordinance unless the proposed resolution had been adopted first.

Mayor Wood opened the public hearing at 7:34 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter.

Mayor Wood stated that written/email comments had been received from Cassandra Chase and Marcena Munguia.

Jenny Bapp, Lakewood, and Brian Cuaron, Lakewood, addressed the City Council regarding district maps and election sequencing options.

Council Member Rogers expressed concerns regarding the divisive nature of moving to district elections and spoke about the attempts to inflame and spread misleading statements through social media. He clarified that the proposed maps had been drawn by an objective third party, who had prepared over 300 maps, none of which had ever been invalidated. He stated that the maps and sequencing were consistent with the Voting Rights Act and case law. He commented on the CVRA's purpose of increasing minority representation and on the appointment of Council Member Stuckey by a unanimous vote of the City Council. He affirmed his commitment to doing what was in the best interest of every Lakewood resident.

1.1 • SELECTING FINAL MAP AND ESTABLISHING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND ELECTION SEQUENCE FOR EACH COUNCIL DISTRICT - Continued

COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND MAYOR WOOD SECONDED TO DIRECT STAFF TO POST MAP NDC 102C WITH SEQUENCING OF DISTRICTS 1, 2 AND 5 IN 2022 AND 3 AND 4 IN 2024, TO BE BROUGHT BACK FOR ADOPTION WHEN ELIGIBLE. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION FAILED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers and Wood
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Croft, Pe and Stuckey

Vice Mayor Croft explained the logic behind his support for Map NDC 104 and acknowledged the goal of complying with the Voting Rights Act while taking into consideration what was best for all residents and continuing to look out for the entire city when making policies and decisions.

Mayor Wood spoke of the impact of the decision to be made and thanked the residents who participated in the discussions noting that while not everyone was in agreement, the citizens' voices were important and appreciated.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-59; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ESTABLISHING THE FIVE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR A BY-DISTRICT ELECTORAL SYSTEM

VICE MAYOR CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER STUCKEY SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-59, AS PRESENTED IN THE AGENDA, WITH MAP NDC 104 AND ELECTION SEQUENCING OF DISTRICTS 1, 2 AND 5 IN 2022, AND DISTRICTS 3 AND 4 IN 2024. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Croft, Pe and Stuckey
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wood
ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-6; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ESTABLISHING FIVE CITY COUNCIL DISTRICTS FOR A BY-DISTRICT ELECTORAL SYSTEM

VICE MAYOR CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER STUCKEY SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2021-6. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Croft, Pe, Rogers, Stuckey and Wood
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**2.1 • SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO 2021-7;
PERTAINING TO STATE MANDATED RESIDENTIAL DENSIFICATION
STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS THAT REQUIRE MINISTERIAL REVIEW OF
LAND DIVISIONS**

Mr. Skolnik advised that the proposed ordinance had been introduced at the previous City Council meeting and was presented for second reading and adoption at this time.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-7; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING ARTICLE IX OF THE LAKEWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO STATE MANDATED RESIDENTIAL DENSIFICATION STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS THAT REQUIRE MINISTERIAL REVIEW OF LAND DIVISIONS AND ALLOW ADDITIONAL DWELLING UNITS IN THE R-1 AND R-A SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ZONING DISTRICTS

VICE MAYOR CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER STUCKEY SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2021-7. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Croft, Pe, Rogers, Stuckey and Wood
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**2.2 • SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO 2021-8;
PERTAINING TO UPDATING AND CLARIFYING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE
LAKEWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE**

Mr. Skolnik again advised that the proposed ordinance had been introduced and a public hearing had been held at the previous City Council meeting and that second reading and adoption was now proposed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-8; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING ARTICLES IV, VIII AND IX OF THE LAKEWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO UPDATING AND CLARIFYING VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE CODE TO RECOGNIZE PROCEDURAL CHANGES, CONSISTENCY WITHIN THE CODE AND STATE LAW AND TO SIMPLIFY AND CLARIFY REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD, PARKING, AND VARIOUS OTHER REGULATIONS

COUNCIL MEMBER STUCKEY MOVED AND VICE MAYOR CROFT SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2021-8. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Croft, Pe, Rogers, Stuckey and Wood
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Jenny Bapp, Lakewood, addressed the City Council regarding meeting accessibility and enforcement of the mask mandate policy.

Brian Cuaron, Lakewood, spoke about the mask policy.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Wood adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC
City Clerk