Minutes
Lakewood City Council
Special Meeting held
August 8, 2000

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Piercy in the Executive Board Room at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Wayne Piercy
Vice Mayor Robert Wagner
Council Member Joseph Esquivel
Council Member Larry Van Nostran
ABSENT: Council Member Marc Titel (excused)

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STRATEGIC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN

City Administrator Howard Chambers reported that the City Council previously had given Affiliated Computer Systems the authority to assist the City in preparing a five-year master plan to address future technology issues. Representatives had interviewed City staff in each department to determine needs. The Strategic Information Technology Plan had been completed and reviewed by the Information Management Steering Committee. He introduced Terry Hackelman, the consultant in charge of the project, and noted that he had been instrumental in assisting other cities in the preparation of a strategic plan.

Larry Schroeder, Director of Finance, presented a brief historical perspective of the development of technology for City operations beginning with the City's first mainframe computer in 1981. He touched on important components of the plan such as Document Management; Standardized Software; Lakewood Online; Intranet; Class, CEO and Goldmine Software; and user training.

Terry Hackelman, NexLevel, presented an overview of the Strategic Information Technology Plan.

Responding to a question from Vice Mayor Wagner, Mr. Hackelman stated that the original INFO$ financial program was the base for all other components, such as the Service Request system. He advised that before the financial program could ever be replaced, it would be necessary to extract some of the specialized components, like the Service Request system, and restore the main system to a primarily financial one. He noted that the plan called for some components to be extracted, facilitating the replacement of the financial program in the next three-to-five years.

Responding to questions from Mayor Piercy and Council Member Wagner, the Finance Director explained that the Document Management System referenced active records and the ability to retrieve and share them, while the Document Imaging System was intended for inactive records such as historical documents and those requiring long-term storage.

STRATEGIC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN - Continued

Vice Mayor Wagner inquired if the additional staffing for tech support was for programming needs. The Finance Director responded by stating that the current mainframe programs such as accounts payable and payroll were older programs that were very stable and required little attention and that most of the technical support went to desktop software stability issues.

Mayor Piercy asked about budgeting requirements for the proposed initiatives. The Director of Finance responded by stating that the projects listed in the first two years of the plan were already included in the newly adopted budget and that all other items would come back to the City Council as part of future budgeting.

Vice Mayor Wagner expressed concern that the computer architecture would be adequate for the City's future needs and that the proposed improvements would keep the City headed in the right direction. Mr. Hackelman responded by stating that the City's plan was in the mainstream for the computer industry today. He concluded by stating that with the industry focus on non-proprietary systems, functionality was virtually the same with all major vendors, and he did not foresee any drastic changes in the next three-to-five years.

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At 6:58 p.m., Mayor Piercy called for a brief recess. At 7:00 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

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IACOBONI LIBRARY RENOVATION PLANS

The City Administrator stated that the second part of the meeting would be concerned with the renovation of the Iacoboni Library. He reported that the process had been made possible due to funding from Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe in the amount of $500,000.

Public Works Director Lisa Rapp stated that staff had developed a close working relationship with the County library staff and the architect to design a quality project.

Project Architect Jim Nardini, Charles Walton Associates, provided an overview of the new look for the library including tiled entryway, carpeting, new circulation desk, conduit to be laid for increased electrical/telecommunications capabilities, and new lighting throughout the facility. He confirmed for Mayor Piercy that input had been sought from the Iacoboni Library staff.

Interior Designer Judy Van Wyk reviewed samples of the finishes to be used for carpet, wood, and tile areas.

Council Member Esquivel inquired how long the library would be closed during construction. Ms. Rapp responded by stating that the library would close on September 8th and was expected to reopen on January 29, 2001.

IACOBONI LIBRARY RENOVATION PLANS - Continued

Robert Seal, L.A. County Public Library Facilities Planning & Development, reported that the Iacoboni Library had first opened in March of 1973 with a collection of approximately 120,000 items. Today, the Iacoboni Library housed a collection of over 232,000 items and was one of the busiest locations in the County library system. He stated that the proposed renovations had taken collection growth into consideration in both the layout and design and the power and data accessibility.

David Flint, Assistant Director of Finance & Planning for the County Public Library System, stated the architect, Charles Walton Associates, was well known for the design of space efficient buildings.

Project Manager June Anderson reviewed the renovation schedule and the planned storage of the Library's collection in containers in the parking area. She noted that since the project involved interior work there would be no problems with weather delays.

Acting County Librarian Wendy Romano and Regional Administrator Steven Klein provided information on the plan to provide a temporary shift of services and staff to other area libraries such as Bellflower, Artesia and Norwalk, with an increase in hours and staffing at Lakewood's George Nye Library.

Responding to a question from Council Member Van Nostran, Ms. Romano confirmed that a schedule with that information would be provided to area schools. Mayor Piercy stressed the need to work closely with the schools, since the library would be closing just as the school year started.

The City Administrator asked, based upon the County's experiences in other communities, what reactions might be expected from library patrons about the renovation. Mr. Klein responded by stating that most people would go to the George Nye library and find their needs to be well met. He noted that the group most likely to be impacted negatively would be college students who had become accustomed to the large collection at Iacoboni and might have to request books to be transferred through the County system or make use of the Long Beach State Library during the construction project.

Council Member Wagner inquired about the use of a bookmobile. Ms. Romano stated that although bookmobiles had occasionally been used recently as a means to return books, since they provided no electronic access, the usefulness to patrons was extremely limited.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN SECONDED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CITY CLERK TO SIGN A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES UPON ITS APPROVAL AS TO FORM BY THE CITY ATTORNEY.

IACOBONI LIBRARY RENOVATION PLANS - Continued
UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Van Nostran, Esquivel, Wagner and Piercy
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None
ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Titel

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ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Piercy
adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC
City Clerk