



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
March 25, 2003

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 7:40 p.m. by Mayor Van Nostran in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

INVOCATION was offered by Monsignor Joseph Greeley, St. Pancratius Catholic Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Campfire USA Red Birds

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Larry Van Nostran
Vice Mayor Joseph Esquivel
Council Member Wayne Piercy
Council Member Todd Rogers
Council Member Robert Wagner

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION OF CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Van Nostran reflected on the challenges and accomplishments of the past year and offered thanks for the opportunity to serve as mayor. He stated that despite a troubled national economy and financial mismanagement at the State level, Lakewood had a growing retail economy, an expanded public safety team and a united City Council committed to working together to make Lakewood a safer, family-friendly community united by a spirit of volunteerism. He cited new retail opportunities such as the new Kohl's store and the Target set to open later this year. He also noted new ordinances passed by the City Council to regulate cyber cafes, swap meets and to improve safety for children around schools during pickup and drop-off times. He stated he was especially proud of the opening of the new Lakewood Sheriff's Community Safety Center inside the Lakewood Center Mall and an expanded "Team Lakewood" which helped to cut crime at the mall by nearly 7 percent. He stated that the statistics showed that crime was down overall which was directly attributable to the outstanding efforts of an outstanding Sheriff's department. He concluded by expressing his thanks to his colleague on the City Council and the City's executive staff, and a special thank you to his wife, Jean, and the members of their church for their support and encouragement over the past year.

ELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR

Mayor Van Nostran announced that nominations were open for the office of mayor.

Council Member Piercy stated it was both an honor and a pleasure to nominate Joe Esquivel to serve as the Mayor of Lakewood. He noted that Mr. Esquivel had done a fine job as mayor five years ago and had held a number of responsible, leadership roles since. He also remarked on Mr. Esquivel's active participation and leadership in community activities, as well as his positive and enthusiastic attitude.

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION OF CITY COUNCIL - Continued

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS SECONDED TO NOMINATE JOE ESQUIVEL TO SERVE AS MAYOR. THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, JOE ESQUIVEL WAS DECLARED MAYOR BY ACCLAMATION.

Mayor Esquivel presented outgoing Mayor Van Nostran with a plaque and scrapbook commemorating his year of service as Mayor. Mayor Esquivel also presented Mrs. Jean Van Nostran with a bouquet of flowers in recognition of her support for her husband and the many demands made on their time during his year as mayor.

Mayor Esquivel introduced the members of his family in the audience. He thanked his colleagues for the honor of appointing him to serve as mayor and acknowledged that it would take the whole City Council working together as a team to face the challenges in the year to come. He stated that the first order of business would be to address plans by the Governor to balance the State budget at the expense of cities and that he would strongly support a State Constitutional amendment that would prohibit the State from shifting local government revenues to cover overspending by the State. He noted that it was also vital to oppose any reform plan which would take away local control of land use. He stated that although Lakewood was approaching its 50th anniversary, the basic issues of local control, land use and neighborhood preservation, remained the same. He announced that celebration of the City's 50th anniversary would begin with the "49 and Counting" programs, including special features on the City's website, a fireworks show sponsored by the MaceRich Company on May 3rd at the Lakewood Center Mall, and a student writing program entitled, "The Write Stuff." He concluded by extending an invitation to celebrate Lakewood's past.

Mayor Esquivel announced that nominations were open for the office of Vice Mayor.

Council Member Piercy stated he was pleased to nominate a man who had demonstrated leadership qualities far beyond his years, and who had developed into a Council Member of quality, ready to serve as the Vice Mayor.

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN SECONDED TO NOMINATE TODD ROGERS TO SERVE AS THE VICE MAYOR. THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, IT WAS SO ORDERED.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY MOVED AND VICE MAYOR ROGERS SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 8.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held January 28, 2003

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

ROUTINE ITEMS: Continued

- RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands dated February 6, February 13, February 20, February 27, March 6, and March 13, 2003
- RI-4 Approval of Monthly Report of Investment Transactions
- RI-5 Approval of Participation in Coalition for Practical Regulation (CPR)
- RI-6 Approval of Release of Subdivision Bonds for Tract No. 52771, 11508-16215 215th Street
- RI-7 RESOLUTION NO. 2003-10; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD GIVING NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED VACATION OF THE PUBLIC ALLEY WEST OF HAYTER AVENUE BETWEEN DEL AMO BOULEVARD AND HARDWICK STREET, AS SHOWN ON MAP ATTACHED HERETO, AND SETTING A HEARING ON SAID PROPOSED VACATION IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED IN THE CENTRE AT SYCAMORE PLAZA, 5000 CLARK AVENUE, LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, AT 7:30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2003
- RI-8 RESOLUTION NO. 2003-11; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FOR THE URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM AS PROVIDED THROUGH PROPOSITION 12 FUNDING

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piercy, Rogers, Van Nostran, Wagner and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

1.1 • GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONE CHANGE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT ALLINGTON STREET

The Director of Community Development, Chuck Ebner, displayed slides and gave a brief oral presentation based on the memorandum contained in the agenda. He reported that a request had been received from the Schwendener Corporation for approval of a General Plan Amendment and a Zone Change, from Single-Family Residential to Planned Development Single Family, for a parcel located at the northwest corner of Woodruff Avenue and Allington Street. He advised that the PDSF designation allowed greater flexibility in the design and configuration of a project and required a precise plan to lock down the requirements for the project. He stated that the subject site was comprised of three separate parcels which had been developed with three dwelling units, two of which were landlocked and had no direct access except through the parcel fronting on Allington Street. The proposed precise plan called for the construction of eight single-family detached homes, with attached garages to be accessed from the existing alley which would be widened and designated as a lane, pursuant to Fire Department accessibility requirements. He reviewed

1.1 • GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONE CHANGE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT ALLINGTON STREET - Continued

the traffic impacts generated by the proposed project and advised that they had been found to be insignificant. To ensure sufficient water for the project, the Department of Water Resources was recommending that the developer pay a water supply acquisition fee. He reviewed the maps and other materials relevant to the project and stated the applicant was requesting simultaneous approval of both the Development Plan and the Precise Plan. He stated that the resolution for Tentative Tract Map No. 53909 included suggested conditions and comments from reviewing agencies, which would be incorporated into the final map. He advised that an Initial Study had been prepared for the proposed project pursuant to CEQA guidelines and that a Mitigated Negative Declaration had been prepared for the project. He concluded by stating that the project had been reviewed by the Planning and Environment Commission who was recommending that the City Council hold a public hearing and then approve General Plan Amendment No. 2003-2, introduce Ordinance No. 2003-3 to approve Zone Change No. 105, and approve Tentative Tract map No. 53909.

Council Member Van Nostran, noting the utility poles located on the site, inquired about undergrounding the utility services. Mr. Ebner responded by stating that although the actual service to the homes would be underground, the poles would remain on the property.

Council Member Piercy expressed concern about how narrow the alley appeared at only 26 feet, especially if cars were parked in the alley. He also agreed with Council Member Van Nostran that the utilities should be undergrounded if possible.

City Attorney John S. Todd advised that since the utility poles on the site apparently provided service to other neighboring properties, the developer could not legally be required to provide improvements outside the development.

Responding to a question from Council Member Wagner, Mr. Glancy stated that there was an existing account specifically for the acquisition of water rights to which the required fee would be deposited.

Vice Mayor Rogers determined from Mr. Ebner that residents of the neighborhood, who had appeared at the Planning and Environment Commission hearing had spoken in favor of the project.

Mayor Esquivel opened the public hearing at 8:28 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter.

Alan Schwendener, the developer, noted that the original proposal for the site had proven to be not workable and thanked the City's planning staff for assistance in working out the best project for the site. He stated that the neighboring property owners had expressed concerns about parking, trash pickup and surrounding walls, which had been addressed. He confirmed that the utility poles had to remain on the property because they provided service to surrounding properties and stated that the alley would be posted for no parking and that on site parking restrictions would be policed by the homeowners' association.

1.1 • GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONE CHANGE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT ALLINGTON STREET - Continued

Bud Ouellette stated he was the current tenant of the existing middle unit on the subject property. He stated that he felt the quality of the proposed project would be a positive addition to the City.

Yvonne Brasil stated she had acted as the agent and had located the subject property for Mr. Schwendener. She remarked that he had previously completed a number of fine developments.

Jacqueline Rynerson requested clarification on how the open space in the development would be shared and who would enforce those requirements.

Mr. Schwendener responded by stating that each adjacent homeowner would grant an easement to the neighboring homeowner to provide maximum use of the available open space and that any disputes would be settled by the homeowners' association.

Responding to a question from the City Attorney, Mr. Ebner stated that staff would ensure that maintenance of the open space would be included in the Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions for the subject project.

COUNCIL MEMBER WAGNER MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY SECONDED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piercy, Rogers, Van Nostran, Wagner and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

COUNCIL MEMBER WAGNER MOVED AND VICE MAYOR ROGERS SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2003-12.

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-12; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING THE LAND USE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN TO CHANGE THE DESIGNATION OF A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED AT 5813 ALLINGTON STREET, LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, FROM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TO MEDIUM/HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL, AND DESIGNATED AS GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 2003-2

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piercy, Rogers, Van Nostran, Wagner and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

COUNCIL MEMBER WAGNER MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY SECONDED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 2003-3.

1.1 • GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONE CHANGE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT ALLINGTON STREET - Continued

ORDINANCE NO. 2003-3; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD BY CHANGING THE ZONING FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO PDSF (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT SINGLE FAMILY) ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT ALLINGTON STREET, DESIGNATED AS ZONE CHANGE CASE NO. 105

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piercy, Rogers, Van Nostran, Wagner and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

VICE MAYOR ROGERS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO 2003-13.

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-13; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD APPROVING TENTATIVE TRACT MAP NO. 53909

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piercy, Rogers, Van Nostran, Wagner and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

2.1 • ADOPTION OF SIGNATURE RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS NO. 2003-14 THROUGH NO. 2003-16.

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-14; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE CITY TREASURER TO DEPOSIT FUNDS FOR SAFEKEEPING AND INVESTMENT AND AUTHORIZING WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDS FROM DEPOSITORIES

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-15; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE FACSIMILE SIGNATURE OF JOSEPH ESQUIVEL, MAYOR, IN THE EXECUTION OF PUBLIC SECURITIES AND INSTRUMENTS OF PAYMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 2003-16; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE FACSIMILE SIGNATURE OF, MAYOR PRO TEM, IN THE EXECUTION OF PUBLIC SECURITIES AND INSTRUMENTS OF PAYMENT

2.1 • ADOPTION OF SIGNATURE RESOLUTIONS - Continued

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piercy, Rogers, Van Nostran, Wagner and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

3.1 • SHORT-TERM AGREEMENT WITH CLEAR CHANNEL OUTDOOR FOR RETENTION OF BUS SHELTERS

Lisa Rapp, Director of Public Works, gave a brief oral presentation based on the memorandum contained in the agenda and stated that although the City had been served by advertising bus shelters owned by Clear Channel Outdoor and its predecessors since 1990, they had indicated their intention to cease operations and remove the shelters beginning April 1, 2003. Staff had negotiated with Clear Channel to leave the shelters in place for a period of three months, so that plans could be developed for appropriate street furniture and landscaping to address transit riders' needs. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council approve a short-term agreement for the retention of the existing bus shelters in a form to be approved by the City Attorney.

Responding to a question from Council Member Van Nostran, Ms. Rapp stated that the temporary maintenance for the existing shelters would be provided by contract.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIERCY SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piercy, Rogers, Van Nostran, Wagner and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

At 8:43 p.m., the Regular Meeting of the City Council was recessed for the Meeting of the Lakewood Redevelopment Agency. At 8:45 p.m., the City Council Meeting was reconvened.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Debbie Fields, Robert Bilevich, Stephanie Alford, Ramona Kelly, Kenneth Rogers, Bill Albriton and Jerry Roman addressed the City Council regarding traffic problems in their neighborhood and requested Council consider stop controls for the intersection of Claretta Avenue and Centralia Street.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Esquivel adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC

City Clerk