



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
March 23, 2004

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 7:46 p.m. by Mayor Esquivel in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

INVOCATION was offered by Dr. John Bonner, Chaplain Emeritus to the City Council

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Council Member Robert G. Wagner

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

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION OF CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Esquivel reviewed the year just passed stating that despite a troubled national economy and confusion in State government, Lakewood was a safer, better and more optimistic city. He noted achievements such as a 35 percent decrease in crime overall; the retention of a Neighborhood Preservation Manager to focus on neighborhood 'quality of life' issues; a comprehensive, comparative analysis of school performance in Lakewood; a four-point plan to improve educational delivery; the opening of Kohl's and Target department stores; expansion of Lakewood's biggest auto dealer; three new restaurants; and the opening of the West San Gabriel River Parkway nature trail. He stated that in the City's fiftieth anniversary year, residents could be proud of Lakewood's shared common values, strength of traditions, and its unity and diversity. He concluded by thanking his wife, Pat, for her support during his term as mayor and thanking his City Council colleagues and the City executive staff.

ELECTION OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR

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

Council Member Wagner stated he would nominate Todd Rogers for the position of mayor. He noted that as the youngest member of the current City Council, Todd had lived in Lakewood for 28 years and was elected to Council in 2001. He noted Todd's efforts to form a Lakewood Unified School District, which, although rejected by the State, have led to ongoing efforts to improve educational opportunities for Lakewood students through the existing school districts.

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

ANNUAL REORGANIZATION OF CITY COUNCIL - Continued

Mayor Rogers presented outgoing Mayor Esquivel with a plaque and scrapbook commemorating his year of service as Mayor. Mayor Rogers also presented Mrs. Pat Esquivel 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 Rogers stated he was thankful to the Lakewood community for the opportunity to serve as a member of the City Council. He thanked his City Council colleagues for providing mentoring and guidance during his development as an elected official, and noted that he would continue to look to them for advice throughout the coming year. He introduced his wife, Sally, and sons, Brett and Scotty. He also introduced elected officials from the City of Carson in attendance, noting that he worked closely with them in his role as Captain of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Station in Carson and thanking them for their support. He also acknowledged City Attorney John S. Todd for his role in the creation of Lakewood as a city, fifty years ago. He affirmed his intent to continue to pursue the formation of a Lakewood school district as a long-term goal, noting that in the short-term he would work for improvements in educational opportunities with the existing districts and would also work to consolidate the Lakewood Elementary portion of Paramount Unified School District into either Bellflower or Long Beach Unified Districts. He cited the previously mentioned low crime rate in Lakewood and stated that since no rate was low enough, he would continue to emphasize crime suppression and prevention to keep our mall and neighborhoods safe. He expressed the intent to be a vocal advocate to protect local revenues and prevent more State takeaways. He encouraged residents to support a proposed initiative on the November ballot which would stop the State from taking more local revenue without the voters' approval. He advised that a Master Plan would be prepared for the Civic Center and would include a development plan for the lot at the corner of Del Amo Boulevard and Clark Avenue. He reported that two major events remained in the City's celebration of its fiftieth anniversary, the Jukebox Jubilee on May 8th and the closing event, the 50th Anniversary Block Party on July 3rd. He concluded by stating he was both humbled by the responsibility of the Mayor's office and proud to serve the Lakewood community.

Mayor Rogers announced that nominations were open for the office of vice mayor.

Council Member Esquivel stated it was an honor and a pleasure to nominate Wayne Piercy, a colleague with more than fifteen years of experience on the City Council, including previous outstanding service as both the vice mayor and the mayor.

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

Mayor Rogers announced that the meeting would be adjourned in memory of long-time resident and community leader, Nedra Smith.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER WAGNER SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 8.

- RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held March 9, 2004
- RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions
- RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands dated March 4, March 11, and March 18, 2004
- RI-4 Approval of Monthly Report of Investment Transactions
- RI-5 Approval of Quitclaim of Easements for Carson Street
- RI-6 Approval of Amendment to the Agreement with Management, Analysis and Planning, Inc. for School District Consultant Services
- RI-7 RESOLUTION NO. 2004-11; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE THE ALLEY WEST OF BLOOMFIELD AVENUE (CENTRALIA/NORTH OF CENTRALIA) AND THE ALLEY NORTH OF CENTRALIA ROAD (BLOOMFIELD/WEST OF BLOOMFIELD) AND SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED VACATION
- RI-8 Approval of Agreement with URS Corporation for City Hall Needs Assessment

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

2.1 • SIGNATURE RESOLUTIONS

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND VICE MAYOR PIERCY SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS NO. 2004-12 THROUGH NO. 2004-14.

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-12; 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. 2004-13; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE FACSIMILE SIGNATURE OF TODD ROGERS, MAYOR, IN THE EXECUTION OF PUBLIC SECURITIES AND INSTRUMENTS OF PAYMENT

2.1 • SIGNATURE RESOLUTIONS - Continued

RESOLUTION NO. 2004-14; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE FACSIMILE SIGNATURE OF WAYNE E. PIERCY, MAYOR PRO TEM, IN THE EXECUTION OF PUBLIC SECURITIES AND INSTRUMENTS OF PAYMENT

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

At 8:17 p.m., the Regular Meeting of the City Council was recessed for the Meeting of the Lakewood Redevelopment Agency. At 8:19 p.m., the City Council Meeting was reconvened.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Carson Mayor Pro Tem Kay Calas presented Mayor Rogers with a proclamation congratulating him on his appointment as Mayor and expressing best wishes during his term in office.

Bob Clayton stated he was grateful for the current structure of the City Council and their ability to work together for the good of the community.

Sally Brayton expressed concern about people living in recreational vehicles parked around Del Valle Park.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Rogers stated the meeting would be adjourned following a moment of silence in memory of Nedra Smith and requested that Edith Campbell, who had suffered a health-related incident at the close of the Lakewood's Greatest Generation luncheon, be remembered. He adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m., to Tuesday, April 13, 2004, at 6:00 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC
City Clerk