



# Minutes

## Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held  
July 25, 2017

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**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor DuBois in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

**INVOCATION** was offered by Pastor Megan Lemmons, Cityline Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Boy Scouts Troop 134

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT:** Mayor Diane DuBois  
Vice Mayor Steve Croft  
Council Member Ron Piazza  
Council Member Todd Rogers  
Council Member Jeff Wood

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor DuBois introduced Valarie Frost, staff member in the Recreation and Community Services Department, and the "Connecting Play Project Chair" for the Rotary Club of Lakewood, who spoke regarding the Connecting Play International Project which raised funds to refurbish and transfer old playground equipment from Bolivar Park to a small, low-income community in Costa Rica. Ms. Frost introduced fellow Rotarians in the audience: President Ariel Pe, President-elect Karen Harmon, Tania Whiteleather, Richard Michaels and Joshua Castellanos. A video pictorial of the project was shown which included photographs of the project from start to finish and of Costa Rican children who were overjoyed while playing on their new playground. Ms. Whiteleather shared that this experience was one of the best she ever had and that the people of Costa Rica were so thrilled and grateful. She thanked Lakewood and its residents for their support, help and donations that made this project possible. Ms. Frost also thanked Lakewood for giving the children of Costa Rica the same excitement that Lakewood children experience at playground openings in the City.

Mayor DuBois noted that it was a pleasure to watch City Manager Howard Chambers beam during the Connecting Play project presentation and she thanked the Rotary organization and the residents of Lakewood for their accomplishment of this incredible project.

Mayor DuBois announced that today was the last City Council meeting for Mr. Chambers who would be retiring next week. She stated that many people in the audience had come to wish him well and that there was cake for everyone to enjoy in honor of Mr. Chambers. She added that there was a plaque to present to him but first inquired if any members of the Council wished to say something to Howard.

Council Member Wood stated that many had benefited from Mr. Chambers' service to the City and most importantly the residents had benefited from his leadership. He noted that Mr. Chambers had left a permanent mark on City programs and facilities. He thanked Mr.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:** - Continued

Chambers and his staff for keeping the City on track and wished him the best success in his well deserved retirement.

Council Member Piazza stated that he had the privilege of working with Mr. Chambers for over 40 years and had the honor of witnessing all of the contributions that he had made to the community. He sincerely thanked Mr. Chambers on behalf of the residents of Lakewood and congratulated him on his retirement.

Vice Mayor Croft stated that it had been a privilege working with Mr. Chambers and thanked him for his good nature and humor over the years. He added that the community would continue to benefit from Mr. Chambers' focus on what was best for Lakewood. He shared his appreciation for all that Mr. Chambers had done and wished him an enjoyable retirement.

Council Member Rogers thanked Mr. Chambers for being a mentor and giving him insight into how a city operated. He stated that he would miss the security and comfort that Mr. Chambers gave the Council which would allow the potential to innovate. He thanked Mr. Chambers on behalf of the City Council, and all previous City Councils, for being a hero and champion for the community.

Mayor DuBois concurred that Mr. Chambers provided confidence and comfort for the City Council since his views were often widely accepted. She noted that Lakewood was in a good place thanks to his direction and he had put a plan in motion that the City would continue to follow. She added that the City was grateful for the dedication of their homegrown City Manager and she thanked him and his family for so graciously giving up their time with him so that he could successfully manage the City. She invited Mr. Chambers and the members of the City Council up to the podium for the presentation of his plaque.

Responding to an inquiry from Council Member Wood, Mr. Chambers stated that his plaque read "Howard Chambers, 48 years of service, City of Lakewood." He thanked everyone for all that they had done for him in his "quick" 41 years as City Manager. He added that the City Council was great and that City staff was excellent and that they all contributed to his great time at Lakewood.

**ROUTINE ITEMS:**

VICE MAYOR CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIAZZA SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 8.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held June 13, June 27, July 8, and July 11, 2017

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands

RI-4 Approval of Monthly Report of Investment Transactions

**ROUTINE ITEMS:** - Continued

- RI-5 Approval of Quarterly Schedule of Investments
- RI-6 Approval of Designation of Voting Delegate for League Annual Conference
- RI-7 Approval of Establishing Fees for Wireless Telecommunications Related Permits, Resolution No. 2017-35
- RI-8 Rescinding Approval of Agreement for SCADA System Upgrades with Macro Automatics Corporation

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wood, Piazza, Croft, Rogers and DuBois  
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**1.1 • REPORT OF DELINQUENT FEES FOR GARBAGE, WASTE AND REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

Administrative Services Director Diane Perkin made a presentation based on the report in the agenda and stated that 368 notices had been mailed to property owners with delinquent refuse collection accounts, and that as of close of business today, 228 remained unpaid. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2017-36 confirming the report of Delinquent Fees and Charges.

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-36; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD CONFIRMING THE REPORT OF DELINQUENT FEES AND CHARGES FOR GARBAGE, WASTE AND REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL WITHIN THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, MAY 31, 2017

Mayor DuBois opened the public hearing at 8:03 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter. There was no response.

VICE MAYOR CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REPORT OF DELINQUENT FEES AND CHARGES AND TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2017-36.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wood, Piazza, Croft, Rogers and DuBois  
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

## **1.2 • COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT 2017-18 ACTION PLAN**

Sonia Southwell, Director of Community Development, displayed slides and made a presentation based on the report in the agenda. She stated that to be eligible to receive funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Community Development Block Grant Program, the City was required to submit a Consolidated Plan and an Annual Action Plan. She added that the City was also required to conduct a 30-day public comment period for the proposed Action Plan and that the period was extended to today from March 2 because after the 30-day mark the allocation amounts had not been disclosed. Ms. Southwell noted that the allocation for fiscal year 2017-2018 was \$510,476 and that CDBG funds would be used for various matters including the Burns Community Center project and public services such as Community Family Guidance, Pathways Volunteer Hospice, Meals on Wheels and Human Services Association. She concluded by stating that staff recommended the City Council conduct a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed Action Plan and following the public hearing, approve the FY 2017-2018 Action Plan and authorize the City Manager to direct staff to submit to HUD the CDBG funding application Form 424 and approved Action Plan along with the required CDBG certifications by no later than August 14, 2017.

Mayor DuBois opened the public hearing at 8:06 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter. There was no response.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIAZZA SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wood, Piazza, Croft, Rogers and DuBois

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

Council Member Piazza advised residents that as they hear of possible CDBG program cuts they should be aware that funding from this program helps the City provide vital services to residents.

## **SUCCESSOR HOUSING ACTIONS**

### **1. Approval of Registers of Demands**

VICE MAYOR CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REGISTERS OF DEMANDS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wood, Piazza, Croft, Rogers and DuBois

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Steven Cohen, Lakewood, addressed the City Council regarding a required permit for central heating and air conditioning at his inherited property.

Kurt Nielsen, Lakewood, requested that a Sheriff representative follow up with him on speeding concerns and requested staff assistance for parking citations.

Arthur Pinette, Lakewood, submitted a petition from residents of Quigley Avenue and Ostrom Avenue pertaining to a car wash and car service permit that was approved at a Planning and Environment Commission meeting. He addressed the City Council regarding the reasons for their opposition to the car wash and car service permit.

Alan Gafford, Lakewood, commented on the recognition of Lakewood as a city with paved streets and no potholes. He thanked City Manager Howard Chambers for all he had done in 41 years and wished him a happy retirement.

Steve Skolnik, for the City Attorney, commented on the petition submitted against the action taken at the Planning Commission meeting and stated that the process included deadlines and legal requirements in the City Code for appealing a decision made by the Planning Commission. Mr. Skolnik suggested that Mr. Pinette speak with Ms. Southwell as soon as possible if he was considering appealing the decision.

At 8:22 p.m. Mayor DuBois invited all of those in attendance to enjoy a slice of cake in honor of retiring City Manager Howard Chambers.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

At 8:37 p.m., Mayor DuBois announced that the City Council would recess to a closed session.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT, Pursuant to Government Code §54957

Title: City Manager

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS; Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6

Agency designated representatives: City Manager, City Attorney, HR Manager

Unrepresented employee: City Manager (designate)

At 9:07 p.m., the City Council reconvened with all members present.

Steve Skolnik, for the City Attorney, announced that no action was taken during closed session and he recommended that the City Council appoint Thaddeus McCormack to the City Manager position effective as soon as he was released from his current position and to direct

**CLOSED SESSION:** - Continued

staff to present an employment agreement including the negotiated terms at the next City Council meeting for their consideration.

COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIAZZA SECONDED TO APPOINT THADDEUS MCCORMACK TO THE CITY MANAGER POSITION EFFECTIVE AS SOON AS HE WAS RELEASED FROM HIS CURRENT POSITION AND TO DIRECT STAFF TO PRESENT AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT INCLUDING THE NEGOTIATED TERMS AT THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Wood, Piazza, Croft, Rogers and DuBois

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor DuBois adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Isabelle Diaz  
Management Aide