



# Minutes

## Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held  
May 22, 2018

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**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:31 p.m. by Mayor Croft in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

**INVOCATION** was offered by Reverend Dr. Paul Kim, Trinity United Methodist Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Girl Scout Troop 1883

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

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Croft announced that the meeting would be adjourned in memory of the school shooting victims in Santa Fe, Texas. He stated that the meeting would also be adjourned in memory of former Governor George Deukmejian, a longtime Long Beach resident who worked in public service for thirty years in the State Assembly, the State Senate, as Attorney General, and later as Governor.

The Mayor commended staff, community volunteers and the organizers of the Pan Am Fiesta noting the success of the event.

Mayor Croft introduced Margene Stevens, President of the Friends of the Lakewood Libraries. Ms. Stevens recognized the 2018 FOLL Scholarship Recipients: Matthew Ayala, Kade Castleberry, Irene Mendoza, Ashley Miller, Joelle Sabater, Brooke Sasse and Ashton Seth Williams. Mayor Croft presented the recipients who were in attendance with a Certificate of Recognition and City pin.

Mayor Croft presented a proclamation to Public Works Director Lisa Rapp, declaring National Public Works Week, a commemorative week in May which sought to raise the public's awareness of public works issues and the importance of maintaining the roads, bridges, public buildings and other infrastructure of our communities.

The Mayor introduced Josh Yordt, who was in attendance and had accepted the City's offer to become the new Director of Public Safety.

**ROUTINE ITEMS:**

COUNCIL MEMBER PIAZZA MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 11.

RI-1 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-2 Approval of Registers of Demands

RI-3 Report of City Council Committees' Activities

RI-4 Approval of Monthly Report of Investment Transactions - April 2018

RI-5 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-18; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 92-36 PERTAINING TO THE LOW-INCOME EXEMPTION OF THE UTILITY USERS TAX

RI-6 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-19; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ESTABLISHING A HARDSHIP WAIVER FROM ONE OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING REGARDING AN ADMINISTRATIVE OR PARKING CITATION

RI-7 RESOLUTION NO. 2018-20; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD DIRECTING THE PREPARATION OF A REPORT OF DELINQUENT FEES FOR GARBAGE, WASTE AND REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL WITHIN THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, AND SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING THEREON FOR AUGUST 14, 2018

RI-8 Approval of Permit Applications for the Sale of Fireworks

RI-9 Acceptance of Notice of Completion for Public Works Project No. 2018-1, Lakewood City Hall Boiler Replacement, Allison Mechanical, Inc.

RI-10 Approval of Agreement for Cost Sharing for the Installation of Monitoring Equipment and Monitoring Pursuant to the Harbor Toxic Pollutants Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

RI-11 Approval of Agreement with G2 Construction, Inc. to Provide Purchase and Installation of Catch Basin Inserts

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

### **1.1 • AMENDING THE RATE FOR BIN AND SPECIAL REFUSE SERVICES**

Jose Gomez, Director of Administrative Services, displayed slides and gave a presentation based on the report in the agenda. He stated that the contract for bin and special refuse collection and disposal services provided for an adjusted increase of 4.0 percent, based on the April-to-April CPI, to the amounts collected by the contract service provider for special bin service and would become effective July 1, 2018.

Ms. Rapp explained that AB 1826, the State's New Mandatory Organics Recycling Law, required all commercial businesses and multi-family properties with five or more units to arrange for recycling for specified organic waste.

Mr. Gomez stated that the Environmental Management Committee had reviewed the proposed rates and recommended that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2018-21, which adjusted the amounts collected by the contractor for special bin services.

Vice Mayor Rogers inquired whether there had been an increase in scavenging activity and requested feedback on any hardships from businesses.

Efrain Ramirez, EDCO Vice President and General Manager, stated that the programs had been going on for over a year and in his experience with Cal State University Long Beach and the City of San Diego, scavenging had not been an issue due to the carts being enclosed.

Marty Simonoff, EDCO Public Affairs Manager, replied that in contacting the corporate offices of some of the businesses, many were already in compliance with the program and noted that it was their intent to gradually implement the program and minimize the impacts.

City Manager Thaddeus McCormack indicated that with the January 2019 milestone for businesses to arrange for organic waste recycling services, the City would be reaching out to the business community prior to that time.

Council Member Wood inquired whether there might be an opportunity to highlight the outreach efforts and the partnership with local businesses by labeling the trucks as "Lakewood Businesses Recycling." Mr. Simonoff explained that such labeling would not be practical as the trucks being utilized were specially equipped for pickup at multiple jurisdictions.

Mayor Croft opened the public hearing at 8:02 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter. There was no response.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2018-21; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ADJUSTING THE MAXIMUM FEES OR CHARGES FOR BIN AND SPECIAL REFUSE SERVICE**

**VICE MAYOR ROGERS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2018-21.**

**1.1 • AMENDING RATE FOR BIN AND SPECIAL REFUSE SERVICES - Continued**  
UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Piazza

**2.1 • ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2018-22; AMENDING RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR VIOLATIONS RELATING TO THE POSSESSION OR USE OF ILLEGAL FIREWORKS**

Steve Skolnik, Office of the City Attorney, reported that for over 10 years, the City had levied a fine of up to \$1,000 for the possession or use of illegal fireworks, such as skyrocket, firecrackers and other explosives and that use of illegal and dangerous fireworks had increased in recent years. The Public Safety Committee held several meetings with the issue of illegal fireworks use on its agenda and directed staff to present the City Council with a plan for increasing the financial penalty for the possession or use of illegal fireworks, in combination with a plan to enhance the City's public education efforts to dissuade residents from their possession and use. He continued by stating that State law did not limit the ability to collect from the violator additional costs that the City incurred such as: (a) the state Fire Marshal's illegal fireworks disposal fee of \$250, (b) a late fee in the amount of \$250, in the event that the base fine and any additional charges were not paid in full within 30 days, (c) all costs incurred in collecting the fine and additional charges, including but not limited to administrative costs, collection fees, attorneys' fees and court costs. The additional charges could total over \$1,000, which, combined with the base fine of \$1,000, could bring the total cost to over \$2,000 to a violator of the City's illegal fireworks resolution. He stated it was staff's recommendation that the City Council adopt Resolution No. 2018-22, which established additional charges for violations relating to the possession or use of illegal fireworks.

Council Member Piazza stated that as a member of the Public Safety Committee along with Vice Mayor Rogers, the increased hazards of illegal fireworks during recent years' July 4th holidays had been noted and it was the Committee's intent to encourage the use of Safe and Sane fireworks and that the additional fines would serve as a deterrent to the illegal and dangerous variety.

Vice Mayor Rogers explained that in recent years, the 4th of July had become a dreaded holiday due to concerns of the neighborhoods' resemblance to a war zone and that he was baffled by the civil disobedience that occurred. He stated that the increased fines and the aggressive collection of such fines, would offset the costs, which had previously been absorbed by the City. He noted that the additional public education efforts were intended to send a message discouraging the use of illegal fireworks so that injuries and property damage might be prevented.

**2.1 • RESOLUTION NO. 2018-22; ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR VIOLATIONS RELATING TO POSSESSION OR USE OF ILLEGAL FIREWORKS** - Continued

Council Member DuBois expressed gratitude to the Public Safety Committee for their efforts in addressing the challenges posed by the increased use of illegal fireworks.

Mr. McCormack confirmed for Council Member Wood that a post-holiday status report would be provided and would include information on enforcement efforts.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-22; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2008-21 TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL CHARGES FOR VIOLATIONS RELATING TO THE POSSESSION OR USE OF ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PIAZZA SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2018-22. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**3.1 • QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS**

The Administrative Services Director made a presentation based on the report in the agenda and stated that the investments represented in the report were allocated to a variety of funds such as the General Fund, Water Fund, Redevelopment Funds, Restricted Special Revenue Funds, and Fiduciary Funds. The City's idle funds were invested in compliance with the City's investment policy, which had last been reviewed and approved in January 2018, by the City Council. Specifically, the City's investment objectives were safety, liquidity and yield. He concluded by stating it was recommended that the City Council receive and file the Quarterly Schedule of Investments rendered for the 3rd Quarter of Fiscal Year 2017-2018.

MAYOR CROFT DIRECTED THAT THE ITEM BE RECEIVED AND FILED. THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, IT WAS SO ORDERED.

**SUCCESSOR HOUSING ACTIONS**

**1. Approval of Register of Demands**

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

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Joy Carroll, Lakewood, addressed the City Council regarding parking and traffic issues in the neighborhood.

Jenny Forest, Anaheim, spoke to invite participation in the HWPL Peace Walks, which would be held on April 28th. The event was held annually to raise awareness by spreading the message of peace.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of George Deukmejian and the victims of the recent shooting in Santa Fe, Texas.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

At 8:30 p.m., Mayor Croft announced that the City Council would recess to a closed session.

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS – Pursuant to Govt. Code §54957.6

Designated Representative: City Manager, City Attorney, Director of Administrative Services, Assistant to the City Manager, Human Resources Manager

Employee Organization: Lakewood City Employees' Association

At 9:05 p.m., the City Council reconvened and the City Attorney advised that there was no action to announce.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Croft adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m. to Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC  
City Clerk