



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
August 25, 2020

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Rogers in the Weingart Ballroom at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

INVOCATION was offered by Council Member Ariel Pe

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Council Member Steve Croft

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Todd Rogers
Vice Mayor Jeff Wood
Council Member Steve Croft
Council Member Diane DuBois
Council Member Ariel Pe

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: **COUNCIL MEMBER DIANE DUBOIS RETIREMENT**

Council Member DuBois announced that she would be stepping aside from her seat as a Member of the City Council, effective September 1st. She made a statement about her years of service with the City, stating that she had started out volunteering with numerous community groups like the Pan American Association and Lakewood Women's Club, and then worked to support good candidates running for City Council. She was first appointed to the City's Planning and Environment Commission 43 years ago and was first elected to the City Council in 2005 and had served as Mayor for three terms. She expressed her thanks to Steve Skolnik, for the City Attorney, and City Manager Thaddeus McCormack, noting that it was during her term as Mayor that long-term City Manager Howard Chambers had retired and Thaddeus was selected to be the new City Manager, and to the great City staff. She thanked her colleagues for the atmosphere of cooperation and support that characterized the City Council as a team. She thanked her family for their ongoing support and the sacrifices made during her service to the community. She concluded by thanking the residents of Lakewood for creating a wonderful, caring and supportive community. She stated that she had fallen in love with the City when she first moved to Lakewood sixty years earlier and the sentiment continued through to the present.

Mayor Rogers stated that he was very saddened to think of Diane departing the City Council, as she had been a part of so much good that had happened in Lakewood for so many years. He recognized her for her collegiality, friendship, humor, wisdom, and good common sense that helped steer the Council in a positive direction for so many years. He highlighted a few things about Diane's career in Lakewood government, stating that she had served on the City's Planning and Environment Commission for 28 years and was Commission chair seven times. She was elected to the City Council in 2005 and had served for fifteen years, for a total of 43 years of City service. He noted that she had represented the City in several regional organizations and had been the first Lakewood Council Member ever to serve

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Continued

on the L.A. County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, where she served for eight years alongside County Supervisors and the Mayor of Los Angeles, for eight years, including one year as the chair of the agency. He noted that Diane's presence and involvement in that agency had helped to bring critical attention to the transportation needs of the southeast part of Los Angeles County. He concluded by stating that a proper send-off and celebration for Diane would be held in the near future.

Council Member Croft cited Diane's service and support of many of the nonprofit organizations in the City, such as the Pan American Association, Pathways Volunteer Hospice and the Lakewood Regional Medical Center Board. He noted that he had served with Diane on the Planning and Environment Commission before they were both elected to the City Council in 2005. He thanked her for welcoming him to the Commission and providing friendship and support.

Vice Mayor Wood stated that he had first met Diane when he was appointed to the Recreation and Community Services Commission. He thanked her for her efforts as a mentor and noted that she had emphasized to him the importance of City Council Members being involved regionally, as well as locally. He also noted that he had grown close to Diane while serving as her campaign treasurer during her first two campaigns for City Council and would continue to seek out her advice.

Council Member Pe thanked Diane for her friendship to him and to his family. He stated that it was while assisting in her election campaign that he had seen what top level service was actually like. He acknowledged her example of leadership and thanked her for sharing her experience, perspective and history.

City Manager Thaddeus McCormack stated that before he accepted the position as City Manager, he had known Lakewood by reputation as a wonderful community and an exemplar of good governance. He stated that Diane personified those values. He noted that he had become familiar with Diane's leadership skills as she fought for the people through her service on the local Council of Governments and Metro Board. He concluded by stating that he had learned a lot by working with her.

Mr. Skolnik stated that it had been his pleasure to work with Diane, first on the Planning and Environment Commission and later on the City Council, and that she would be missed.

Mayor Rogers presented Diane with a bouquet on behalf of the City Council and Council Member Pe also presented a bouquet on behalf of his family. Council Member DuBois introduced her daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter in attendance at the meeting.

Council Member DuBois announced, on behalf of the City Council, that this year marked the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, securing for women the right to vote. She stated that it was during the month of August when the final state ratified the proposed amendment and it formally became the law of the land. She invited everyone in Lakewood to join the City Council in remembering and honoring the hard work and struggle of Americans over many decades to secure that right to vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Continued

Lakewood resident and Donate Life Ambassador, Maria Jimenez addressed the City Council regarding OneLegacy and the importance of organ donation. She related that her 22 year old son, Adrian, had passed away in 2014 and, at his own request, his organ donation had been a gift of life for three people. She encouraged everyone to engage in a conversation about organ donation so that final wishes of family members would be made clear.

Vice Mayor Wood advised that the Long Beach Unified School District was seeking qualified individuals to serve on their Measure K and Measure E Facilities Bond Oversight Committee and encouraged Lakewood residents within the District to apply before the September 4th deadline. He also reported that the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board was offering a small business revitalization grant program for businesses within the eight city region, with up to \$5,000 for qualified businesses. He encouraged Lakewood businesses to apply during the application period from September 8 through 22.

Council Member Croft announced that the first drive-in movie at the Lakewood Center Mall had taken place on Saturday night with tickets for the next movie going on sale soon.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

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

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held January 28, February 11, February 25, March 10, and March 24, 2020

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands

RI-4 Report of City Council Committees' Activities

RI-5 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-40; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-41; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-42; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

ROUTINE ITEMS: - Continued

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-43; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MORE THAN THREE YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-44; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-45; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-46; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-47; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RI-6 Approval of Report of Monthly Investment Transactions - July 2020

RI-7 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-48; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR STATEWIDE PARK DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS

RI-8 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-49; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD RESCINDING A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS DESIGNATED PARKING SPACE WITHIN THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD

RI-9 Approval of Amendment to Funding Agreement with Metro - Lakewood Boulevard Regional Corridor Capacity Enhancement Project

RI-10 Approval of Renewal of Internet Services Agreement with Spectrum

RI-11 Acceptance of Notice of Completion for Public Works Contract 2019-3, ADA Restroom Improvements to the Existing Park Buildings at Biscailuz Park, Bolivar Park, Boyar Park, Del Valle Park, Mayfair Park and San Martin Park Project

ROUTINE ITEMS: - Continued

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

1.1 • CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Abel Avalos, Director of Community Development, made a presentation based on the memo in the agenda and stated the Congestion Management Program (CMP) which addressed the impact of local growth on the regional transportation system required that a Local Development Report showing all development activity between June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2020, and a resolution adopting the Local Implementation Report and self-certifying the City's conformance with local CMP requirements be submitted annually. He noted that the requirements included that the actions be approved at a noticed public hearing. He reported that the City was in full compliance with all local CMP requirements. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council hold a public hearing, and adopt the proposed resolution finding the City to be in conformance with the CMP and adopting the CMP Local Development Report.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-50; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, FINDING THE CITY TO BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE CONGESTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (CMP) AND ADOPTING THE CMP LOCAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65089

Mayor Rogers opened the public hearing at 8:19 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter. There was no response.

VICE MAYOR WOOD MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2020-50. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

3.1 • CARES ACT CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS

Jose Gomez, Director of Finance and Administrative Services, displayed slides and gave a report based on the memo in the agenda. He stated that the Federal CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act) would provide the City of Lakewood with \$986,770 in relief assistance as a pass through the State of California. He noted that the funds could not be utilized to back-fill lost revenues, but were for expenditures for Coronavirus relief that were not previously budgeted items.

3.1 • CARES ACT CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS - Continued

He also noted that a previous economic relief effort had been accomplished in April utilizing Community Development Block Grant funding. He reported that staff had identified potential areas of activity for allocation of the funds: City Operations Reimbursement of \$349,270, including \$32,500 for the matching component required to receive Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement; Project Shepherd in the amount of \$100,000; and \$505,000 for 101 Business Relief Grants of \$5,000 each. He stated that the Business Relief Grants would use criteria similar to the previous grants under the CDBG program grants. He advised that some of the dollar amounts reported were estimated as precise figures were still being determined and that it was possible that additional assistance might become available through FEMA. He reported that should FEMA provide additional assistance, less funding through the CARES act would be necessary and that the City Council was requested to provide direction for allocation of any additional funding. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council authorize the proposed uses for the CARES Act funding allocated to the City and authorize the City Manager to make funding adjustments as needed.

The City Manager clarified that no adjustment would be made to the base allocations, but would only come into play should additional funding become available. He suggested the City Council establish a ratio or percentage for division on any additional funding.

Responding to a question from Mayor Rogers regarding the potential for any additional assistance programs, the City Manager advised that other programs could be considered, however, there were time limitations for any new program development.

COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO ADOPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

Council Member Croft stated that many local businesses, especially restaurants, had been terribly impacted and could certainly use the assistance. He also endorsed the funding to Project Shepherd, who had a long history of helping residents in need through food cupboards and holiday food projects. He noted that he would be in favor of splitting any additional funding equally between those two programs.

Vice Mayor Wood inquired about other nonprofit organizations with funding needs, such as Pathways Volunteer Hospice.

Council Member Croft, serving as a board member for Pathways, stated their initial grant of \$10,000 in CDBG funding had been used for a food program for their clients, who, since that time, had been transitioned onto other food programs.

Mayor Rogers suggested that the City Manager be authorized to allocate any additional funds proportionally in the same manner that the initial funds were authorized and that staff create a mechanism whereby suggestions from City Council Members could be submitted for potential use of additional funding. He determined from the maker and second of the original motion that this amendment would be acceptable.

3.1 • CARES ACT CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS - Continued

COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO ADOPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ALLOCATE ANY ADDITIONAL FUNDS PROPORTIONATE TO THE INITIAL ALLOCATION AND TO CREATE A MECHANISM FOR SUBMISSION AND CONSIDERATION OF CITY COUNCIL SUGGESTIONS FOR ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

3.2 • REPORT ON COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

The City Manager reviewed actions taken to date regarding the efforts of the City Council and staff to facilitate a community dialogue whereby Lakewood residents could be provided with an opportunity to be heard on the issues of racial equity and strengthening relations between the community and law enforcement. He reported that an Interfaith Council of religious leaders had been formed to help lead the dialogue with all residents, regardless of any religious affiliation. The nineteen-member Interfaith Council had held two meetings via Zoom video conference, with Mayor Rogers and Council Member DuBois also participating. He noted that the second meeting had included a presentation by one of the Council's members, the Rev. Dr. Candace Kelly of Acts Community Chapel in Lakewood, on the "7 Systemic Patterns of Racism." He also reported that consistent with the Mayor's Pledge to conduct a review of Use of Force Policy utilized by the Sheriff's Department, the City Council's Public Safety Committee started its review of that policy at its meeting in July and was currently waiting for additional information to be compiled by the Sheriff's Department and was scheduled to meet in the next week. Once compiled, the policies and data related to the Use of Force would be made available for residents to review. He reported that the Community Dialogue portion, where the City had committed to providing all residents with the opportunity to be heard on the issue of racial equity and strengthening community/law enforcement relations with the goal of making life better for everyone in Lakewood was also progressing. He stated that City staff had been providing research and had made recommendations to the Council's Ad Hoc Committee on the Community Dialogue. The Committee had approved moving ahead with securing a professional moderator experienced in racial equity Town Hall meetings, including online, COVID-safe meetings. He stated that staff would be interviewing and doing reference checks on several moderators with a selection forthcoming and the scheduling of two Zoom Town Halls meetings in three to four weeks. He noted that alternatives for participation by those not able to utilize a Zoom meeting were currently being explored as well. He expressed the goal of the process was to hear from Lakewood residents about their experiences with any racial issues in the community and to listen to their thoughts and recommendations for steps the community could take to set a good example of a safe and welcoming community for all, with the best possible relations between residents and law enforcement. He concluded by stating that the City Council and staff would continue to communicate with residents on this matter through the City's weekly eMagazine, weekly Mayor's Videos, the Mayor's Column in the Lakewood Community News and through the City's website as well.

3.2 • REPORT ON COMMUNITY DIALOGUE - Continued

MAYOR ROGERS STATED THAT THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, THE ITEM WAS ORDERED RECEIVED AND FILED.

Mayor Rogers acknowledged and recognized former Mayor and Council Member Joe Esquivel, who was in attendance in the audience.

SUCCESSOR HOUSING ACTIONS

1. Approval of Registers of Demands

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

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Maria Jimenez, Lakewood, addressed the City Council regarding the area of the dead end at Los Coyotes Diagonal and expressed gratitude for the efforts in seeking solutions to the issues and activities in the neighborhood.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Rogers adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m. to Tuesday, September 8th, at 6:30 p.m., in the Executive Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC (by DRH)
City Clerk