



LAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

Monday, September 28, 2020

City of Lakewood

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cityoflakewoodwa>

Telephone via Zoom: +1(253) 215- 8782

Participant ID: 868 7263 2373

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 7 – Mayor Don Anderson; Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen; Councilmembers Mary Moss, John Simpson, Mike Brandstetter, Paul Bocchi and Linda Farmer.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Sound Puget Sound Wildlife Area Update.

Mr. Alan Billingsley, Rotary Club of Clover Park highlighted the site area which is approximately 100 acres located on Phillips Road in the area of Hudtloff Middle School. He shared that the area includes the Lakewood Fish Hatchery, Andrew Byrd Cemetery which holds around 100 gravesites and borders Chambers Creek. He shared that the Western Pond Turtle and Oregon Spotted Frog are both endangered species who are succeeding in this area and are being studied. He shared that the area was originally a public use and educational area.

He reported that the Rotary has began restoration and shared several before and after photos of the area prior to restoration and after community cleanups were completed. He shared that numerous service clubs and community partners have been participating in the clean ups and have sponsored the installation new benches. He shared that a future option for development includes extending the trail system from the South Puget Sound Wildlife Area to link up with the Chambers Creek Canyon Trail system. Discussion ensued.

Review 2021-2022 Federal Legislative Priorities, State Legislative Agenda and Policy Manual and Pierce County Policy Manual.

Senior Policy Analyst Kelley-Fong shared that this evening we will review the Federal Legislative Priorities, State Legislative Agenda and Policy Manual and Pierce County Policy Manual.

Mr. Jake Johnston, Johnston Group shared that the key 2021 federal priorities include advocating for COVID-19 relief funds for local governments impacted by the pandemic and transportation infrastructure funding through amendments to the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP).

Briahna Murray and Shelley Helder, Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs introduced themselves.

Ms. Murray provided a background on the 2021 legislative session which is scheduled to begin on January 11, 2021. She shared that Democrats are expected to maintain majority in the House and Senate and there will be a significant focus on revenue shortfalls within the states operating, capital and transportation budgets as well as emerging policy issues in the area of police reform, housing and rental assistance and racial equity.

Ms. Helder then reviewed the 2021-2022 state legislative agenda which includes requests for Economic Development financing tools for Lakewood Landing, continued funding for the Western State Hospital Community Partnership Program, capital budget requests for Living Access Support Alliance (LASA) to expand their facilities as well as Wards Lake Park and American Lake Park ADA improvements, and a request for a multimodal transportation study.

Senior Policy Analyst Kelley-Fong then highlighted the Pierce County Policy Manual. Discussion ensued.

ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE OCTOBER 5, 2020 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

1. Proclamation declaring October as Domestic Violence awareness month. – *Mr. Nick Quijas, Associate City Attorney*
2. Youth Council Report.
3. Clover Park School District Report.
4. Appointing the Lakewood's Promise Advisory Board Youth Council representatives. – (Motion – Consent Agenda)
5. Review of the 2021 Property Tax Levy. – (Reports by the City Manager)
6. Presentation of the 2021-2022 Proposed Biennial Budget. – (Reports by the City Manager)

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Caulfield complimented Senior Policy Analyst for coordinating the Community Clean Up event that was held last weekend noting that 289 vehicles participated.

He shared that the City sent a letter to Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI) promoting the benefits of Lakewood as an option for their relocation and a letter to the Sound Transit Board related to the recommendation to pause two projects in Lakewood, a final decision related to these projects will be made in June, 2021.

He then shared that it is requested that the Council designate a representative to participate on the Larry Saunders Service Awards recognition committee and after discussion it was determined that Councilmember Paul Bocchi will represent the Council.

He reported that the City has already received six applications for the Commercial Landlord Rental Assistance Program.

He shared that the Farmers Market will continue to be held on Friday's through October 16th, Truck and Tractor Day has been cancelled due to COVID-19, the final Drive-In Movie at Fort Steilacoom Park is scheduled for October 16th at 7:00 p.m. and a drive through Holiday Parade is being coordinated for December 12th from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

He then shared that he will present the 2021-2022 proposed biennial budget at the City Council meeting of October 5th.

He also shared that the Pierce County Superior Court has several civil cases that are pending jury trials, given the space needed for social distancing representatives have reached out and proposed using the area of the Lakewood Senior Activity Center that the city leases.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

Mayor Anderson announced that Council will recess into Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the performance of a public employee. The Council is not expected to take final action following the Executive Session.

The Council recessed into Executive Session at 9:17 p.m. and reconvened at 9:47 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.



DON ANDERSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:



BRIANA SCHUMACHER
CITY CLERK