Minutes
Lakewood City Council
Regular Meeting held
November 14, 2006

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Vice Mayor Diane DuBois

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Larry Van Nostran
Vice Mayor Diane DuBois
Council Member Steve Croft
Council Member Joseph Esquivel
Council Member Todd Rogers

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:
Council Member Croft announced that Long Beach Unified School District was in the process of a master facilities update and would be holding a meeting at Lakewood High School on Monday, November 27th and a second meeting to be held in February. At these meetings, Lakewood residents would be provided an opportunity for input.

ROUTINE ITEMS:
COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 8.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held October 24, 2006
RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions
RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands
RI-4 Approval of Meeting Reports and Authorizations Pursuant to AB1234
RI-5 Approval of Contract Adjustment for Enterprise Resource Planning System Technical Consultant
RI-6 Approval of Final Map for Tract No. 53949, 20741-20809 Seine Avenue
RI-7 Approval of Agreement with FusionStorm for Disaster Recovery Data Backup
RI-8 Approval of Signage Service Provider Agreement for Lakewood Sheriff Station Expansion Project
ROUTINE ITEMS: Continued
UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

1.1 • APPEAL OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT CASE NO. 384, AMENDMENT NO. 1, PERTAINING TO TWO FREE-STANDING SIGNS AT A COMMERCIAL CENTER LOCATED AT 5436 WOODRUFF AVENUE

Director of Community Development Chuck Ebner gave an oral presentation based on the report in the agenda stating that a request had been received for an appeal of the Planning and Environment Commission’s decision regarding Conditional Use Permit Case No. 384, Amendment No. 1. The Conditional Use Permit (CUP) had been issued for the replacement of two existing signs at the Lakewood Marketplace located at Woodruff Avenue and South Street. Mr. Martin Schuster, owner of the property on the eastern border of the subject location, was objecting to the placement of the sign, stating that there was another option for the location of the sign which would be less intrusive upon his property. Mr. Ebner noted that when Mr. Schuster had expressed his concerns to the Planning and Environment Commission, the Commission had added a condition to the CUP that the applicant provide additional mature screen landscaping between the sign and the boundary wall with Mr. Schuster’s property.

City Attorney Steve Skolnik explained the appeal process, noting that unless a hearing de novo was requested by the City Council, the appeal would be based upon the information and record of the Planning and Environment Commission hearing.

Mr. Ebner clarified that the reason a CUP was required was to allow the development on the property to exceed the number of signs allowed by the Lakewood Municipal Code.

Responding to a question from Council Member Rogers, Mr. Ebner stated that the alternate location suggested by Mr. Schuster would require the relocation of water and/or power lines and major landscaping changes.

Mayor Van Nostran opened the public hearing at 7:46 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter.

Martin Schuster stated that he had owned the property since 1987. He stated that the new sign would have a larger lighted area, making it even more visible from his property. He noted that moving the sign to the other side of the driveway would not only decrease its visibility from his property, but make it more visible from the street.

In response to a question from Council Member Rogers, Mr. Schuster stated that the lighting was not the major factor, rather the size of the sign. Council Member Rogers suggested refining the Commission’s recommendation to require that mature landscaping be an ongoing condition of the CUP approval.
1.1 • APPEAL OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT CASE NO. 384, A-1 - Continued

Don Kinder, representing Toib Enterprises, the property manager, stated that locating the sign on the other side of the driveway would require moving a mature tree, relocating a sprinkler system controller and excavation for electrical conduit. Mr. Kinder responded to a question from Council Member Rogers by stating that he would not oppose a condition to require mature landscaping as an ongoing condition for the CUP.

The City Attorney clarified that the intent of the Planning and Environment Commission had been that mature landscaping be maintained as a screen for the neighboring property and that the landscaping plan, including requiring permanent maintenance, could be reviewed and approved by the Development Review Board.

Jasen Montiel, representing San Pedro Sign Company, confirmed for Vice Mayor DuBois that the proposed new sign would be a little wider, but not any taller than the present sign and would only be illuminated during business hours of the named stores.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

Vice Mayor DuBois noted that the new sign would not be significantly larger than the existing sign and would not be an impediment to the sight line for traffic entering and exiting the driveway.

Council Member Rogers confirmed from the project contractor that there was currently no electrical access on the other side of the driveway and that to excavate to provide access would be expensive.

Council Member Rogers stated that it was the desire of the City Council to be responsive to residents, while supporting businesses in the City. He further stated that he felt it was reasonable to both parties involved in this case to require the installation and maintenance of mature shrubbery between the sign and the neighboring property.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO DENY THE APPEAL OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 384, AMENDMENT NO. 1, BUT REQUIRE MATURE SHRUBBERY BE INSTALLED AND MAINTAINED TO PROVIDE SCREENING FOR THE APPROVED SIGN. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None
1.2 • APPROVAL OF ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR CITIZENS’ OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY (COPS) GRANT 2006-07

Deputy City Manager Sandi Ruyle made a brief presentation based on the memo in the agenda and stated the City was entitled to $162,107 under the Citizens’ Options for Public Safety (COPS) Grant. The grant monies were restricted for use for front line law enforcement services and Lakewood Station Commander, Captain Dave Fender, had prepared a written request of projects to be funded, including the Park Deputy and Bike Patrol program and several mission specific criminal enforcement and suppression programs. It was the recommendation of the Public Safety Committee that the City Council conduct a public hearing and approve the recommended programs for front line law enforcement services, directing the Director of Finance to appropriate the grant funds to the Supplemental Law Enforcement Services account.

Mayor Van Nostran opened the public hearing at 8:10 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter. There was no response.

COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND APPROVE THE COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

2.1 • APPROVING A SPECIFIC PLAN FOR 5601-5609 SOUTH STREET

Mayor Van Nostran advised that the ordinance to approve the Specific Plan for 5601-5609 South Street had been introduced at the previous City Council meeting and was presented for second reading and adoption.

ORDINANCE NO. 2006-11; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ADOPTING SPECIFIC PLAN 2006-2 was read by title by Mayor Van Nostran.

VICE MAYOR DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL SECONDED TO WAIVE FURTHER READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2006-11. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

VICE MAYOR DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER ESQUIVEL SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2006-11. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None
3.1 • STATUS REPORT REGARDING APPROVED COLLECTOR FOR ELECTRONIC WASTE

Public Works Director Lisa Rapp introduced the new Senior Management Analyst in the Public Works Department, Konya Vivanti. She reported that Ms. Vivanti had extensive experience with recycling programs and would present the update on collection of electronic waste.

Ms. Vivanti reported that in 2004, the City had registered with the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) as a Certified Collector. Beginning in 2005, a door-to-door collection program for e-waste was implemented through an expansion of the Dial-a-Dump program. She advised that covered e-waste items included computer monitors; CRT, LCD and Plasma television screens; and laptop computers. Consumers paid a fee at the time of purchase, which the retailer passed through the CIWMB and was rebated to the City for collection of these items, enabling the recycling program to be self-supporting. Citing the increasing number of residents participating in the program, she concluded by stating that the program had proven to be a success both financially and in the amount of e-waste collected and recycled.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT AS PRESENTED. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

3.2 • PURCHASE OF REMAINING FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT FOR LAKEWOOD SHERIFF STATION EXPANSION PROJECT

The Director of Public Works gave a presentation based on the memo in the agenda and stated that in order for the remaining furniture, fixtures and equipment to be delivered in time to complete Phase I of the Lakewood Sheriff Station Renovation Project, they must be ordered now. She advised that there were a number of “piggyback” purchasing agreements available to the City for purchase of the required items, including the CMAS program through the State of California and the County of Los Angeles vendor agreement program. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council authorize the issuance of purchase orders for furniture, fixtures and equipments for Phase I in an amount not to exceed $100,000.

Ms. Rapp displayed slides showing the progress to date on the station renovation and expansion. She noted that completion was projected for September, 2007.

VICE MAYOR DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO ISSUE PURCHASE ORDERS FOR FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT USING EXISTING PURCHASING AGREEMENTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $100,000.
3.2 • PURCHASE OF REMAINING FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT FOR LAKEWOOD SHERIFF STATION EXPANSION PROJECT - Continued

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

At 8:32 p.m., the Regular Meeting of the City Council was recessed for the Meeting of the Lakewood Redevelopment Agency. At 8:33 p.m., the City Council Meeting was reconvened.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:
Brandon Zell addressed the City Council regarding a haunted house at his address. He stated that he had contacted the City prior to construction and received inaccurate information on whether permits were required.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Van Nostran adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC
City Clerk