



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
February 14, 2006

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 7:33 p.m. by Mayor Esquivel in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

INVOCATION was offered by Elder Steve Piercy, 4th Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Council Member Diane DuBois

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Esquivel announced that the Lakewood Sheriff Station and the Lakewood/Long Beach Soroptimist Club were sponsoring a 5K/10K run on February 25th. Council Member DuBois noted that Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca would be one of the runners participating in the event.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

VICE MAYOR VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 7.

- RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held January 24, 2006
- RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions
- RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands dated January 19, January 26, and February 2, 2006
- RI-4 Approval of Meeting Attendance Reports Pursuant to AB1234
- RI-5 Approval of Lease of Water Rights to the City of Cerritos
- RI-6 Approval of Appropriation for Unanticipated Projects
- RI-7 Approval of Encroachment Permit

ROUTINE ITEMS: Continued

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Van Nostran, Croft, DuBois, Rogers and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

1.1 • JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING FOR CRIMINAL ABATEMENT TEAM

Deputy City Manager Sandi Ruyle gave a brief presentation based on the report contained in the agenda and reported that although a portion of the City's Crime, Public Nuisance and Property Abatement Team had been funded over the past six years with grant funds that were now no longer available, some new funding was available through the Justice Assistance Grant Program. She advised that \$22,847 would be available through the JAG Program, which was an entitlement grant. The program required that a public hearing be held and a 30-day comment period be provided. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council approve the submittal of the JAG program funding for the Crime, Public Nuisance and Property Abatement Team deputy, accept public comments on the grant until March 20, 2006, and authorize the City Manager to submit an application for the grant on or after March 20, 2006.

Mayor Esquivel opened the public hearing at 7:40 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 DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Van Nostran, Croft, DuBois, Rogers and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

2.1 • LAKEWOOD AUTO CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN, AMENDMENT NO. 1

City Attorney Steve Skolnik advised that the proposed ordinance, which was presented for second reading and adoption, would amend the specific plan for the Lakewood Auto Center to include an additional property.

ORDINANCE NO. 2006-1; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ADOPTING THE LAKEWOOD AUTO CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN was read by title by the City Clerk.

VICE MAYOR VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO WAIVE FURTHER READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 2006-1.

2.1 • LAKEWOOD AUTO CENTER SPECIFIC PLAN, AMEND. NO. 1 - Continued
UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Van Nostran, Croft, DuBois, Rogers and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

VICE MAYOR VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2006-1. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Van Nostran, Croft, DuBois, Rogers and Esquivel

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

3.1 • LAKEWOOD SCHOOLS COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT ON LOCAL SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Council Member Rogers stated that at the time the Lakewood Schools Council Committee was formed, a commitment was made to provide the City Council with update reports. He reported that Dr. Jerry Gross, the City's school liaison, had met with the superintendents of the districts serving Lakewood and that although they had indicated a willingness to work with the City to improve educational opportunities in Lakewood schools, they had expressed opposition to any annexation of the Lakewood portion of the Paramount Unified School District. He reported that the other three districts serving Lakewood had allowed Paramount students to make inter-district transfers, noting that Long Beach Unified School District had been especially helpful and generous in their transfer policies. He also reported that there was good news regarding Lakewood High School, which now had the second highest high school API (academic performance index) in the district, had experienced an increase in the number of students taking Advanced Placement courses, established small learning communities within the school and offered online grade reports to help parents monitor their student's performance. He noted that Lakewood schools in Bellflower and ABC Unified continued to do well and that conditions were improving at Lakewood Elementary in the Paramount district. He stated that the Committee, in addition to instructing Dr. Gross to meet again with the superintendents from Long Beach, Bellflower and ABC to explore further ways to improve educational opportunities in Lakewood schools, had requested a personal meeting with the superintendent for Paramount Unified. He concluded by stating that the Lakewood Schools Committee, formerly the Lakewood Unified Organizing Committee, continued to offer cash grants to Lakewood teachers and was in the process of distributing \$12,000 to 31 teachers.

Vice Mayor Van Nostran stated that the good things that were happening in Lakewood schools seemed to indicate that the City's program to support education was having a positive impact for Lakewood students.

Council Member DuBois inquired about the bussing of students at Lakewood High School.

3.1 • LAKEWOOD SCHOOLS COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT ON LOCAL SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES - Continued

Chris Steinhauser, Superintendent for the Long Beach Unified School District, stated that through the construction of more neighborhood schools, bussing had been reduced in the district by forty percent. He assured the City Council that he would provide them with the actual numbers for Lakewood High. He also noted that although high school students within the Long Beach Unified School District were offered preference for their neighborhood school, they could choose to attend any high school in the district.

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At 7:50 p.m., the Regular Meeting of the City Council was recessed for the Meeting of the Lakewood Redevelopment Agency. At 7:51 p.m., the City Council Meeting was reconvened.

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ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Esquivel adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m. to Tuesday, February 28, 2006, at 5:45 p.m. in the Executive Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC
City Clerk