



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Special Regular Meeting held
August 14, 2007

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor DuBois in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

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

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL AD HOC RV COMMITTEE PERTAINING TO OFF-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS AND PERMITS FOR ON- AND OFF-STREET PARKING OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES AND TRAILERS

Mayor DuBois advised that the purpose of the meeting was to receive the report of the Council Ad Hoc RV Committee pertaining to the parking of vehicles on the owner's property. She stressed that the meeting was only to hear the Committee's findings, and that no decision-making would occur until the City Council meeting on August 28th, at which time public testimony was also scheduled.

City Attorney Steve Skolnik advised that the meeting had been designed to provide a public forum for the presentation of the findings of the Ad Hoc Committee. He noted that the proposed ordinance to amend the Municipal Code had not been finalized, but would be available prior to the August 28th hearing.

Council Member Rogers, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, stated that in November, 2006, the voters of Lakewood had gone to the polls and the overwhelming majority had expressed their desire to remove recreational vehicles and trailers from residential streets. Following that election, the Planning and Environment Commission had studied, and the Ad Hoc Committee had been formed to review existing parking regulations on private property with the aim of relaxing the regulations, where possible. The Committee had held a workshop in May 2007 and received three hours of public input; surveyed parking regulations in 84 cities; reviewed results of a visual survey of every neighborhood in the City; met with a focus group comprised of residents on each side of the parking issue; and had met as a Committee ten times. The four major objectives of the Committee had been fairness, the will of the voters, private property rights, and the obligation to maintain the quality of life in Lakewood neighborhoods. The Committee recommendations were intended to amend the Municipal Code to allow as much trailer and recreational vehicle parking on private property as practical, balancing the rights of adjacent property owners; allow the private-property parking of small commercial vehicles when used by residents in their employment; encourage the parking of other vehicles in driveways; and add flexibility to the

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COUNCIL AD HOC RV COMMITTEE PERTAINING TO OFF-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS AND PERMITS FOR ON- AND OFF-STREET PARKING OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES AND TRAILERS - Continued

permit parking process by concentrating on the total number of days allowed by year, rather than the total number of permits. He concluded by stating that although the Committee acknowledged from the beginning that it would be impossible to adequately address every possible property configuration or parking situation, he felt the Committee's recommendations were sound.

Council Member Van Nostran stated he felt Council Member Rogers had expressed the Committee's step-by-step process well. He noted that many hours of research and analysis had been required for the City staff and that there had been a tremendous amount of citizen input into the final recommendations. He thanked all of the residents that had participated in the process, as their input had helped to balance and make the final product more fair for all sides. He stated that he felt the recommendations represented a good outcome and noted that if proven necessary in the future, they could be modified.

Community Development Director Jack Gonsalves displayed slides showing different lot configurations representing about 90 percent of those found in the City with the impacts of both existing and proposed parking regulations for each. He showed examples of parking scenarios that were permitted and not permitted, as well as types of commercial vehicles and trailers that would be allowed and not allowed. He provided a brief comparison of the parking permit process regulations and the proposed changes and reviewed the hardship exception process.

Mayor DuBois expressed thanks to the members of the Ad Hoc Committee and the residents participating in the focus group for their work on the recommendations. She also thanked the residents in the audience for their attendance. She reminded everyone that on August 28th, the City Council would receive input from the public and make a decision on this matter.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor DuBois adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC
City Clerk