



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held
June 13, 2017

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor DuBois in the Executive Board Room at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Diane DuBois
Council Member Ron Piazza
Council Member Todd Rogers
Council Member Jeff Wood
ABSENT: Vice Mayor Steve Croft (excused)

BUDGET STUDY SESSION

City Manager Howard Chambers stated that the purpose of the session was to provide a review of the operating budget.

Administrative Services Director Diane Perkin displayed slides and briefly summarized the proposed budget for fiscal year 2017-2018, which included an overview of revenues and expenditures.

Lisa Rapp, Director of Public Works, displayed slides and presented the Capital Improvements Projects portion of the budget. She reported on completed projects and noted the necessity for additional funding for existing and new projects. She provided an update to the Water Capture projects and identified some of the public right of way projects such as annual hardscape repairs; Lakewood Boulevard corridor design; Woodruff Avenue resurfacing; Paramount Boulevard landscape; and Measure R local street resurfacing. She identified some projects which were budgeted annually including fire and security systems; park hardscape repairs; fence projects; catch basin inserts; park restroom refreshment; Del Valle Memorial Plaza; park monument signs; electrical infrastructure upgrade; and ADA improvements. Ms. Rapp reported on the major proposed improvement projects at various locations, which included Burns Community Center; Rynerson Park; Lakewood Equestrian Center; Monte Verde Park; the meter/print shop; the Centre; and Mayfair and San Martin parks. She explained the importance of a Facilities Master Plan, which would provide a review and analysis of City facilities; recommend and plan for future capital needs; allow for community input; prioritize a multi-year program of improvements; and begin a process to develop funding sources. She stated with a proposed budget of \$200,000, it was anticipated that it would take six to twelve months to prepare the report. The focus of the Master Plan would include an inventory of all facilities; a breakdown by detailed system; research of the original construction and renovations; documenting current condition; identifying short and long term needs; weaving in ADA barrier removal inventory; an evaluation of renovation versus replacement; the possible decommissioning of selected facilities; and cost estimates and possible funding alternatives.

BUDGET STUDY SESSION - Continued

In response to Council Member Rogers' inquiry, Recreation and Community Services Director Lisa Litzinger cited as an example that repairs to or rebuilding of a structure, such as at one of the pools, might be so cost-prohibitive that those factors would be taken into consideration in determining whether a facility would be decommissioned.

Ms. Rapp confirmed for Council Member Piazza and Council Member Wood that the property on the corner of Clark Avenue and Del Amo Boulevard as well as the Lakewood Equestrian Center would be included in the Master Plan.

Responding to Mayor DuBois' questions regarding next steps, Ms. Rapp stated that staff would work with the other departments involved to solicit proposals from qualified consulting firms and that the results and recommendations would be presented to the City Council for approval in July or August.

Replying to Council Member Wood's request for clarification, Ms. Rapp explained that the facilities inventory and evaluation services would be provided from a firm with a multi-disciplinary team of consultants.

With regards to the community engagement process, Council Member Rogers emphasized the importance of an inclusive and prominent effort to provide opportunities for residents' participation.

Ms. Rapp provided background information on a program by Southern California Edison (SCE) to consider selling street lights to cities. She stated that in 2015, the City Council had approved having SCE provide a valuation and that the program was closed to new applicants shortly thereafter. SCE provided staff with a valuation that was based upon a formula approved by the Public Utilities Commission and indicated their willingness to sell 1,054 street lights at a non-negotiable cost of \$2,613,369. She explained that the City had one year from the date the valuation was presented to act on the offer and provided a tentative schedule of potential City Council actions.

Ms. Perkin described the financing process noting that the annual costs were designed to remain similar to what would be paid if no action were taken. The original financing initiated in 1997 would be paid off in 2023 and \$375,965 would be available for loan repayment. The operating costs would be reduced by just under \$90,000 per year and City Light and Power had agreed to lower annual maintenance costs for the new lights.

Ms. Rapp explained that if no action were taken, the City would continue to pay SCE for their expensive LS-1 lights. If the City were to proceed with the purchase, the lights would be owned by the City at the end of the fifteen year financing period. She reported that because SCE did not plan to re-open the offer to sell, this was a one-time opportunity. She concluded by stating that approval of the Purchase and Sale agreement with SCE, approval of the financing package and approval of an amendment to City Light and Power's contract to add the lights for maintenance would be presented for City Council consideration at future meetings.

BUDGET STUDY SESSION - Continued

Responding to questions from Council Member Rogers pertaining to the amortization timeline, Ms. Perkin stated that the proposed loan would be paid off in fifteen years.

Ms. Rapp confirmed for Council Member Wood that there were twenty five other cities who decided to act on their valuation.

Council Member Piazza, Council Member Rogers and Mayor DuBois expressed reluctant support while Council Member Wood stated his opposition to moving forward with the purchase of the street lights.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor DuBois adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC
City Clerk