



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held
September 26, 2017

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:01 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
Vice Mayor Steve Croft
Council Member Ron Piazza
Council Member Todd Rogers
Council Member Jeff Wood

CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor DuBois announced that the City Council would recess to a closed session.

REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS: Pursuant to Government Code §54956.8
Property: Portion of Lakewood Sheriff's Station Owned by City
Negotiating Parties: City Representatives and L.A. County Representatives
City Representatives Attending Closed Session: City Manager, Assistant City Manager,
Director of Administrative Services, Legal Counsel
Under Negotiation: Lease Rates

At 6:18 p.m., the City Council reconvened. No action was taken.

PRESENTATION ON MEASURE H

Thaddeus McCormack, City Manager, stated that he had served on a fifty-member advisory committee on Measure H and learned of the complexity of the homelessness issue noting the different stages and types of homelessness and the various contributing factors.

Mr. McCormack introduced Michael D. Castillo, Senior Analyst, Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative, Office of Homelessness, who displayed slides and provided a brief history on the strategies related to dealing with homelessness. He stated that the Board of Supervisors had adopted a coordinated set of homeless initiative strategies, including outreach, crisis bridge housing, rapid re-housing/permanent supporting housing and prevention help for families and individuals with the goal in the first five years to enable 45,000 to exit homelessness and 30,000 others to stay housed. Mr. Castillo explained that voters had recently approved a quarter cent County sales tax that would generate an estimated \$355 million annually for ten years to be used to prevent and combat homelessness.

PRESENTATION ON MEASURE H - Continued

He described the E6 Countywide outreach system, which deployed multidisciplinary teams, made up of case management, mental health, substance abuse, and other outreach staff, in a coordinated, strategic and effective manner.

In response to Council Member Rogers's inquiry regarding staffing costs, Mr. Castillo stated that the funding enabled some flexibility and noted that a number of the analysts and support staff had been inherited from other County departments.

Mr. Castillo replied to Vice Mayor Croft's questions by stating that service planning area (SPA) 7 was made up of the cities, such as Lakewood, in the Gateway region. He noted that those being targeted as reporting individuals were general constituents, cities, law enforcement and service providers.

Mr. Castillo clarified for Mayor DuBois that the City of Long Beach was included in SPA 8, comprised of South Bay area cities.

Responding to questions from Mayor DuBois and Council Member Wood regarding the methods of reporting, Mr. Castillo explained that they were currently reviewing options that included web- or application-based processes which allowed for coordination among the different outreach teams and information sharing with various agencies.

Mr. Castillo stated that various County departments would contract for the provision of Measure H funded services and programs and noted that a Measure H Contracting Opportunities Guide was available on the Homeless Initiative website.

Tomasz Babiszkiwicz, Associate Director, South County People Assisting The Homeless (PATH), and Jonathan Sanabria, Program Manager, South County PATH, summarized the resources and successes of the Coordinated Entry System which allowed service providers to know the population and their needs; made accessing services easier for clients; reduced duplication of services through better coordination; maximized limited resources for more vulnerable individuals; and facilitated collaboration.

Captain James Wolak, Lakewood Sheriff's Station, described the law enforcement efforts related to addressing the concerns of the community with respect to the homeless and those living in encampments.

Lieutenant Geoffrey Deedrick of the County's Homeless Response Team, reported on the collaborative response involving a multidisciplinary team of outreach providers. He noted that while homelessness was not a crime, there was a criminal element associated with it which was neither overlooked nor allowed to infiltrate. Lieutenant Deedrick described the outreach process which included documenting encampments and allowing time for clean up and storage of personal property. He added that such considerate policing translated into trust among the community.

PRESENTATION ON MEASURE H - Continued

In response to comments from Council Member Wood and Vice Mayor Croft regarding the location of some homeless people between jurisdictions, Lieutenant Deedrick stated that there was a reporting form on the County website and that outreach teams were coordinated between each SPA to respond accordingly.

Responding to Council Member Rogers' concerns regarding the impacts to the residents' quality of life, Mr. Castillo explained that there were stringent accountability processes which ensured the appropriate referrals to mental health providers, medical service providers or homeless shelters.

Lieutenant Deedrick responded to comments from Council Member Piazza and Mr. McCormack by providing the contact information for reporting to 211, PATH or the Sheriff's Department.

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