



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
May 12, 2020

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

INVOCATION was offered by Vice Mayor Jeff Wood

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Mayor Todd Rogers

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Todd Rogers
Vice Mayor Jeff Wood (via teleconference)
Council Member Steve Croft (via teleconference)
Council Member Diane DuBois (via teleconference)
Council Member Ariel Pe (via teleconference)

Mayor Rogers highlighted the recent announcement from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health on May 8th, that some retail businesses would be allowed to open for curbside pickup of purchases, and that hiking trails and golf courses could also open. He advised that Lakewood's Nature Trail along the San Gabriel River had opened on May 11th and that County Public Health was scheduled to release plans allowing beaches, parks and more businesses, offices and manufacturing to re-open; however, he noted that the easing of restrictions would require even more diligent physical distancing. He encouraged everyone to keep doing their part to keep themselves, their families and neighbors safe.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Rogers announced that the meeting would be adjourned in memory of longtime Cerritos City Council Member Jim Edwards, who grew up in Lakewood and was a valuable contributor to the entire Gateway region; in memory of Tom Clark, former Long Beach City Council Member and Mayor and former Long Beach City College Trustee; and in memory of the father of longtime City employee, Printing Services Lead Worker Sandy Cole, Glenn Crabtree, who was a career firefighter and retired Fire Chief of Glendale, Arizona.

Council Member Pe reported that the Vans Shoe Company recently approached the City about making a donation of some sneakers to a worthy group in the community. He stated that the City reached out to the local high schools requesting they identify students who deserved recognition for being "community-conscious" especially during the coronavirus pandemic and that each of the five high schools in Lakewood provided the names of students worthy of such recognition. He explained that on behalf of the Lakewood City Council, Mayor Rogers, Council Member Croft and he had delivered the first boxes of the Vans shoes to Mayfair High School in the previous week and that Vans would be delivering to Artesia, Odyssey, St. Joseph and Lakewood high schools in the near future. He expressed gratification on hearing about some of the students' recent actions in response to the ongoing crisis and thanked founder Steve Van Doren and Vans Shoes for their generous donation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: Continued

Council Member Croft stated that the “Lakewood Cares” event held on Saturday, May 9th at Lakewood Center provided approximately 1,000 Lakewood residents with care package boxes filled with milk, food and gift cards from Lakewood merchants. He noted the many words of thanks from residents who really appreciated the helping hand from their neighbors. He offered a big thank you to City staffer, Deputy City Manager Paolo Beltran, who led the organizing effort, and to the many volunteers and employees from different organizations and businesses, which included Lakewood Center, Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, Assembly Member Anthony Rendon, Rotary Club of Lakewood, Project Shepherd, Raising Canes, California Pizza Kitchen, George’s Greek Café, Home Depot, Costco, Grocery Outlet, Rock View Family Farms, Target, Bimbo Bakeries, and Grandpaws Foundation, for their assistance and generous donations. He also pointed out the dozens of Lakewood residents who donated over \$10,000.

Council Member Diane DuBois stated that although the Pan American Fiesta, which had traditionally been held over Mother’s Day weekend, had not been possible this year, staff from the Recreation & Community Services Department and Public Information Office had crafted a virtual version of the Fiesta that residents could enjoy at home through a special webpage. She reported that the site had been quite popular, with 1,137 people visiting the Pan Am Fiesta website over the Mother’s Day weekend. She expressed thanks to City staff involved in the effort and also thanked the members of the Lakewood Pan American Association for all their efforts to raise funds and operate the scholarship program and offered congratulations to the 2020 Pan Am Scholarship winners.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 8.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held June 11, and June 25, 2019

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands

RI-4 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-14; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD EXTENDING A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS

RI-5 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-15; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD APPROVING THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AND THE LAKEWOOD CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AND ESTABLISHING EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, DEFINING THE CONDITIONS AND HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT AND ADOPTING A CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION PLAN FOR CITY OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

ROUTINE ITEMS: - Continued

RI-6 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-16; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2019-49 PERTAINING TO HOURLY-RATED PART-TIME EMPLOYEES AND ENACTING A PERSONNEL RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION, RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO HOURLY-RATED PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

RI-7 Approval of Cooperative Agreement to Replace Del Amo Bridge over Coyote Creek

RI-8 Acceptance of Notice of Completion for Public Works Contract No. 2018-7, Paramount Boulevard Landscaping and Drainage Project, Aramexx Construction

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Croft, DuBois, Wood, Pe and Rogers

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

3.1 • COVID-19 UPDATE

Thaddeus McCormack, City Manager, presented a report based on the memo in the agenda. He provided an update on the latest regarding COVID-19 in the wake of recent guidance issued by the Federal, State and County governments. He reported that the cumulative total of cases, since the onset of the pandemic, in the Lakewood area was currently 109. He advised that the County of Los Angeles had a plan they had named the “Roadmap to Recovery,” which was currently in Stage 1. Stage 2 was expected to be authorized in the near future and would include the reopening of low risk businesses, essential health care, outdoor recreation and libraries and museums, cultural centers and galleries. Similarly, the State had developed a multi-stage “Resilience Roadmap” that phased in the eventual end of the statewide Stay at Home order. He noted that the City had been communicating with representatives from Lakewood Center and the Chamber of Commerce to assist businesses that could and wished to reopen on or after May 8th. He noted that the City had been aggressively seeking clarification from the Department of Health regarding the operation status of businesses inside the Lakewood Center Mall during the curbside pickup only restrictions. He stated that although the Safer at Home Order was due to expire on May 15th, it was quite likely that the Order would be extended. He reported that staff was also planning for the eventual reopening of parks and facilities, including City Hall during the latter aspects of Stage 2, possibly by mid-June. However, it seemed highly unlikely that any large events or gatherings would be allowed until at least much later in the summer, meaning that the Lakewood Youth Sports programs would not be feasible, although there had been interest from youth sports leagues in conducting some type of programming, if allowable. He stated that among the events that could not be held would be Concerts in the Park, July 4th Block Parties, and the Memorial Day celebration. He noted that the Recreation and Community Services Department was exploring a virtual alternative for the Concerts in the Park, similar to what had been done for the Pan Am Fiesta. He stated that although required social distancing could not be established for July 4th Block Parties, families could still celebrate at their homes, and that it might be possible to allow the sale of safe and sane fireworks.

3.1 • COVID-19 UPDATE - Continued

He advised that in lieu of the traditional Memorial Day Celebration, Lakewood's award-winning video production team was producing a video compilation from past Memorial Day celebrations. The video would be streamed through the City's website and on CityTV starting at 11 a.m. on Memorial Day. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council receive and file the report.

Council Member DuBois thanked City staff for thinking and working creatively to continue to do things to keep the spirit of the community going. Council Member Pe concurred.

Responding to a question from Vice Mayor Wood, the City Manager stated that there was no plan to reinstate street sweeping parking enforcement until such time that most people headed back to work.

The City Manager noted that there was still some optimism about operating a scaled down version of Summer Day Camp and the aquatics program. He reported that there were plans for sports activities that could be done in a socially distant way, such as over-the-line tournaments.

Mayor Rogers stated that although these were very tough times, he wanted to reassure Lakewood's residents that the City Council Members and the City staff were working hard to get things back open in a safe manner and within the limits of State and County restrictions. He stated that whenever possible, they would advocate strongly for the community.

Vice Mayor Wood reminded everyone about the services available through the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board for job seekers and business owners, as well as the Small Business Development Center at Long Beach City College.

Mayor Rogers stated that the individual members of the City Council acted as representatives on a number of boards and organizations, working with representatives from other area cities to benefit the region. He noted that Council Member DuBois was currently the president of the local Council of Governments and was working to make sure that each city received their share of Federal stimulus money or assistance that might be available. He also reported that they had been talking to Lakewood's State Senators and the Speaker of the Assembly to convey information to Sacramento. He concluded by stating that they were all working hard to move forward for the community.

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, THE REPORT WAS ORDERED RECEIVED AND FILED.

SUCCESSOR HOUSING ACTIONS

1. Approval of Register of Demands

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND VICE MAYOR WOOD SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REGISTER OF DEMANDS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Croft, DuBois, Wood, Pe and Rogers

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

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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 Rogers adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m. to Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Board Room. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Cerritos Council Member Jim Edwards, former Long Beach Mayor Tom Clark and former Glendale, Arizona Fire Chief Glenn Crabtree.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC

City Clerk