



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Special Meeting held
April 27, 2021

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Wood, via Zoom video/teleconference, Lakewood, California.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Jeff Wood (via Zoom video/teleconference)
Vice Mayor Steve Croft (via Zoom video/teleconference)
Council Member Ariel Pe (via Zoom video/teleconference)
Council Member Todd Rogers (via Zoom video/teleconference)
Council Member Vicki Stuckey (via Zoom video/teleconference)

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY REGARDING THE CREATION OF A DISTRICT-BASED ELECTION SYSTEM

Thaddeus McCormack, City Manager, made a presentation based on the report in the agenda. He introduced Shalice Tilton of National Demographics Corporation. Ms. Tilton displayed slides and provided an overview of the districting process.

Mayor Wood asked the City Clerk to report on correspondences and communications received on the item and distributed to the City Council.

Lakewood residents Brian Cuaron, Olga Rios, Jenny Bapp, Gregory Slaughter, Erik Macatuno, Kenneth Graham, Brad Graham, Sylvester Ani, Joy Janes, Marcena Munguia, and Tom Weisenberger posed questions and voiced opinions regarding the timing of elections; representation on the eastern portion of the City; communities of interest; selection of the demographer; distinction between neighborhoods of single family residences versus multi-family housing; accuracy and sharing of maps; the proximity of the current Council Members' residences; advantages of district elections; minority representation; gerrymandering concerns; benefits of paper mailers; the necessity for a unified City Council; impacts of the Lakewood Center area; available mapping technologies; and expanding the City's public outreach efforts to disseminate information.

Upon request, the City Clerk read the individual email submissions from Ahmed Rafi, Marisa Perez, Marisela Cervantes, Kathryn Marshall and Cassandra Chase.

Mr. McCormack, Steve Skolnik, for the City Attorney, and the consultants responded to the various inquiries.

Council Member Rogers commented on former Council Member Joe Esquivel, who was Latino and served on the City Council for twenty years, crediting him with providing diverse representation. He also spoke regarding considerations related to the various school districts' boundaries and natural geographic demarcations.

PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT FROM THE COMMUNITY REGARDING THE CREATION OF A DISTRICT-BASED ELECTION SYSTEM - Continued

Mr. Skolnik explained that the remaining items for City Council consideration included a proposed resolution to amend the tentative timeline as well as the Tolling Agreement, which had both been impacted by the delay of the completion of the 2020 Census.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2021-2 REGARDING THE TIMELINE FOR ACTIONS PERTAINING TO THE TRANSITION FROM AT LARGE TO BY DISTRICT CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

VICE MAYOR CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER PE SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO 2021-12 AND APPROVE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO TOLLING AGREEMENT. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Wood adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC
City Clerk