



# Minutes

## Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held  
March 11, 2014

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**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:31 p.m. by Mayor Croft in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

**INVOCATION** was offered by Denise Hamilton, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Boy Scout Troop 67

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT:** Mayor Steve Croft  
Vice Mayor Todd Rogers  
Council Member Ron Piazza  
Council Member Jeff Wood

**ABSENT:** Council Member Diane DuBois (excused)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Croft extended his thanks to the Sheriff's Department, particularly Lakewood Area Lieutenant Joshua Stahl, for the handling of a recent visit by an out-of-state hate group. An excellent, professional plan led to a safe outcome for everyone involved.

David Ford, Southern California Edison Company, addressed the City Council regarding several recent planned and unplanned power outages. He stated that in addition to outages for planned maintenance, there were occasional unplanned outages due to equipment failure or equipment damaged by weather or traffic accidents. He outlined ways customers could be in contact with Edison for information regarding outages.

Vice Mayor Rogers stated that the most recent outage on Saturday was intermittent and had impacted a number of businesses and extended into part of the Lakewood Center Mall, with an unknown economic impact on the City. He suggested that Edison pursue a telephone notification system similar to the one currently utilized by the school districts to notify customers in unplanned outages.

Mr. Ford noted that Edison was already testing a system for telephone calls and text messages for use in a catastrophic event.

Council Member Piazza stated that several of the businesses that experienced the outage on Saturday had just been part of a planned outage the previous week. He also stated that it was important to identify the weakest links in the system in Lakewood and get an improvement schedule set.

Council Member Wood stated that in addition to a notification regarding an outage, it would be helpful for Edison to provide some safety information so residents would know how to react properly.

**ROUTINE ITEMS:**

COUNCIL MEMBER PIAZZA MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 4.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held February 25, 2014

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands

RI-4 Approval of Memorandum of Agreement with Gateway Council of Governments for Los Angeles River and Tributaries TMDL

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers, Piazza, Wood and Croft

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois

**2.1 • LEGISLATIVE WATCH ON CALIFORNIA HOUSE RESOLUTION 29 – OUTSOURCING PUBLIC SERVICES**

Senior Management Analyst Paolo Beltran made a presentation based on the report in the agenda and stated that the City of Lakewood via “The Lakewood Plan” had been founded on the principle of contracting for services. He stated that now, on the brink of the City’s 60th anniversary, there were new legislative challenges to contracting or outsourcing that were being proposed by the State legislature. He detailed House Resolution 29, which would require legislators to pledge to restrict their votes on future outsourcing bills. He advised that a letter of opposition to HR 29 had already been sent to State legislators.

Paul Phillips, Deputy Executive Director of the California Contract Cities Association, promised strong opposition to any legislative proposal that would restrict outsourcing. He stated that although both political parties had expressed support for small business, HR 29 would pit labor unions against trade unions. He closed by stating that a lot of study was needed.

Responding to a question from Vice Mayor Rogers, Mr. Phillips stated that it was not known at this point whether the legislation would also impact contracting between public agencies, such as between cities and counties, or a city and other cities. He also noted the potential for conflict with special districts, like fire districts.

Council Member Wood, member of the Contract Cities Executive Committee, determined from Mr. Phillips that not a lot of feedback had yet been received from many of the cities or county supervisor boards.

**2.1 • LEGISLATIVE WATCH ON CALIFORNIA HOUSE RESOLUTION 29 –  
OUTSOURCING PUBLIC SERVICES - Continued**

Council Member Piazza pointed out that contracting for services was a very efficient way of running a city and a major reason why Lakewood was such a well-managed city. He stated that this type of legislation would mean increased costs for residents. Mr. Phillips noted that especially for smaller cities, contracting with local businesses was vital.

Mayor Croft stated it was important for the City to be diligent in monitoring and fighting legislation that would threaten local control. He noted that Lakewood had begun the battle 60 years ago and would continue to fight for local control.

COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD MOVED AND VICE MAYOR ROGERS SECONDED TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE REPORT. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers, Piazza, Wood and Croft

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois

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**3.1 • PREVIEW OF 2014 EARTH WALK EVENT**

Recreation and Community Services Director Lisa Litzinger displayed slides and presented a report based on the memo in the agenda. She reported that Lakewood's free Earth Walk event would be held at Monte Verde Park on Saturday, March 15th. The event included a nature walk along the West San Gabriel River Parkway Nature Trail, crafts for children, and vendors with conservation and sustainable environment displays. She concluded by stating that the event was open to all age groups.

Mayor Croft stated that Earth Walk was a great, interactive event at a beautiful park and he encouraged Lakewood residents to attend.

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**3.2 • "60 YEARS OF SUCCESS" THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD'S 60TH  
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Public Information Officer Bill Grady displayed slides and made a presentation on the upcoming anniversary celebration. He reported on some of the features of the 60th Anniversary Open House on March 22nd, like a photo gallery featuring original residents, historical Lakewood Center, and Then & Now photos. He stated that the photo displays would be on exhibit at the Centre during the Open House and throughout the weekend and later through the City's website. He also displayed the designs for commemorative pins that would be available at the Open House and other designs to be released at Anniversary events throughout the coming year.

**3.2 • LAKEWOOD'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - Continued**

Council Member Piazza stated the Open House would be a first-class event on a budget, and a great opportunity to celebrate the success of a great city.

Council Member Wood stated that he was excited about the Open House event, which was already sold out.

**3.3 • INVITATION FOR 2014 LAKEWOOD SHREDS EVENT**

Public Works Director Lisa Rapp displayed slides and extended an invitation to Lakewood residents for the Lakewood Shreds event on April 26th. She encouraged residents to begin collecting their personal records and papers and bring them for secure shredding, without even having to leave their vehicles. She also reported that there would also be a free electronic waste drop-off area, as well as free mulch available to anyone bringing their own container.

Mayor Croft noted that although there were often lines of vehicles waiting to drop off their materials, the staff was quick to unload and the lines moved quickly.

**SUCCESSOR AGENCY ACTIONS**

1. Registers of Demands

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

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers, Piazza, Wood and Croft

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois

**SUCCESSOR HOUSING ACTIONS**

1. Registers of Demands

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

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers, Piazza, Wood and Croft

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: DuBois

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Croft adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC  
City Clerk