



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held
May 26, 2015

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Wood in the Executive Board Room at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

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

WATER CONSERVATION STUDY SESSION

James Glancy, Director of Water Resources, displayed slides and provided a brief overview of recent drought-related actions, which included the implementation of mandatory statewide conservation of 25 percent by February 2016. The State Water Resources Control Board regulations required water suppliers to establish rate structures geared at reducing water use and utilized tiers of increasing levels of water use to reach the reduction mandate. Lakewood's water conservation had been at ten percent and to meet the 20 percent conservation requirement over the next nine months, the Water Resources Committee recommended implementation of an urgency ordinance. Except where necessary to address immediate health and safety needs or to comply with a State or Federal permit, the prohibited actions included the application of potable water to outdoor landscapes that causes runoff; the use of a hose dispensing potable water to wash motor vehicles unless fitted with a shut-off nozzle; the application of potable water to driveways and sidewalks; the use of potable water in a fountain or decorative water feature except for recirculating systems; the application of potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall; the irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians; irrigation with potable water of landscapes outside of newly constructed homes and buildings in a manner inconsistent with regulations or other requirements established by the State; serving of drinking water other than upon request in eating or drinking establishments; and requiring operators of hotels and motels to provide guests with the option of choosing not to have towels and linens laundered daily. Mr. Glancy highlighted some of the monthly water use tracking information such as number of water waste complaints, contact follow ups, warning actions issued and penalties assessed. He described the proposed watering schedule details including twice weekly for the summer months on trash day plus three days later for second watering day at ten minutes for each station before 8:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m. and once a week watering from October to May on trash day at ten minutes per station before 9:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m. He displayed a map showing a draft summer watering schedule and noted that the portion of the City served by Golden State Water Company would use their watering schedule.

Council Member Rogers expressed concern at the economic impacts that some of the proposed restrictions would place on residents with regards to their landscapes.

WATER CONSERVATION STUDY SESSION - Continued

Council Member Croft noted the importance of a sustained education process to provide residents with a better understanding of the proposed water conservation restrictions and related enforcement.

Administrative Services Director Diane Perkin stated that she would work with the City's online bill pay service provider to include more available parameters for water usage information.

Responding to Mayor Wood's inquiry, Public Information Officer Bill Grady explained that the marketing campaign would include an informational letter on the proposed restrictions to be mailed to all residents as well as articles in the eMagazine, Lakewood Living Magazine, and Lakewood Community News and on the City's website.

Sonia Southwell, Director of Community Development, noted that generally, complaints received regarding enforcement were for reduced or lack of watering than for water waste.

Vice Mayor Piazza commented on the necessity for some type of action to be taken since the State Board could issue fines of up to \$10,000 per day to water agencies who failed to meet the conservation standard.

Council Member DuBois expressed support for a more positive approach to encourage conservation rather than penalizing with enforcement measures. She observed that after having had a mild Spring, people would be accustomed to watering less.

Park Superintendent Philip Lopez identified water conservation impacts on the City's medians and explained the changes to tree watering which included the use of water wagons with reclaimed water signs and smart weather-based irrigation controllers. He provided an illustration of the medians/panels watering schedule and identified the various locations which were still irrigated with potable water.

Mr. Skolnik stated that the proposed ordinance would be considered at the regular City Council meeting and would require four votes for passage.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Wood adjourned the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC
City Clerk