



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held
June 23, 2015

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:02 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 (arrived 6:28 p.m.)

WATER CONSERVATION STUDY SESSION

James Glancy, Director of Water Resources, displayed slides and provided a water conservation update showing monthly production percentages below May 2013 totals, lower per person daily usage and documented compliance numbers. He noted that the average water use for the past three weeks had been down 29 percent.

Public Works Director Lisa Rapp continued the slide presentation by providing photographic examples of landscape medians with drought adaptive planting from various local jurisdictions. She stated that over two million square feet of medians and panels were landscaped and irrigated with recycled and potable water. She identified some of the possibilities for proposed improvements such as the Paramount Boulevard turf replacement project. Some of the next steps included pursuing a grant opportunity and authorizing Willdan, under their on-call agreement, to prepare a Master Plan of Arterial and Remnant Parcels, which would include cost estimates for conversion, functioned as a planning and budgeting tool and would assist staff in seeking grants.

Mr. Glancy identified some of the potential water infrastructure improvements such as reservoir; solar array; wells and equipment; water main replacement; meter replacement with smart meters and construction of reclaimed water line.

Ms. Perkin outlined the water resources budget illustrating the loss of revenue and the impact to the fund balance. She stated that assuming water consumption remained at low levels, by June 30, 2016, reserves would near the minimum level necessary to support operations and that water consumption rates would need to increase by ten percent per year through 2021 just to cover basic operations and replacement programs. She discussed one-time or intermittent sources of revenue such as the sale of water properties, leasing water rights, no and low interest financing and grants. She explained the various types of water rates and stated it would be recommended at the regular meeting that the City Council approve adoption of fiscal year 2015-2016 water rate structure which increased the commodity rate by ten percent and decreased the number of units offered at the discount rate by two.

WATER CONSERVATION STUDY SESSION - Continued

Council Member Rogers expressed frustration with the economic impact to residents for their water conservation efforts. He emphasized the importance of educating residents on the necessity for the rate change.

Council Member Croft and Vice Mayor Piazza noted that as members of the Water Committee, they had explored options to supplement revenues and would be reviewing the capital improvement projects to determine if any could be deferred.

Mr. Glancy added that different strategies would be developed over the next few months to devise a long-term plan to allow the rate system to be more flexible.

Ms. Rapp reported that Lakewood had been working with other cities to develop a Watershed Management Program and had a long term requirement to address watershed health and water quality. A potential project had been identified for Mayfair Park to divert and infiltrate or use flow from the Clark Channel while a similar alternative project site could be considered for Bolivar Park. Caltrans had funding available in the current budget and were willing to partner with the City on a project. Such funds could only be utilized for stormwater and runoff quality improvement projects and the agreement required execution by June 30, 2015. After an agreement with Caltrans had been finalized, the project would begin with an engineering design study, staff would prepare an RFP for an engineering study and return to Council for approval of a consulting agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Wood adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC
City Clerk