



Minutes

Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held
June 9, 2020

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Rogers in the Weingart Ballroom, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

INVOCATION was offered by Council Member Steve Croft

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Council Member Ariel Pe

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Rogers announced that outgoing commissioners, Ben Delarosa, who served on the Recreation and Community Services Commission for seventeen years; Bob Quarto, who served on the Planning and Environment Commission for seven years; and Glen Patrick, who served on the Community Safety Commission for seven years, would each receive the City Council's Award of Merit plaque in recognition of their service.

Council Member Croft acknowledged his appointee, Ben Delarosa, stating that he had been appointed initially by former Council Member Bob Wagner. He stated that Mr. Delarosa had been very involved in the community but that due to a recent job change, he felt he could no longer extend the necessary commitment to the position. Council Member Croft expressed gratitude to Mr. Delarosa, Mr. Patrick and Mr. Quarto for their years of service.

Mayor Rogers commented on the recent events regarding the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota, after a now former police officer kept his knee on Mr. Floyd's neck for eight minutes and forty-six seconds with three other officers present. He stated that Mr. Floyd's death, and how it occurred, had once again exposed racial disparities and injustices and that the nation had reached a turning point in history where things must be improved. He noted that while in law enforcement, he had the honor to serve with honorable men and women and that the vast majority of police officers in the country did the right things for the right reasons all of the time. He further asserted that any number of cops being racist, regardless of percentage, was too many and that the outrage that had been ignited in the country over the past two weeks demonstrated that the need for change had become even more apparent and urgent. He reported that Lakewood had not been immune to some negative and inappropriate consequences noting that on Sunday, May 31st, the community was deliberately targeted by criminals intent on looting local businesses and there was no

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: - Continued

doubt that the crime spree had been planned in advance with no political statements being made, just attempts to steal. He explained that twenty businesses had been breached, however, the Lakewood Team made a series of preemptive decisions that had paid off and the deputies had protected the community and apprehended the criminals, with Sky Knight helicopter crews working through the night, and the City's maintenance crews helping to secure victim businesses. He reported that there had also been protests held in Lakewood, three of which had been held over the past weekend, noting, in particular the Saturday event where he had the honor of being an invited speaker at a gathering at Mayfair Park that was organized by two Mayfair High School Students. He stated that the estimated attendance had been approximately 300 people, many of whom were proud Lakewood residents and that Vice Mayor Wood and Council Member Pe were also in attendance with Council Members Croft and DuBois sending their best wishes due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it could have on their immediate families. He commended Emma Pedroza and Carla Rodriguez from Mayfair High School for their leadership and activism in organizing the event and reported that the protest was both passionate and peaceful, and the organizers and the Sheriff's Department had done a great job working together to keep everyone safe while freely exercising their First Amendment Rights. He also reported on the protest events held on June 5th, which had started at Long Beach City College with approximately 500 men, women, and children making the walk up Clark Avenue to Lakewood City Hall, and had once again, experienced great coordination between the organizers and the Lakewood Sheriff's Station stating that the entire event was peaceful with many positive interactions noted between participants and on-scene law enforcement. He explained that once the rally at Lakewood City Hall was concluded, the protesters walked back to Long Beach City College, and the Lakewood Sheriff's Station resumed their normal duties. He stated that approximately thirty minutes later, a group of about 100 protesters appeared near city hall and it remained unclear if they had been part of the original group of 500 or separate. The Sheriff's Department re-assembled their response team and monitored the protest that was eventually declared an unlawful assembly and dispersed.

At the request of Mayor Rogers, Vice Mayor Jeff Wood read the Sheriff's Department press release dated June 6, 2020:

“Lakewood Station Deputies arrest suspect for failure to disburse at the scene of a Riot

A group of approximately 500 demonstrators gathered in front of Lakewood City Hall to protest the death of George Floyd on Friday, June 5, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. The crowd was peaceful, and at 3:00 p.m., they began to disburse and leave—most left southbound Clark Avenue. After the streets were reopened, Deputies returned to normal operations, answering routine calls for service and patrol. Approximately thirty minutes later, a group of 100 protesters returned and occupied all lanes of traffic on Clark Avenue, which had been previously reopened. This caused a potential safety hazard for both protesters and vehicular commuter traffic. Deputies responded, and dispersal orders were given after this gathering was determined to be an Unlawful Assembly. These protesters continued to occupy lanes of traffic and advance toward deputy personnel even after dispersal orders were given. As this group of protesters approached the station area, deputies continued to give orders instructing this group of protesters to safely exit the street; however, they were much more aggressive and continued to refuse the deputies' lawful orders. Among this group, protesters were approximately three to four agitators directing the group not to follow orders. Several

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: - Continued

minutes after dispersal orders were given, the group continued to occupy the roadway, causing a continued safety hazard to motorists and other pedestrians in the area. Deputies on the scene identified the lead agitator of the group and formed an arrest team. Deputies approached the group to disperse them and arrest the primary agitator. An individual in the group armed himself with a large steel piece of broken brake rotor and threw it directly at the deputies. Deputies employed less than lethal pepper ball projectiles and launched them at the suspect who had thrown the brake rotor fragment. Pepper ball projectiles were also launched toward others in the group who were seen attempting to arm themselves with objects taken from a protester's backpack. Additionally, these pepper ball projectiles were launched against the ground and walls located near agitators as a dispersal tactic. Smoke was also deployed rather than tear gas. Additionally, deputies advanced on the group to push them away southbound Clark Avenue and out of the area. One suspect was arrested and booked for Resisting an Executive Officer (69 PC) and Failure to Disperse at the Scene of a Riot (409 PC). No Deputies were injured. Lakewood Station personnel remain committed to our mission of protecting the public and property within the cities we proudly serve.”

Mayor Rogers acknowledged after having heard from those within and outside of the community of the differing perspective on the Sheriff's actions, that the following were not in dispute: a protest occurred after the initial protest left the area; the Sheriff's Department declared an unlawful assembly and ordered the participants to disperse; the participants did not leave the area, although many went onto the sidewalk; a black car is seen doing doughnuts in the middle of Clark Avenue (with protesters nearby); the Sheriff's Department made multiple unlawful assembly dispersal orders in English and Spanish over a span of about ten minutes; the Sheriff's Department began to clear the street of protesters and shortly after starting to move forward, pepperball rounds and smoke canisters were deployed to disperse the protesters; one suspect was arrested; and no injuries to protesters or deputies were noted or reported. He stated that while many questioned the reasonableness of the unlawful assembly declaration, more information had been requested of the Sheriff's Department and that command staff would conduct a complete and transparent review of the incident in an effort to provide a more comprehensive analysis of what occurred. He explained that the City of Lakewood did not have the legal authority to conduct a comprehensive investigation that would involve Sheriff's Department records and added that the Sheriff's Department did not yet have body cameras deployed which would have been helpful in this instance. He described the interfaith council of religious leaders that was being formed to help the City Council broaden outreach to the entire Lakewood community and facilitate a Community Dialogue that would provide an opportunity for every Lakewood resident to be heard on ways to make life in the city better, with an initial emphasis on racial equity and community-law enforcement relations. He clarified that the interfaith council was a building block to increasing outreach and participation in this broader Community Dialogue to all interested parties in Lakewood, whether religious or not and that every Lakewood resident and stakeholder was encouraged to participate. He proposed, with regard to police use of force issues, that Lakewood become one of the first cities in the region to support the four-point Obama Pledge: to review police use of force policies; engage communities by including a diverse range of input, experiences and stories in the review; report the findings

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS: - Continued

of the review to the community and seek feedback; and reform the community's police use of force policies. The Mayor explained that as a contract city, the Sheriff's Department's Use of Force policies were not in the City's control but that recommendations for improvements could be made. He reported that seven of the "Eight Can't Wait" initiative had been codified in Sheriff's Department policy. He expressed concerns with the requirement that officers provide a final warning before shooting noting the risk to officers with split second decisions and he provided as an example a school shooting incident. He indicated the need for more conversation on the issue and advocated community policing noting the opportunities for the community and policing to work in partnership to identify, prioritize, and, most importantly, develop solutions to community problems, which also meant having a comprehensive approach to public safety through intervention, prevention, and enforcement. He emphasized the significance of responding to the current issues and moving forward to make society a better place for all.

Vice Mayor Wood concurred with the Mayor's recognition of the Mayfair students who organized and led the protest on Saturday and reported on seeing the community stand together with the goal not to divide, but to unite. He highlighted the importance of moving forward as a community and as a nation in the same direction and that now, more than ever, it was time to have tough conversations with family, friends and neighbors.

Council Member Pe explained that as a member of the community for 49 years, raising a family with parents who were still active and living in the City, he was proud to see young adults and high school youth be able to present and voice their opinions on a platform to be heard and honored. He stated that he had attended both gatherings in Lakewood leaving the events emotionally stronger and knowing that he was part of a community that cared. He further noted that having grown up in Lakewood, and now as a Council Member, he expressed appreciation for having a voice, receiving constant communication and engagement with staff and the community on important issues and assured residents that they were and would be heard.

Council Member DuBois echoed her colleagues' statements and stated that Lakewood had always had good support from the community and expressed hope for its continued cooperation.

Council Member Croft communicated his agreement with the measures as indicated by the Mayor. He reflected on 2020 so far and the once in a lifetime events that had occurred, particularly with the pandemic and then Mr. Floyd's murder. He stated it was easy to become defensive and cited that in addition to actions taken, failing to take action should also be considered. He noted that with the pandemic, people sacrificed and stayed home with many losing their jobs; however, with Mr. Floyd's death, he questioned the things that could have been done and despite the many positive programs in the City, the fact that times had changed should be conceded. He opined that the dialogue which had begun over the last year asking the community about its priorities should be continued noting the importance of looking at things that would improve life for all residents as well as society as a whole.

ROUTINE ITEMS:

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND VICE MAYOR WOOD SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 6.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held September 10, 2019

RI-2 Approval of Registers of Demands

RI-3 Directing Biennial Review of Conflict of Interest Codes

RI-4 Approval of Reappointment to the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board

RI-5 RESOLUTION NO. 2020-22; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ADDING A JOB CLASSIFICATION AND AMENDING EXISTING PAY RATE IN ATTACHMENT B OF RESOLUTION NO. 2019-48

RI-6 Approval of Permit Applications for the Sale of Fireworks

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

1.1 • CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2020-21 AND 2021-22

City Manager Thaddeus McCormack displayed slides and provided a brief presentation on the proposed budget for fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22. He reviewed the budget process calendar and identified budget principles, historic budget strategy and fiscal environment. He explained that despite facing years of constrained resources and increasing costs of doing business resulting in a structural deficit, the City had consistently taken needed actions to balance the budget. He noted the recent passage of Measure L, which represented a new source of revenue to come to the City starting July, 1, 2020, providing additional stability. He expressed gratitude for the trust that the community had on the City and assured that the new funds would be spent with the same level of measured prudence that engendered the trust that facilitated the passage of the measure. He reported that Measure L funds would allow the city to maintain core services and programs for Lakewood residents, address infrastructure needs, and focus on strategic long-term funding solutions.

Jose Gomez, Director of Finance and Administrative Services, continued with the slide presentation and discussed FY2020-21 and FY2021-22 General Fund Revenues, Sales Tax Revenue History, and FY2020-21 and FY2021-22 Departmental Expenditures, Noteworthy Expenditure Adjustments and Capital Improvement Projects Needed.

1.1 • CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FY 2020-21 & 2021-22 - Continued

The City Manager discussed the opportunity for multiple fireworks shows to be held on July 3rd, at three locations in the City with an estimated cost of \$65,000, in lieu of the annual Block Party celebration, which had been previously canceled because of the structural deficit and other financial challenges, and which could not be held this year due to the COVID-19 situation and the social distancing limitations. He explained that the event was a re-imagined 4th of July celebration that could be enjoyed from residents' homes across the City and had been added to the proposed budget as a result of discussions held during the previous week's study session.

Mr. McCormack confirmed for Mayor Rogers that the public safety portion of the budget included not only the Sheriff's Department contract but an additional amount had been intended for non-sworn personnel and outreach components.

Joshua Yordt, Director of Public Safety, reviewed the proposed civilian enhancements to public safety, which included creating the position of a Public Safety Program Coordinator, to engage with and work to deliver a variety of community-based programs and events. He explained that two positions would be reclassified to create the positions of a Public Safety Manager and a Public Safety Field Supervisor to ensure proper supervision of field staff who were working hand-in-hand with the Sheriff's Department responding to community needs. He stated that in addition to the proposed full-time positions, two part-time Community Safety Officers were proposed bringing the total number to five CSOs, who would respond to non-suspect crime reports, do fingerprint and DNA investigations at crime scenes, assist deputies with traffic control and would be heavily involved with community engagement and school safety program efforts.

Mr. McCormack reported that another item that resulted from the previous week's study session discussion involved the Sky Knight helicopter program and the extraordinary maintenance costs. He explained that at the time, Council direction had been for Lakewood's Public Safety Committee to meet with an Ad Hoc Committee from the Cerritos City Council to better understand their budget dilemmas, which was the basis for their request.

Mayor Rogers stated that the meeting had been a positive one and that they received a commitment from Cerritos to continue with the program noting that the proposed budget included their share of \$133,000, which was contingent upon Cerritos returning for the second year of the program. He added that the discussion included branching out and bringing other cities into the program to help defray future costs. He stated his appreciation for Mayor Solanki's and Council Member Barrows' commitment despite their budget difficulties since the Cerritos sales tax measure did not pass.

Vice Mayor Wood concurred with the Mayor's comments and asserted that the background information which had been provided to Cerritos highlighted the benefits of Sky Knight and that marketing the program would be a key aspect in expanding to other cities.

Mr. McCormack related their wish to continue the dialogue with Lakewood's Public Safety Committee and stated that the Cerritos City Manager had indicated that they would be making a recommendation that there be a joint ad hoc group of some type.

1.1 • CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FY 2020-21 & 2021-22 - Continued

Mr. Gomez explained that the City operated a Water Utility Fund, an enterprise fund which relied solely on the revenues derived from the use of water, the sale of water and the cost of operating the water utility. He further stated that as Council Member Croft pointed out, the projected surplus would go in to fund capital improvement projects, such as had been done recently with the construction and rehabilitation of well sites throughout the City. He added that the revenues remained robust and that in addition to the sale of water to Lakewood residents and businesses, the City continued to partner with the City of Long Beach for their purchase of excess water. He discussed the opportunity to lease excess water rights and reviewed the move from the Fathom model to bringing the water utility service in house, with additional personnel and labor allocation adjusted for “back office” operations. He summarized that the City was well positioned financially despite the short-term pain that the COVID-19 pandemic inflicted on the community and that with the passage of Measure L, Lakewood would be able to maintain the City’s programs and services and have the ability to set aside funds for needed infrastructure improvements while also being able to augment the civilian Public Safety Department. He concluded by stating that the City would be revisiting and reinitiating the 20-year plan, which had previously been discussed to invest in the infrastructure and long term needs of the community.

Council Member DuBois and Council Member Pe commended staff for their efforts in putting together the budget.

Council Member Croft expressed appreciation for staff’s presentation of the budget noting the challenges of preparing the budget in anticipation of whether Measure L would or would not pass as well as assessing the impacts of the pandemic. He also stated his thanks to previous Council Members who had maintained the City to be financially prudent and conservative and by building up reserves for rainy days. He provided background on the sale of surplus water to the City of Long Beach and stated that the unused water was sold and helped bring in revenues to offset expenses. He thanked the voters for passing of Measure L and noted that with its passage, the City could maintain and continue to provide quality programs and services. He further noted that after July 1st, the City would benefit from the receipt of sales tax from internet sales.

Vice Mayor Wood acknowledged staff’s efforts and dedication during the period of the City’s structural deficit while maintaining fiscal responsibility. He concurred with Council Member Croft’s recognition of past and present City Councils who took the task of financial responsibility seriously. He stated he looked forward to beginning to address the City’s capital improvement needs and the issues of an aging infrastructure.

Mayor Rogers noted disappointment at not being able to bring back the Block Party due to COVID-19 but expressed excitement for the upcoming fireworks show. He indicated that the City was in the process of establishing the Measure L Oversight Committee and that the members would be appointed in the near future. He emphasized the commitment to maintaining the community’s priorities and that the funds generated by the “once in a generation” sales tax increase would last for twenty years. He expressed appreciation for the work on restarting the 20-year plan, despite the COVID-19 setback.

1.1 • CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FY 2020-21 & 2021-22 - Continued
Steve Skolnik, City Attorney's Office, stated that 1.1.b was his annual memo to the City Council which explained the actions necessary to implement the budget including a resolution that contained the calculation on the appropriations limitation. He advised that all of the budget documents could be considered at the same public hearing and adopted by a single roll call vote.

c. RESOLUTION NO. 2020-23; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING THE BIENNIAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF RESERVE FUNDS INTO APPROPRIATE FUNDS AS OF JUNE 30, 2020

d. RESOLUTION NO. 2020-24; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD DETERMINING THE TOTAL ANNUAL APPROPRIATION SUBJECT TO LIMITATION OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

e. RESOLUTION NO. 2020-25; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ADOPTING THE BIENNIAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATING REVENUE FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2020-21 AND 2021-22

1) RESOLUTIONS NO. 2020-26 AND NO. 2020-27; RESOLUTIONS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD CERTIFYING TO CITY LIGHT AND POWER LAKEWOOD THAT BASIC FEE PAYMENTS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET

2) RESOLUTION NO. 2020-28; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD RENEWING AN AGREEMENT FOR A COMMUNITY RECREATION PROGRAM WITH THE ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

3) RESOLUTION NO. 2020-29; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD RENEWING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND COMMUNITY FAMILY GUIDANCE CENTER

4) RESOLUTION NO. 2020-30; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD RENEWING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND HUMAN SERVICES ASSOCIATION (HSA)

5) RESOLUTION NO. 2020-31; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD RENEWING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND LAKEWOOD MEALS ON WHEELS

6) RESOLUTION NO. 2020-32; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD RENEWING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND PATHWAYS VOLUNTEER HOSPICE

1.1 • CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FY 2020-21 & 2021-22 - Continued

- 7) Approval of Agreement for Telecommunications Services with Abilita LA
- 8) Approval of Agreement for HVAC and Refrigeration Maintenance and Repair Services with Aire Rite A/C and Refrigeration Inc.
- 9) Approval of Amendment to Agreement for Engineering Services with Associated Soils Engineering, Inc.
- 10) Approval of Agreement for Hardscape Maintenance with CJ Construction
- 11) Approval of Agreement for On-Call Roof Warranty Inspection and Consulting Services with D7 Consulting
- 12) Approval of Agreement for Architectural Services with Dahlin Group
- 13) Approval of Agreement with Dekra-Lite for Centre Decor
- 14) Approval of Agreement with Dive/Corr Inc. for Water Storage Facility Inspection and Maintenance
- 15) Approval of Amendment to Agreement with Doty Bros Construction for On-Call Emergency Utility Repairs
- 16) Approval of Agreement for Document Imaging System Maintenance and Support
- 17) Approval of Amendment to Appendix B for Refuse Collection with EDCO Waste Services
- 18) Approval of Renewal of Agreement with Fair Housing Consultants Inc.
- 19) Approval of Agreement for On-Call Electrical Engineering Services with FBA Engineering
- 20) Approval of Agreement for Electrical Support Services with Fineline Electric
- 21) Approval of Agreement Amendment of Storm Water Services Agreement with G2 Construction
- 22) Approval of Agreement with Greene Backflow for Annual Backflow Testing and Repair Services
- 23) Approval of Agreement with HTS Environmental Services for Disposal of Hazardous Materials from Well 27 Treatment Plant
- 24) Approval of Amendment to Agreement for Storm Water Services with John L. Hunter & Associates

1.1 • CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FY 2020-21 & 2021-22 - Continued

25) Approval of Agreement for Provision of City Attorney and City Prosecutor Services with Jones & Mayer

26) Approval of Agreements for Median Landscape Maintenance Services and Mowing Services of City Facilities with LandCare

27) Approval of Amendment to Agreement for Elevator Preventative Maintenance and Repair Services with Liftech Elevator Services, Inc.

28) Approval of Reimbursement Agreements for Long Beach Transit Fixed Route Subsidy and Dial-A-Lift Service

29) Approval of Amendment to Agreement for Transportation Planning and Engineering Services Agreement with LSA Associates, Inc.

30) Approval of Agreement with Macerich Lakewood LP for Law Enforcement Services At Lakewood Center Mall

31) Approval of Agreement for Engineering and Traffic Survey Services with Newport Traffic Studies

32) Approval of Amendment to Agreement for Environmental Consulting Services with Nicholls Consulting

33) Approval of Agreement for On-Call Hazardous Waste Removal Services with Ocean Blue Environmental Services, Inc.

34) Approval of Amendment of Agreement with Pacific EH&S Services, Inc.

35) Approval of Agreement for Traffic Striping Maintenance Services with PCI Striping

36) Approval of Agreement for On-Call Mechanical and Plumbing Engineering Services with Pocock Design Solutions Inc.

37) Approval of Agreement for Landscape Architectural Support Services with Richard Fisher Associates

38) Approval of Agreement for On-Call Structural Engineering Services with Robert F. Daniels Structural Engineer

39) Approval of Renewal of Agreement with Sams Painting for Fix-Up Paint-Up Program

40) Approval of Agreement for Environmental Services with S.C.S. Consultants

1.1 • CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FY 2020-21 & 2021-22 - Continued

- 41) Approval of Agreement for Street Banner Marketing Program with Sierra Installations, Inc.
- 42) Approval of Amendment of Animal Control Agreement with Southeast Area Animal Control Authority
- 43) Approval of Renewal of Agreement for Fire and Burglar Security Systems Monitoring and Maintenance Services with Stanley Convergent Security Solutions
- 44) Approval of Agreement for Helicopter Maintenance with Steam Aircraft
- 45) Approval of Agreement with T2 Systems for Cloud Hosted Parking Control Software Program
- 46) Approval of Consultant Services Agreement with Telecom Law Firm, Pc
- 47) Approval of Legal Services Agreement with Telecom Law Firm, Pc
- 48) Approval of Agreement with Waterline Technologies for Delivery of 12.5% Sodium Hypochlorite
- 49) Approval of Amendment to Agreement for Engineering Services with Willdan

Mayor Rogers opened the public hearing at 8:49 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter. There was no response.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER DUBOIS SECONDED TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS NO. 2020-23, NO. 2020-24, AND NO. 2020-25 AND ITEMS 1.1.E.1-49. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

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

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor Rogers stated that correspondence via email regarding recent events had been received prior to the meeting from Lakewood residents Deidre Norville, George Gonzalez, Ester Tjahjono, Rebecca Bodan, Joanna Moody and Heather Pierce and former resident Richard Mehlinger.

George Gonzalez, Lakewood, addressed the City Council regarding the protest held on June 5th at City Hall and voiced concerns regarding the Sheriff's Department's use of force policy.

Mayor Rogers responded by stating that an investigation into the incident was ongoing and that the City Council and staff would be willing to answer his individual questions.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: - Continued

Joanna Moody, Lakewood, spoke regarding the importance of history and expressed interest in addressing racial inequality and prejudice in the community.

Fe Beasley, Lakewood, communicated satisfaction with living in Lakewood and spoke of some of the challenges of biases from the past. She stated the necessity for equal treatment and respect as human beings rather than being judged by the color of one's skin.

Deidre Norville, Lakewood, expressed thanks to the Mayor for acknowledging the pledge from former President Barack Obama and spoke of the need to recognize the existence of racism and for actions to be taken in response to incidents of police brutality. She indicated that she intended to continue attending meetings to be heard and to receive information on timelines, actions and next steps.

James Norville, Lakewood, stated that having previously had the opportunity to work in Lakewood and fly in Sky Knight had exposed him to some of the discrimination and retaliatory actions within the Sheriff's Department and in the community. He asked that information regarding the civil unrest and some of the more critical issues be made available to the community and also requested for more diverse representation on boards and commissions in the City.

Mayor Rogers indicated that Vicki Stuckey, had been the first African American, who was appointed and currently served on the Lakewood Planning and Environment Commission and that diversity had increased at each time appointments were made.

Crystal Jones Dunkin, Lakewood, recounted incidents of intolerant behavior from neighbors and of racist actions from law enforcement after moving into Lakewood. She related an instance when she had been made to feel like a criminal when attempting to turn in a purse found in the street. She expressed interest in participating in and being represented in the group discussions as initiated by Dr. Stein on issues in Lakewood.

Terry Beasley, Lakewood, emphasized the message of Black Lives Matter stating that as a black man, he had survived much racism and offered his help in making a change to the current issues in society.

Debbie Gonzales, Lakewood, stated that as a longtime resident and a Block Captain on her street, she appreciated the parks and the family oriented community. She added that her interest in becoming involved led her to participation in Neighborhood Watch and getting to know the deputies as well as the City. She expressed pride in being a good citizen and acknowledged the need to make things better for those who were hurting.

Noelle Morrison, Lakewood, echoed many of the previous speakers' statements and voiced the opinion that the presence of the National Guard and the Sheriff's response was unnecessary with respect to what had been regarded as a peaceful protest. She questioned the ability of the City to review the Sheriff's actions.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: - Continued

Dennis Williams, Lakewood, commented on videos from social media posts of the protest showing the smoke that had been deployed and stated the preference of tolerance over unnecessary violence or aggressive behavior.

Susan Berry, Lakewood, shared that her son had been shot and killed outside her home by the Sheriff's. She noted the effects of positive reform and the value of equal rights for everyone.

Yvette Geater, Lakewood, addressed the City Council regarding her sons having been approached by Sheriff's while picking leaves from a tree and expressed concern with the budget issues pertaining to body cameras.

Mayor Rogers stated that the City had paid its fair share for the Sheriff's contract costs and that as presented earlier in the meeting, the cost for those services were going up. He expressed the hope that the Board of Supervisors would prioritize the expenditures for body cameras once again.

Martin Swart, Lakewood, commented on the recent protests and looting.

Responding to a question regarding the meaning of the City's motto from an unidentified speaker, Mayor Rogers stated that he shared similar values with those appreciated by the community such as safe neighborhoods, recreation programs, volunteerism and the sense of family and belonging and felt that Lakewood was a welcoming community. He stated that the current topic of black lives and George Floyd were the issues at hand and should not be detracted from.

Pamela Williams, Lakewood, addressed the City Council stating her interest in representation. She inquired about the timeframe and method for receiving information regarding the Community Dialogue.

Mayor Rogers replied that the outreach to the faith leaders had been initiated and that the Lakewood Connect e-magazine would serve as a primary conduit of information. He encouraged those interested to subscribe to be included in the distribution list. He added that social media, email and telephone calls were other ways of communication and that the dialogue depended on participation.

Two unidentified speakers addressed the City Council regarding tolerance, making a difference and the need for change.

Pamela Distin, Lakewood, described an incident involving her son, who had been arrested. She requested a follow up to have the arrest removed from his record. She expressed interest in being more involved in the community.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Rogers adjourned the meeting at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Mayberry, CMC

City Clerk