



# Minutes

## Lakewood City Council

Adjourned Regular Meeting held  
June 14, 2011

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MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Van Nostran in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mayor Larry Van Nostran  
Vice Mayor Diane DuBois  
Council Member Steve Croft  
Council Member Todd Rogers  
Council Member Jeff Wood

### PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF OPERATING BUDGET FOR FY2011-12

City Manager Howard Chambers stated the purpose of this session was to provide a preliminary overview on the status of the budget, with a particular focus on Capital Improvements.

Administrative Services Director Diane Perkin displayed slides and gave a presentation on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2011-2012. She presented an overview of the State and National economic forecasts and the impacts on Lakewood. She noted that overall inflation was expected to be 3.3 percent for 2011; that local unemployment numbers were slightly better than the national average; and that although Lakewood property values increased by .4 percent, it was projected that the housing market would take between 4 and 11 years to equalize.

For the proposed budget, she showed that the All Funds Summary balanced Revenue and Expenditures at \$67,312,947. She reviewed Revenues, noting that Sales Tax accounted for twenty percent of the City's revenue; and Appropriations, noting that the single largest category was Public Safety. She reported that the Capital Projects budget was \$13,644,842.

Public Works Assistant Director Max Withrow reported on the proposed Capital Projects for Street and Transit Projects such as Seven Major Street Segments, equaling approximately six miles of paving; new Slotted Cross Gutters Replacement, beginning with an inventory and priority setting; Hardscape Repairs; Local Street Resurfacing, paving the residential area north of Lakewood High School; and Continuing Transportation Projects, including Traffic Signal Projects currently under construction.

Responding to a question from the City Manager, Mr. Withrow stated that the proposed relinquishment of Lakewood Boulevard from CALTRANS to the City was still under consideration in Sacramento.

**PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF OPERATING BUDGET FOR FY2011-12 - Continued**

Senior Project Manager June Anderson presented the Parks and Facilities Projects. She briefly reviewed The Centre Refurbishments, including first floor restrooms, catering office and exterior landscaping; Park Hardscape Program proposed for Bolivar Park; Mayfair Pool Project; Roof Replacements for the Biscailuz Activity Building, Youth Center and Nye Library; Nixon Yard Improvements, including reroofing and painting the warehouse building; Arbor Yard Improvements, including flooring replacement and exterior painting; Bloomfield Park Project, including a new picnic shelter and play area; and several small Park Project and HVAC Projects.

Recreation and Community Services Director Lisa Litzinger stated that planning for the Park Facility Improvements was a team concept involving every level of staff in the team and a collaborative effort between the Recreation and Community Services and Public Works Departments. She used the example of the Del Valle hardscape project, where the Public Works staff completed the hardscape repairs and the RCS staff put in the new landscaping.

Responding to a question from Mayor Van Nostran, Ms. Anderson stated that the liner for the pool at Mayfair Park was coming to the end of the useful life, and funding had been included in the proposed budget for a feasibility study to determine the best approach to refurbish the pool.

Water Resources Director Jim Glancy presented the Water Resources Projects, including a Treatment Facility for Well #22; ongoing Water Main Replacement; a Conservation Demo Garden, to be located near the Home Depot on Clark Avenue; SCADA System Upgrade; and Arbor Yard Solar Array, which would power the water offices and operations building, and the print shop.

There were two Supplemental Projects proposed for City Council consideration. A potential site for a dog park had been identified at the southeast corner of Studebaker Road and Del Amo Boulevard, which could be made available through a license agreement with Southern California Edison. Should approval be received from SCE, staff proposed that the project, tentatively named K-9 Korner, proceed with the preparation of construction plans and a cost estimate.

In response to a question from Mayor Van Nostran, Ms. Litzinger and Ms. Anderson stated that in surveying other cities with existing dog park facilities, they had learned that turf was too difficult and expensive to maintain and were studying other potential ground cover materials such as rubberized mulch and decomposed granite.

Council Member Rogers determined from Ms. Litzinger that the design phase would require about six months.

The other Supplemental Project was the purchase of a Mobile Outdoor Stage for use at events such as Concerts in the Park, the Pan American Fiesta, Patriot Day and the Civic Center Block Party. Ms. Litzinger noted that the City-owned stage had been retired in 2010 after more than 30 years of service and that the stage currently used for City events was rented from another city. She stated that a City-owned stage that was easy to set up could be utilized for other City events.

**PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF OPERATING BUDGET FOR FY2011-12 - Continued**

Mayor Van Nostran stated he did not advocate foolish spending, but it seems more practical to buy rather than continue to spend money on a rental, especially when the purchase could be offset by sponsorships.

Council Member Rogers stated that a mobile stage was an asset that could last for twenty or more years, and that although he was not opposed to sponsorships, he felt sponsor banners were not appropriate for all events.

Council Member Wood stated he would support non-permanent sponsor banners.

Council Member Croft noted that the stage purchase would not be for a single event, but could be used for many events throughout the year.

The City Manager confirmed for Vice Mayor DuBois that there was sufficient funding available for the stage purchase and the dog park design phase.

Ms. Litzinger determined that the City Council was in concurrence with offering the mobile stage to other cities as a rental, when not in use for Lakewood events.

Ms. Perkin advised that after economy-driven cutbacks over the past couple of years, the Capital Improvement Projects budget had been increased back to standard levels.

Council Member Croft clarified that the dog park funding to be included in the budget was for a design phase only.

**COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE ADDING THE PURCHASE OF A MOBILE OUTDOOR STAGE AND AUTHORIZE FUNDING THE DESIGN PHASE FOR A DOG PARK TO BE INCLUDED AS PART OF THE BUDGET FOR FY 2011-2012. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTIONS WERE APPROVED:**

**AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers, Croft, Wood, DuBois and Van Nostran**

**NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC  
City Clerk