



# Minutes

## Lakewood City Council

Regular Meeting held  
July 25, 2006

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**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Van Nostran in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center, 5000 Clark Avenue, Lakewood, California.

**INVOCATION** was offered by Dr. John Bonner, Chaplain Emeritus to the City Council

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Council Member Todd Rogers

**ROLL CALL: PRESENT:** Mayor Larry Van Nostran  
Vice Mayor Diane DuBois  
Council Member Steve Croft  
Council Member Joseph Esquivel  
Council Member Todd Rogers

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Van Nostran announced that arguments in favor or against the fireworks measure on the November 7th ballot would be accepted by the City Clerk until August 7th.

Mayor Van Nostran also announced that the meeting would be adjourned in memory of Kurt Wiechert, a founding member of Lakewood's St. Timothy Lutheran Church.

### **ROUTINE ITEMS:**

VICE MAYOR DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO APPROVE ROUTINE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 12.

RI-1 Approval of Minutes of the Meetings held June 27, and July 11, 2006

RI-2 Approval of Personnel Transactions

RI-3 Approval of Registers of Demands

RI-4 Approval of Meeting Reports and Authorizations Pursuant to AB1234

RI-5 RESOLUTION NO. 2006-46; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

**ROUTINE ITEMS:** Continued

RI-5 RESOLUTION NO. 2006-47; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-48; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-49; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MORE THAN THREE YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-50; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-51; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-52; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AUTHORIZING THE DESTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MORE THAN TWO YEARS OLD

RI-6 Approval of Agreement with Verizon Business Services for Internet Connectivity

RI-7 Approval of Monthly Investment Transactions

RI-8 Approval of Quarterly Schedule of Investments

RI-9 Approval of Proposal for Design Services for Del Amo Median Improvements

RI-10 Approval of Proposal for Design Services for Bloomfield Avenue and Norwalk Boulevard Overlay

RI-11 RESOLUTION NO. 2006-53; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD ESTABLISHING A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS DESIGNATED PARKING SPACE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF DEL AMO BOULEVARD NORTH SERVICE ROAD WITHIN THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD

**ROUTINE ITEMS:** Continued

RI-12 Approval of Amendment to Public Works Project No. 06-8, City Monument Signs

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**1.1 - REPORT OF DELINQUENT FEES FOR GARBAGE, WASTE AND REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

Assistant Finance Director Ronnie Campbell gave a brief oral presentation based on the memo contained in the agenda and stated that pursuant to Section 3500 of the Lakewood Municipal Code, the City Council had adopted a resolution in May directing the preparation of a Report of Delinquent Fees as of May 31st. He stated that 297 notices had been mailed and although some payments had been made, at the close of the day's business, 204 accounts remained unpaid. He noted that payments would continue to be accepted through July 31, 2006. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council adopt the proposed resolution confirming the report of delinquent fees.

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-54; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD CONFIRMING THE REPORT OF DELINQUENT FEES AND CHARGES FOR GARBAGE, WASTE, AND REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL WITHIN THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, MAY 31, 2006

Mayor Van Nostran opened the public hearing at 7:38 p.m. and called for anyone in the audience wishing to address the City Council on this matter. There was no response.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2006-54. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

**2.1 • INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2006-5; PERTAINING TO THE PARKING OF TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS**

Council Member Todd Rogers stated that as part of the ad hoc committee, he worked with the City Attorney to draft an ordinance that would address the parking of detached trailers on City streets, he and Council Member Croft had looked at parking complaints and determined that a majority of complaints received were related to detached trailers. He stated that Lakewood was about promoting families and that while many trailers and recreational vehicles were used for family vacations and getaways with owners who were courteous and considerate of their neighbors, there were always those few who were not.

## **2.1 • INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2006-5; PERTAINING TO THE PARKING OF TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS - Continued**

He stated that storage of such vehicles on City streets was a source of blight and that the City needed to take a proactive stance.

Council Member Croft displayed slides and reported that there were approximately 6,000 recreational vehicles registered in the City of Lakewood, and about 75 percent were trailers. He stated that although the majority of owners acted responsibly, there was a small minority that was using the City streets as a storage lot, negatively impacting the quality of life for their neighbors. He noted that currently, the primary tool for parking control was the 72-hour parking regulation which contained no requirement for how far a vehicle must be moved. He noted that while campaigning during the 2005 City Council election, recreational vehicle parking issues were the primary complaints he heard. He stated the proposed ordinance had been carefully crafted and would be a good first step toward providing relief for those plagued by neighborhood parking problems.

Council Member Rogers stated that they had received input from a variety of sources and that Lakewood had the most permissive parking regulations in the area. He noted that even on the Good Sam Club website for recreational vehicle owners, members were advised not to park their vehicles on city streets. He reviewed the provisions of the ordinance noting that it would provide a fair and flexible permit process at no charge to residents and would not go into effect until January of 2007.

City Attorney Steve Skolnik recommended that wording be added to the ordinance to clarify that it applied only to residential zones.

Council Member Rogers noted that the proposed ordinance would not address motorhome type recreational vehicles, only detached trailers. He stated that consideration of regulating those type of vehicles was pending further investigation into State codes. He also stated that the committee would recommend an ordinance be drafted which would prohibit on-street parking of recreational vehicles not registered to Lakewood addresses.

Heddy Niemeyer, Renee Huber, Kim Anderson, Eileen Edgerton, Leo Germain, Brandon Young, Darrell Sutherland, Marcia Hedberg, Brian Belcher, Dana Wikert, Robert Wagner and Bill Baca addressed the City Council regarding the proposed ordinance. The issues raised included support for getting these vehicles off City streets; the need to address motorhomes as well; the need to change the Municipal Code to allow driveway parking and storage; and provide alternate storage site.

Vice Mayor DuBois advised that the Southern California Edison Company had been contacted regarding use of the property under the power lines for recreational vehicles storage, and they had indicated they were not interested in such a proposal.

**2.1 • INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2006-5; PERTAINING TO THE PARKING OF TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS - Continued**

The City Attorney clarified that provisions currently contained within the Municipal Code did not allow property owners to use their driveways for vehicle storage, noting that the original purpose of such regulations had been to keep access to garages clear for parking.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROGERS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 2006-5, AS AMENDED.

ORDINANCE NO. 2006-5; AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD AMENDING SECTION 3251 OF THE LAKEWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO PARKING OF TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS

Vice Mayor DuBois stated that a new program to proactively enforce the 72-hour parking regulation had only been in place since May, but had already shown a decrease of about one-third in the on-street parking of such vehicles, and that she felt not enough time had passed to determine how successful the program would be. She noted that after a year of enforcement, no other legislation may be needed. She stated that if the proposed ordinance were to move forward, she would recommend an implementation date of May 1, 2007, to give the other program a full year to become fully effective. She also noted that she would like to see statistical data on the actual numbers of non-Lakewood registered recreational vehicles parking on Lakewood streets.

Council Member Croft expressed concern that selective enforcement of the 72-hour parking regulation would ultimately result in chasing the problems to other areas of the City. He stated he felt it was time to move forward on the issue of detached trailers and noted that after six months or one year, the ordinance could be brought back to the City Council if modifications were needed. He stated that placing an ordinance addressing this issue on the ballot would make it too difficult to amend or fine tune later.

Council Member Esquivel stated that since the issue had been raised, he had made a targeted effort to ask residents at various community events about their opinions on recreational vehicle parking, and he remained unconvinced that there was an extensive problem.

Mayor Van Nostran commended the ad hoc committee for the substantial amount of research they did on regulations in other area cities. He expressed concern about residents not having input into the process up to this point and that banning trailers from the street could chase motorhomes onto the streets. He stated that Lakewood was a unique community in many ways, and parking regulations would need to be configured to meet special needs. He also stated that he understood that there were bad neighbors out there, but he felt there were still unanswered questions about this issue.

Council Member Rogers stated he was concerned about Lakewood becoming the RV storage lot for all of the surrounding cities. He also stated that enforcement of the 72-hour parking regulation was a cat-and-mouse game between the City's parking control officers and RV owners using the streets for storage. He noted that the issue of recreational vehicle parking had been studied for years and that change was needed now.

**2.1 • INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2006-5; PERTAINING TO THE PARKING OF TRAILERS AND SEMI-TRAILERS - Continued**

Council Member Croft stated he felt the issue had received enough study and that the City was not so unique that further review was needed.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION FAILED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers and Croft  
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel and DuBois  
ABSTAIN: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Van Nostran

MAYOR VAN NOSTRAN MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY AND CITY CLERK TO PREPARE THE DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR ACTION AT THE NEXT REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO PLACE TWO MEASURES ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT. THE FIRST, IF ADOPTED, WOULD BAN DETACHED TRAILER PARKING IN LAKEWOOD AND THE SECOND, IF ADOPTED, WOULD BAN THE PARKING OF MOTORIZED RECREATIONAL VEHICLES IN LAKEWOOD. EACH MEASURE TO BE CRAFTED IN A MANNER THAT WOULD ALLOW PERMIT PARKING.

Mayor Van Nostran stated that regulations of this nature would profoundly affect everyone in the community. He also stated that sampling polls just did not give an accurate enough indicator, only a vote of the people could resolve the matter.

The City Attorney clarified that the proposed action was merely to direct staff to prepare material for the next City Council agenda, not to reach a decision on any matter.

Vice Mayor DuBois stated that she had also spoken to a great number of people during the 2005 election campaign and while concerns were raised regarding recreational vehicle parking, it was one of many issues. She stated she would support the Mayor's motion.

Council Member Croft noted that there had been an unofficial committee several years earlier that had received extensive public input.

Mayor Van Nostran called for the question.

UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois and Van Nostran  
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rogers and Croft

### **3.1 • PROPOSAL FOR PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROJECT**

Public Works Director Lisa Rapp gave a brief presentation based on the memo contained in the agenda and reported the City had an annual agreement with Willdan for engineering services. Willdan had prepared a proposal to provide the City with a computerized pavement management system. She noted that the current system was part of the old computer system that was in the process of being replaced. The project would include all services necessary to inspect, inventory and rate the streets, as well as enter and maintain the data. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council authorize the preparation of a new Pavement Management System to be provided under the existing agreement with Willdan in an amount not to exceed \$44,500 and to appropriate \$44,500 from Proposition C Transit funds for the project.

Responding to a question from Vice Mayor DuBois, Ms. Rapp stated implementation of this system would not impact the ongoing implementation of the MUNIS system.

VICE MAYOR DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

### **3.2 • CHANGE ORDER FOR PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT NO. 05-6, LAKEWOOD SHERIFF STATION EXPANSION PROJECT**

The Director of Public Works gave a brief presentation based on the memo contained in the agenda and stated the Lakewood Sheriff Station Expansion Project was moving along quickly. She advised that while initially the plan called for the low voltage systems, including communications, security and audio/visual systems, to be bid separately from the general construction, the fast pace of the construction and the positive working relationship with the general contractor led staff to request Pinner Construction to consider a change order to their contract to include the low voltage system work. She noted that although a change order of this size must receive the approval of the County of Los Angeles, there was sufficient funding available in the project account for the work. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council approve a change order to Public Works Contract No. 05-6 for providing and installing various low voltage systems, as designed by the City's consultant, OMB Engineers, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$925,000.

Council Member Croft noted that he had toured the construction site and been amazed by the progress that had been made on the project to date.

VICE MAYOR DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran

NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

### **3.3 • CHANGE ORDER FOR PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT NO. 06-7, RESIDENTIAL STREET REHAB 2006**

The Director of Public Works gave a presentation based on the memo contained in the agenda and reported there was an opportunity to include additional work with a contract recently awarded to Silvia Construction, Inc. for Residential Street Rehab at the unit prices in the original contract. The proposed additional work was included in the FY 2006-07 budget. She noted that with steadily increasing asphalt costs, based on oil prices, it was prudent to lock in the unit prices. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council approve a contract change order for up to \$1,575,000 with Silvia Construction, Inc. and appropriate \$400,000 from the General Fund for the project.

COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT MOVED AND VICE MAYOR DUBOIS SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATIONS. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran  
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

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### **3.4 • AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF LONG BEACH FOR CARSON STREET LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE**

Recreations and Community Services Director Joan Biegel gave a brief presentation based on the memo contained in the agenda and stated staff had worked with the City of Long Beach to develop an agreement for landscaping the area on the north side of Carson Street between the West San Gabriel River Nature Trail and Los Coyotes Diagonal. Long Beach had agreed to install solar-powered irrigation, trees and shrubs, and pay utility costs. Lakewood would be responsible for maintenance of the improvements. It was the recommendation of staff that the City Council approve the agreement with the City of Long Beach for landscape and irrigation improvements to the north side of Carson Street between the West San Gabriel River Nature Trail and Los Coyotes Diagonal.

Council Member Rogers requested that staff research complaints about this area and contact those residents to advise them about the improvements.

Mayor Van Nostran determined from Ms. Biegel that the project should be completed by this December.

VICE MAYOR DUBOIS MOVED AND COUNCIL MEMBER CROFT SECONDED TO APPROVE STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. UPON ROLL CALL VOTE, THE MOTION WAS APPROVED:

AYES: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Esquivel, DuBois, Rogers, Croft and Van Nostran  
NAYS: COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

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At 9:37 p.m., the Regular Meeting of the City Council was recessed for the Meeting of the Lakewood Redevelopment Agency. At 9:38 p.m., the City Council Meeting was reconvened.

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**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:**

Anthony Vitale addressed the City Council regarding his opposition to fireworks.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, Mayor Van Nostran adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Kurt Wiechert.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise R. Hayward, CMC  
City Clerk