

**MINUTES
OF THE
REGULAR MEETING
OF
LAKEWOOD CITY COUNCIL
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
12650 DETROIT AVENUE
OCTOBER 20, 2014
7:30 P.M.**

Regular Meeting of the Lakewood City Council called to order at 7:33 PM by President Madigan.

Present: David Anderson, Thomas R. Bullock III, Shawn Juris, Mary Louise Madigan, Cindy Marx, Ryan Nowlin, Samuel T. O'Leary

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Also Present: Mayor Summers, Law Director Butler, Finance Director Pae, Police Chief Malley, Human Services Director Gelsomino, Planning & Development Director Siley.

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Reading and Disposal of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held October 6, 2014.

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin to approve the minutes without the necessity of a reading.

Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

Reports, legislation and communications from Members of Council, the Mayor and other City Officials.

*******OLD BUSINESS*******

1. Committee of the Whole Report regarding Public Works Update. (To Be Provided – Madigan; Chair)

This evening, we just broke out of Public Works at which Director Beno gave us an update, as he does periodically, on a number of subjects including water, sewer, parks maintenance and updating, particularly Madison Park. And, one of our favorite subjects; lighting and the maintenance of lighting. Move to receive and file.

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to receive and file the oral report.

Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

Health & Human Services Committee Report regarding October 13, 2014 Committee Meeting. (To Be Provided – Marx; Chair)

The Health and Humans Service Committee met on Monday, 10-13-14. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. Committee member Juris and Director Gelsomino were present as were Councilmembers O'Leary, Bullock and Anderson.

Director Gelsomino provided an overview of her Department and of her research comparing the senior transportation services in Lakewood to those in the neighboring cities of Rocky River, Cleveland Hts., Parma and Euclid remarking of the challenges that exist in making those comparisons – one must take into consideration the entire community profile. Her research revealed that Lakewood, Parma and Rocky River spend the most on senior services. Parma and Lakewood spend approximately the same on senior transportation services and service about the same number of clients, however, Parma’s program allows for greater flexibility with mostly part-time staff while fewer, high paid full time staffs run Lakewood’s staff. Parma has a higher percentage of seniors residing in the city; Lakewood has a higher percentage of seniors in poverty with 15.7% living below poverty. Rocky River’s senior budget is larger and serves more seniors with bus trips and transportation of seniors throughout the region. Lakewood has seen increased savings in senior medial transport by utilizing ACE cab service vouchers.

Director Gelsomino remarked that the Department spends \$150K-200 K on senior transportation. Switching to an outside service such as Senior Transportation Connections would provide fewer services for the same amount of money. She noted that the majority of senior clients in Lakewood do not have other transportation options and are limited in many ways. The Department has been a good steward of the senior transportation budget and the upcoming budget document will include additional strategies for partnerships and fund offsets.

Trends in our senior population was discussed noting that over the past twenty years the seniors who are poor has increased and Lakewood homes are not conducive to aging in place requiring a greater need for safe housing options for seniors and will leverage resources to partner with the senior buildings already in Lakewood. The creating of the new Lakewood Senior Collaborative will bring agencies and individuals together to address the complex needs of seniors.

Councilmember Bullock asked about reconfiguring positions of full-time drivers to create more flexibility within the Department. Director Gelsomino stated those conversations are ongoing and the staff is working on creative solutions to be responsive and save money.

Councilmember Juris questioned the different expectations on the transportation program by seniors and others. Director Gelsomino stated she attends DSAS meetings and the strategy to educate county council representatives about the challenges seniors face and how the City will have to make decision based on its value systems. She is waiting to hear back about supportive services grant application.

Councilmember Bullock agreed to attend an RTA meeting to be held on October 21st regarding the state reduction in public transit funding so that Lakewood may be aware of any additional or new funding sources that might be available. He will share this information with Council.

Director Gelsomino introduced the MyCare Ohio program explaining that this program is a state initiative and Cuyahoga County is a pilot community. Although there have been challenges accessing the system – it is meant to provide services in the future to seniors who intend to age in place and noted that the County needs to be responsive to needs within the county not only within the inner city. She emphasized the importance of aging across the region and that Lakewood is taking a leading role among the Western Suburbs. Councilmember Juris commended the Directors efforts to coordinate and avoid duplication of services. Lakewood will soon receive a new senior transportation vehicle from NOACA. Creating Healthy Community Grant funded by the Ohio Department of Public Health focuses on reducing chronic disease through healthy eating, active living, and encouraging a tobacco free environment. The Human Services Department is working with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health to support education, training, and ongoing development at early childcare centers around the MyPlate tool. The Human Services Department will work to build connections with the early childcare centers.

Review of the Diversion Program revealed that the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant was deleted from the federal budget due to a decrease in juvenile crime. This change results in a loss of \$22K from the City budget for the program. The Director has met with the Mayor and Police Chief to see if Juvenile Court can access funds to help continue the program. Anecdotal accounts demonstrate that the program is a success and the City maintains a full-time juvenile coordinator. An overview of the Department staffing changes will be taking place due to the resignation of the H2O coordinator; interviews are in process for finding a replacement. Clinical Advisor/Supervisor and Case Manager positions will be opening with priority given to Case Manager replacement while the Clinical Advisor position is analyzed for possible changes prior to filling the position.

Councilmember Anderson asked about the eligibility criteria for the senior transportation program. Dir. Gelsomino explained that anyone age 65 or older qualifies, however, the demand has come from those without alternative options.

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to receive and file the oral report.
Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

2. Planning Commission Report regarding Zoning Code Chapter 1143-Parking Code Update. (REFERRED TO PLANNING COMMISSION 7/21/14)(Pg.3)

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to receive and file the report.
Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

3. **ORDINANCE NO. 36-14** – AN ORDINANCE to repeal the existing Chapter 1143, Off-Street Parking, of the Zoning Code of the City of Lakewood and to enact a new Chapter 1143, Parking. (Pg. 4)

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to place Ordinance No. 36-14 on 1st Reading and refer it to the Committee of the Whole.
Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

4. **ORDINANCE NO. 34-14** – AN ORDINANCE repealing Chapter 737, Pawnbrokers, and replacing it with Chapter 737, Secondhand Dealers, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lakewood, in order to discard outmoded provisions and institute timely regulations within the Code. (PLACED ON 1ST READING & REFERRED TO THE RULES & ORDINANCES COMMITTEE 10/6/14) (Pg. 27)

Discussion: Councilmember Bullock questioned whether the proposed legislation would be retrospective or just prospective – affecting new developments only.

Director Siley responded that the new ordinance cannot be used to govern existing properties unless there is a comprehensive change in use.

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to place Ordinance No. 34-14 on 2nd Reading.

Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

****NEW BUSINESS****

5. Communication from Council President Madigan regarding Bed Bugs. (Pg.33)

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to receive and file the communication.

Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

6. Communication from Councilmembers Bullock and Nowlin regarding convening a discussion of the process for deliberation upon resident-proposed neighborhood improvement projects. (Pg.34)

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to receive, file and refer the communication to the Rules & Ordinances Committee.

Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

7. Communication from Councilmembers Bullock and Anderson regarding Reviewing status of implementation of Lakewood's commercial property inspection and maintenance strategy. (Pg. 35)

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to receive, file and refer the communication to the Housing Committee.

Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

8. Communication from Public Works Director Beno regarding Emergency elevator repair at Lawther Center. (Pg.37)

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to receive and file the communication.

Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

9. **RESOLUTION NO. 8770-14** – A RESOLUTION to take effect immediately provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least five members of council, or otherwise to take effect at the earliest period allowed by law, declaring it necessary that the Director of Public Works, be permitted to enter into a contract with Gable Elevator without the requirement of competitive bidding in order to make an emergency repair to the elevator at the Lawther Center in the City. (Pg.38)

Discussion: Council President Madigan asked how many employees work on the second floor of the Lawther Center.

Director Gelsomino responded that five people work on the second floor. She added that the second floor is also the space that is leased out to Congresswoman Kaptur's office. Furthermore, the basement is essential space for seniors. Councilmember Nowlin asked about the contractor being used.

Director Beno replied that the contractor that does routine maintenance and repair will be used. One other quote was received in the amount of approximately \$37,000.

In response to additional questions, Director Beno stated that the repair is not uncommon. There is one other similar elevator in the City. He clarified that the elevator is completely un-useable at the moment. Director Beno and a manager will oversee the project. It is expected to take over a month to complete.

Councilmember O'Leary asked about the funding and what will happen to excess appropriations should the project be completed at less cost than expected.

Director Pae responded that the project is unanticipated and unbudgeted. It will be paid out of the Aging Fund, which is heavily supported by the General Fund. A year-end transfer will be made from the General Fund to cover the expenses. In response to other questions she clarified that because Aging is a Special Revenue Fund, large amounts of money are not budgeted there for building repairs.

Councilmember Anderson asked about the rent received by the City from Congresswoman Kaptur's office. It was provided that a modest fair benefitted Lakewood with a member of Congress within the City.

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin to adopt Resolution No. 8770-14.

Motion adopted. All members voting yea.

Public Comment

Ann Spence – 13939 Edgewater Drive

Ms. Spence thanked Councilmembers Nowlin and Bullock for their letter regarding resident-proposed improvement projects. She is hoping the discussion will result in a roadmap for those residents who would like to improve their neighborhoods. She stated that her

neighborhood in Overlook Park has been working on a fully funded beautification project for over two years.

Gaynel Mellino – 13908 Edgewater

Ms. Mellino spoke as the President of Overlook Park Association in support of the letter regarding resident-proposed improvement projects. She stated that such a process will allow residents to be heard on their wants and needs.

Announcements

Councilmember Anderson thanked Councilmember Marx for her Health and Human Services report and for convening a conversation about senior services and transportation. He anticipates the topic will continue to evolve in the future.

Mayor Summers provided an update on conversations taking place about Ebola among area leaders. He identified Chief Gilman as the incident commander. He stated that the CDC protocols have changed every day for four days. He credited the leadership of Mayor Jackson for bringing together area Mayors.

Motion by Ms. Madigan, seconded by Mr. Nowlin, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion adopted. All members present voting yea.
Meeting adjourned 8:27 PM.

Approved: _____

CLERK

PRESIDENT