

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LACEY CITY COUNCIL HELD THURSDAY,
JUNE 11, 2020, REMOTE ATTENDANCE

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ryder called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Ryder led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL PRESENT: A. Ryder, C. Pratt, L. Greenstein, C. Cox,
S. Steadman E. Kunkel, M. Miller (remote attendance)

STAFF PRESENT: J. Burbidge, S. Egger, D. Schneider, R. Walk, T. Woo,
J. Wilson, E. Fontaine (remote attendance)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
AND CONSENT AGENDA: Consent Agenda Items:
A. Council Meeting Minutes of May 28, 2020.
B. A motion to approve payment of claims, wages
and transfers for May 21, 2020, through June 3,
2020.

COUNCILMEMBER GREENSTEIN MOVED TO
APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND AGENDA.
COUNCILMEMBER STEADMAN SECONDED.
MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTIONS: Dave Schneider, City Attorney, presented Council with
Resolution No. 1093 amending Resolution 1087 related to
temporary procedures in response to COVID-19.

On March 26, 2020, the Lacey City Council adopted
Resolution 1087 providing for temporary procedures
in response to COVID-19. Council took this action in
recognition that the health, safety and welfare of City

residents, businesses, visitors and staff was of utmost importance to the City and that additional measures were needed to protect and assist the community. Resolution 1087 provided some economic relief to citizens and businesses suffering significant economic effects. The Resolution also modified certain Council procedures at meetings, changed meeting times from 7:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and cancelled worksessions. While the bulk of the temporary procedures remain necessary, some of the procedures are no longer needed. Specifically, staff recommends restoring suspended items back to Council agendas, and restoring Worksessions

COUNCILMEMBER STEADMAN MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 1093 AMENDING RESOLUTION 1087 RELATED TO TEMPORARY PROCEDURES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19. DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilmember Greenstein advised there is a conflict with the June 18, 2020, 4:00 p.m. Worksession and June 18, 2020, 5:00 p.m. Regional Housing Council.

COUNCILMEMBER GREENSTEIN MOVED TO CHANGE THE JUNE 18, 2020, WORKSESSION FROM 4:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. COUNCILMEMBER KUNKEL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Ryder stated the position of City Council in relation to the current international human rights movement and the community.

Councilmember Kunkel apologized to the community regarding his recent social media posts.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Scott Egger, Public Works Director, requested Council award Lacey Contract Number PW 2020-16 to low bidder OSG Dozing, LLC from Olympia, Washington in the amount of \$1,025,154.59.

This project outlines the 25th Loop Improvements that were anticipated and included in Lacey's 2020 Budget.

This contract provides for the installation of approximately 2,900 LF of 2-inch diameter sewer force main and 8-inch diameter sewer gravity main, 1,700 LF of 8-inch diameter water main and 1200 LF of stormwater infiltration gallery in the neighborhood off of 25th Ave SE on 25th Lp SE. The work will include service lines, meters, valves, transfer of water and sewer services, connections to existing water, sewer and stormwater systems, main abandonments, catch basins, pavement and lawn restoration and other work. The start date of the project is anticipated to be July 2020, and there are 60 working days allotted.

DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT MOVED TO APPROVE AWARDING LACEY CONTRACT NUMBER PW 2020-16 TO LOW BIDDER OSG DOZING, LLC FROM OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,025,154.59. COUNCILMEMBER STEADMAN SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Jen Burbidge, Parks and Recreation Director, presented Council with an update of the 2020 Long Lake Park Lifeguard Program.

The Parks and Recreation Department will be unable to provide lifeguards at Long Lake Park this summer due to lack of current certified staff, and an inability to certify new staff. Getting adequate staffing for the lake has been a challenge for the past few years; however

the addition of the COVID-19 public health crisis has caused an even bigger challenge for 2020.

Rick Walk, Community and Economic Development Director, presented on CARES Act Awards.

The CARES Act Lacey grant allocation is for costs incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19 during the period of March 1, 2020, through October 31, 2020. Use of the funds must meet a six-part test. Staff highlighted options on best utilization of the funds for Council to consider.

Council shared their support to submit for reimbursement for the small business grant program as well as discuss further detailed options at the June 18, 2020, Worksession.

Mayor Ryder adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

MAYOR: _____

ATTESTED BY CITY CLERK: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____

From: Natalie Whitcomb <smileynrw@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 1, 2020 7:47 AM
To: PublicComment
Subject: Lacey's Racial Inequality Responce

[Warning! External Email]

Council members,

Hi! I'm sure that all of you have seen the infuriating and heartbreaking video of George Floyd's murder. In light of that, and many other actions from police countrywide, what is Lacey doing to prevent that happening here? Do our police receive unconscious bias training? Are there publicly available records for complaints against officers? Where is there data available to measure the amount of black arrests, and is it comparable to arrests of white people (percentage wise)? How are officers holding each other accountable? I have had nothing but great interactions with our local police, and I have no reason to be distrustful of them, but as a white person, I need to know that my community is not going to let black people suffer the way they have in so many communities. Thank you for your time!

Natalie Angers

Sent from my iPhone

From: Robert Almada
Sent: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 7:10 PM
To: 'smileynrw@yahoo.com'
Cc: Scott Spence
Subject: RE: Lacey's Racial Inequality Response
Attachments: Lacey Community & Police Department Diversity.pdf

Good Afternoon Ms. Whitcomb,

Thank you for reaching out to the City Council and for your genuine concern for the community. The tragic death of George Floyd is deeply disturbing, and contrary to the fundamental values and professional standards expected and practiced by members of the Lacey Police Department.

I assure you that your Police Department has policies and accountability measures in place to ensure the conduct of our officers is in line with community and department expectations. Department directives mandate that all officers take responsibility for the welfare of individuals under their custody. These accountability measures and training protocols are cited below:

- **Department Policy 2.1 – Supervisor/Officer Responsibilities**

Each officer using force upon any person at or above Level I control tactics or in doubt whether the actions used amount to a reportable incident and any other officer who witnesses such use of force **must notify** the on-duty supervisor as soon as is practical, but always before the officer clears the scene. The supervisor will complete a Use of Force Reporting Form (Policy 9.6) normally by the end of their shift.

- **Department Policy 9.0 – Employee Conduct; Duty to Report Misconduct/Violations of Law**

Misconduct by one reflects poorly on all. For this reason, members will immediately report any violation of department policies, neglect of duty, illegal conduct or allegations of illegal conduct by any member of the department to their supervisor.

You also asked about critical measurements when the Police Department conducts arrests or issues citations within our community. Please find the attached PDF titled "Lacey Community & Police Department Diversity." This document provides the relevant data breakdowns.

Additionally, while we don't publish personnel complaints, they are subject to the Public Records Act and available upon request. Our City Clerk's Office, which can be reached at (360) 486-8704, can assist with an information request.

I hope this response was able to address your questions. Thank you again for reaching out. Your Lacey Police Department is ready to support and serve when called upon.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any other questions, or would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

Robert Almada
Interim Chief of Police



Robert Almada

Interim Chief of Police

Lacey Police Department

420 College Street SE

Lacey, WA 98503

B 360.459.4333 F 30.456.7798

ralmada@ci.lacey.wa.us

June 9, 2020

Honorable Mayor and City Council

City of Lacey

Dear Mayor Ryder, Deputy Mayor Pratt and Councilmember's:

We are writing as former Mayors of the City of Lacey to voice our strongest objections to recent social media posts by Councilman Ed. Kunkel Jr.

In one post Councilman Kunkle refers to armed militia patrolling the streets of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho as "How it should be". In response to another post showing a mother confronting her son who was among a group of protestors he commented, "What all of these degenerates causing problems right now need".

We are offended by these comments. We believe these comments do not reflect the values of our community. Armed white para-military militia patrolling our streets is not "How it should be" and referring to a group of black protesters as "degenerates" is completely unacceptable.

What we need from our elected officials now more than ever is good listening skills and compassionate and reasoned voices.

We call on the City Council to take appropriate action to let Mr. Kunkle know that his comments are unacceptable.

From these former Mayors of the City of Lacey:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark O. Brown". The signature is stylized with a large, bold "M" and "B".

Mark O. Brown

Job Halvorson (authorized Mark Brown to send on his behalf)

Graeme Sackrison (authorized Mark Brown to send on his behalf)

Nancy Peterson Clauson (authorized Mark Brown to send on her behalf)

From: KAREN FRASER <karenfraser22@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 11:42 AM
To: PublicComment
Subject: Karen Fraser joins letter signed by other former Lacey Mayors

External Email Warning! Use caution before clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Mayor Ryder and Council Members:

Please add my name to the list of signators to the letter you received from several other former Mayors of Lacey.

I join in denouncing racist, violence-threatening, postings by Council Member Kunkel and all others who engage in such anti-American conduct, which I also believe violates the fundamentals of our US Constitution.

I join in expressing that in Lacey, and in all communities, we need leaders with considerate hearts, open ears, and commitment to reforms that are 401 years past due in our country.

I urge the City Council to listen closely to current widespread advocacy to achieve urgently needed societal and governmental reforms and to follow this up with appropriate actions to move Lacey and our country forward humanely.

I'm confident you will do what is right in the interests of all citizens.

Sincerely,

Karen Fraser
Former Lacey Mayor
Karenfraser22@comcast.net

From: Lee, Matt <mattalee@amazon.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 1:48 PM
To: PublicComment
Subject: Please keep the cops

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Hi City Council,

I'm considering purchasing a house in Lacey Washington. I love the city and I'm really excited to join the community. However, I am concerned about calls to abolish local police departments around Washington State. Before I commit to purchasing property I would like to receive the assurance of the City Council that there are NO plans to abolish the Lacey PD and no support from any member of the City Council to do so.

Thanks,
Lee, Matt
SEA25.05.688.V10

Elissa Fontaine

From: Annie Sawabini <anniesawabini@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 7, 2020 11:26 AM
To: PublicComment
Subject: ban neck restraints

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Dear Lacey City Council Members,

As a citizen of Lacey I've watched the ongoing protests in Seattle and around the world and thought about how we can make changes here at home.

I appreciate the joint statement from the Mayor and Chief of Police, as well as the information on the Lacey Police website about accountability and training. It was good to see that our officers are already getting de-escalation and bias training. It's very important to me that they get the training, support, and equipment (including PPE) they need.

However, I am concerned that while the Lacey Police do not teach or train officers on neck restraint techniques, those techniques do not seem to be banned. A ban will give our officers clear guidance that reflects the values of our community. **Please ban these techniques immediately.**

If you do not feel a ban is appropriate then please update the City Council or Police Department websites with more information for the community to review that justifies why neck restraints should be an option.

Also, please note that the links to sections of the LPD manual embedded in the "Accountability Measures" and "8CantWait" statements are not working so I couldn't see if the rationale for keeping neck restraints has already been provided.

I will track progress on establishing a ban, share that information with my fellow Lacey citizens, and vote based on our community's progress.

Thank you for your time.
Annie Sawabini