

LAKWOOD VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

JULY 9, 2009

Council Members:

Mike Schnittker, Mayor - Absent
Mark Vargus
Ken Guthrie
Harold Wood
Carolyn Coleman
Dave Getka - Absent

Town Staff:

Linda Asbell, Town Secretary

REGULAR SESSION - 7:00 P.M.

With a quorum of the Council Members present, Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus called the Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, 2009, in the Council Chambers of the Lakewood Village Town Hall, 100 Highridge Drive, Lakewood Village, Texas.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

(Agenda Item A)

Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus

VISITOR/CITIZENS FORUM:

(Agenda Item B)

No person requested to speak

REGULAR AGENDA:

(Agenda Item C)

**Discussion of Appointment of Members to
the Economic Development Corporation and
Municipal Development District Boards**

(Agenda Item C.1)

Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus reported there are seven members on the EDC and at least four members on the MDD. Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus reported he would like to sit on both the EDC and the MDD. The boards will be subject to the open meetings act in the same way as the Town Council meetings. There was some discussion on the responsibilities and authorities of the EDC. There was some discussion on the number and authority of Council Members who also sit on the boards of the EDC and the MDD. Councilman Guthrie indicated he would like to sit on the MDD. Councilman Wood indicated he would like to sit on the EDC. Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus

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reported that Becky Horn of the Little Elm Chamber of Commerce indicated she would like to be on the EDC. Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus reported that Joe Gerron and Eric Hancock have also indicated interest in being a member of one of the boards.

**Consideration of Interlocal Agreement with
Texas Revenue Recovery Association**

(Agenda Item C.2)

Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus reported that City Secretary Linda Asbell found this association and believes this would be a benefit to the Town. This association keeps track of utility customers that default on their final bill and collects payment on that bill before the customer can obtain utility services from another member city. There was some discussion on the benefit of being a member of this association. Councilman Guthrie expressed concern about the true cost of the loss to the Town for defaulted accounts versus the number of accounts that would actually be collected through this program. There was some discussion on the fees associated with the membership and use of the program versus the benefit received from participation in the program. Councilman Wood expressed concern about putting additional pressure on people who are already having difficulties paying their water bill. Councilman Guthrie stated he would like to know what the Town's current exposure is with delinquent billing. Councilman Guthrie indicated if the liability warrants membership in the association he would support this program. Councilman Wood agreed.

MOTION: No Motion Was Made

**Consideration of Amendment to Water
Billing Ordinance**

(Agenda Item C.3)

Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus reported that the Town's application for the purchase of the Rocky Point Water System has been accepted by TCEQ. The Town now is required to make the legal notifications. Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus reported that he pulled the rates and fees and compiled them into an exhibit for ease of review and amendment in the future. Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus stated additional changes include providing the Town the authority to lien investment properties who default on a utility account, language that supports collection attempts through an organization like the Texas Revenue Recovery Association, increased deposit requirements on accounts that have multiple disconnects in their payment history. Councilman Guthrie reported that he knows of a Town that does require a higher deposit but a refund is made once a "good credit" history is reestablished with the Town. Council discussed removing the section requiring increased deposits. There was some discussion on the section authorizing the Town to lien a property for unpaid utility charges. Councilman Guthrie stated that he would like to see the report requested for the previous agenda item before action is taken on this item. There was some discussion on the benefit and possible negative effect of having the option to lien a property. There was some discussion making Section I, (d) read: "The lien shall not be filed until at least 15 days after service has been discontinued."

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilwoman Coleman and seconded by Councilman Wood, the Council voted four (4) “ayes” and no (0) “nays” to approve the new water/sewer ordinance as discussed. The motion carried.

**Consideration of Interlocal Agreement with
Denton County Tax Office for Property Tax
Collection**

(Agenda Item C.4)

Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus explained that this is the annual agreement and the \$500 minimum fee required in last year’s agreement has been removed.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilman Guthrie and seconded by Councilman Wood, the Council voted four (4) “ayes” and no (0) “nays” to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Denton County Tax Office for property tax collection. The motion carried.

**Consideration of Minutes of the June 11,
2009 Council Meeting**

(Agenda Item C.5)

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus and seconded by Councilman Guthrie, the Council voted four (4) “ayes” and no (0) “nays” to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2009 council meeting. The Motion Carried

REPORTS:

(Agenda Item D)

D.6. Financial Report: Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus reported that the Town is now operating through accounts opened at Point Bank. Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus reported that the Town has approximately \$250,000 after paying off the utility fund debt. Councilman Guthrie clarified that the Town is absolutely debt free following the pay off of the utility loan. There was some discussion on the schedule for adopting the next fiscal year’s budget and making an amendment for this year’s budget.

D.7. Update on Lake Lewisville Toll Bridge Run: Councilwoman Coleman reported that runners are still needed. 879 runners have signed up and 2,500 runners are required to meet budget. Sponsors are still needed. The event has a page on facebook and information can be obtained there or on the official website. Is it possible that busses will be available to shuttle volunteers from the Little Elm Town Hall to the event site. No date has been set for opening the bridge to vehicle traffic. A canned food item is a requested donation for people wishing to walk the bridge following the 5K run.

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ADJOURNMENT

(Agenda Item F)

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Vargus and seconded by Councilwoman Coleman the Council voted four (4) “ayes” and no (0) “nays” to adjourn the Regular Session of the Lakewood Village Town Council at 8:17 on Thursday, July 9, 2009. The motion carried.

These minutes approved by the Lakewood Village Town Council on the 11th day of August, 2009.

APPROVED

Mike Schnittker
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Linda Asbell
CITY SECRETARY