

LAKEWOOD VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 26, 2020

Council Members:

Dr. Mark Vargus, Mayor
Darrell West – Mayor Pro-Tem
Clint Bushong
Serena Lepley
Matt Bissonnette - ABSENT
Eric Farage

Town Staff:

Linda Asbell, TRMC, CMC – Town Secretary
Andy Messer, Town Attorney

SPECIAL SESSION - 7:00 P.M.

With a quorum of the Council Members present, Mayor Vargus called the Special Meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2020 via teleconference in the Council Chambers of the Lakewood Village Town Hall, 100 Highridge Drive, Lakewood Village, Texas.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:

(Agenda Item A)

Mayor Vargus led the Pledge of Allegiance

VISITOR/CITIZENS FORUM:

(Agenda Item B)

No one requested to speak

Council Moved to Agenda Item D

PUBLIC HEARING

(Agenda Item D)

A public hearing was held to provide an opportunity for citizen comment on the proposed zoning change. Mayor Vargus opened the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. Mayor Vargus reported this will be the first of three public hearings. Mayor Vargus stated he has received many questions about the school property. The school property and zoning are not covered in this ordinance. Mayor Vargus reported the school will be required to contain school related parking within the school property and not on Lakewood Village streets. This public hearing is only for the proposed zoning related to the LandPlan concept plan.

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Dan Tantalo, 710 Carrie Lane, stated that he is opposed to the trail being located behind his property and wants one-acre properties as a buffer.

James Chandler, 565 Melody Lane, asked why the public hearing was being held during the COVID-19 crisis. Mayor Vargus reported the public hearing process is being spread out over six weeks to give citizens ample opportunities to convey any concerns or opinions.

Joni Lehan, 750 Carrie Lane, stated she is opposed to the trail being located behind her property.

Yvette Bravo, 300 Hillside Drive, asked if construction of a school was an eventuality or if there would be an opportunity to vote to not allow it in Lakewood Village. Mayor Vargus stated Little Elm Independent School District has owned the property for approximately 20 years. They are trading property with LandPlan. If the school board decides to go forward with constructing a school, there is no procedure which would allow citizens to vote to disallow the school. There is no definite date or timeframe for when or if a school will be constructed. Ms. Bravo asked about Exhibits A and B, Mayor Vargus reported those exhibits are legal descriptions and a survey. Ms. Bravo asked about the orientation of the school when or if it will be constructed. Mayor Vargus reported there is no way to know but there will be discussion about design prior to construction. Ms. Bravo asked if Lakecrest would be removed. Mayor Vargus stated Lakecrest is an easement across the land of private owners. After the proposed zoning the through road will be moved. Ms. Bravo stated that she does not support having an elementary school directly behind her house.

Megan Bennett, 300 Hillside Drive, asked if there would be fencing between the school along Highridge Drive. Mayor Vargus stated no details are known about the design of the school at this time. When or if the school is constructed the Town would be meeting with the school about design elements which would provide screening and trees. Mayor Vargus stated the school talked at one point about making the school two stories in order to reduce their footprint.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem West and seconded by Councilman Farage council voted four (4) “ayes” and no (0) “nays” to table the public hearing to the April 9, 2020 council meeting. The motion carried.

Council Moved to Agenda Item C

PUBLIC HEARING

(Agenda Item C)

A public hearing was held to provide an opportunity for citizen comment on the proposed Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Vargus opened the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

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No one requested to speak.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem West and seconded by Councilwoman Lepley council voted four (4) “ayes” and no (0) “nays” to close the public hearing. The motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA:

(Agenda Item E)

**Consideration of Resolution Extending the
Disaster Declaration and Public Health
Emergency due to COVID-19 (Asbell)**

(Agenda Item E.1)

Mayor Vargus reported the town of Lakewood Village declared a public health emergency and closed town hall. The declaration is consistent with the Denton County Order. The playground is closed. Mayor Vargus reported his declaration only lasts for 7 days, the resolution extends the declaration until such time as the emergency is over. There was some discussion about extending the declaration and authorizing the Mayor to implement any actions necessary to comply with the State and County orders. There was some discussion about extending the authority until such time as the emergency is over.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem West and seconded by Councilwoman Lepley, council voted four (4) “ayes”, no (0) “nays” to approve the resolution declaring a disaster and public emergency. *The motion carried.*

**Discussion of Semi-Annual Budget Review
(Vargus)**

(Agenda Item E.2)

Mayor Vargus reported expenses are down, franchise fees are higher than expected. Sales tax is running much higher than last year. Mayor Vargus reviewed the semi-annual report showing the operating surplus is approximately \$220,000 which has been directed into the road project. Mayor Vargus reported approximately eight properties are delinquent on their property taxes which is unusual. The utility fund has approximately \$90,000 in revenues at this point in the year.

Discussion of Road Project (Vargus)

(Agenda Item E.3)

Mayor Vargus reported Ed Bell Construction company has requested a three-week delay in start date due to all the rain. The construction company is continuing to survey because the equipment used is automated and runs off GPS data. Mayor Vargus reported nearly all the mailboxes and

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other obstacles in the way of the road have been removed. Mayor Vargus reported the construction is not affected by the COVID-19 emergency because it is covered under critical infrastructure.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(Agenda Item F)

Mayor Vargus announced the council will immediately adjourn after reconvening following the Executive Session. Council will take no action after the executive session.

At 7:34 p.m. Mayor Vargus recessed into executive session in accordance with (1) § 551.071(2), Texas Government Code to wit: consultation with Town Attorney on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with this chapter to receive legal advice re: Agenda Item F.6.

RECONVENE:

(Agenda Item G)

Mayor Vargus reconvened the regular session at 9:24 p.m. No action was taken.

REPORTS:

(Agenda Item H)

No reports

ADJOURNMENT

(Agenda Item I)

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilwoman Lepley and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem West council voted four (4) “ayes” and no (0) “nays” to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Lakewood Village Town Council at 9:24 p.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2020. The motion carried.

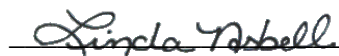
These minutes approved by the Lakewood Village Town Council on the 23rd day of April 2020.

APPROVED:



Darrell West
MAYOR PRO-TEM

ATTEST:


Linda Asbell, TRMC, CMC



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TOWN SECRETARY