

LAKEWOOD VILLAGE TOWN COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 8, 2018

Council Members:

Dr. Mark Vargus, Mayor
Ed Reed – Mayor Pro-Tem
Clint Bushong
Gary Newsome
Dan Tantalo
Elizabeth Shields

Town Staff:

Linda Asbell, TRMC, CMC, Town Secretary

REGULAR SESSION - 7:00 P.M.

With a quorum of the Council Members present, Mayor Vargus called the Regular Meeting of the Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, 2018, 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)

Deputy Ricky Olivarez with the Denton County Sheriff's Department introduced a Women's Empowerment Program he is instructing. It is a self-defense class available to all women who live or work in Denton County.

PUBLIC HEARING:

(Agenda Item C)

A public hearing was held to provide an opportunity for citizens to comment on the requested variance to allow a front facing garage at 807 Carrie Lane. Mayor Vargus opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

No one requested to speak.

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MOTION: Upon a motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Reed and seconded by Councilman Tantalo, council voted five (5) “ayes”, no (0) “nays” to close the public hearing at 7:04 pm. *The motion carried.*

REGULAR AGENDA:

(Agenda Item D)

**Consideration of Variance Request to Allow
Front Facing Garage at 807 Carrie Lane
(Asbell)**

(Agenda Item D.3)

Eric Farage reported that the secondary structure will be 280 feet away from the road. The addition will be used as a home for a relative with a rare disease that requires the home to be ADA compliant. Due to the ADA restrictions and the layout of the lot the location of the structure is limited to one area which requires the structure to have a front facing garage and it will very slightly encroach into the side-yard setback. Councilman Tantalo inquired about the process of approval because the flatwork is already in place. Mr. Farage reported that he stopped the construction when he realized that he needed a variance because of the distance of the ramp. There was some discussion about the current restrictions on location and layout of secondary structures and the front facing garage requirement.

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilman Bushong and seconded by Councilman Newsome, council voted five (5) “ayes”, no (0) “nays” to approve the variance for the front facing garage at 807 Carrie Lane as requested. *The motion carried.*

**Consideration of International Dark Skies
Association Certification (Asbell)**

(Agenda Item D.1)

Mayor Vargus reported that Mayor Pro-Tem Reed and Sheryl France have dedicated a great deal of time investigating the possibility of achieving the Dark Skies Certification. Mayor Vargus stated that he wanted to bring this item to council to receive direction from council before tasking staff to spend time on the application.

Mayor Pro-Tem Reed reported that the town joined the Dark Skies Association for a membership fee of \$35.00. Mayor Pro-Tem Reed stated that he believes there is an advantage to the town to have a consistent lighting policy. The town currently has several different types of street lights in town and a consistent lighting policy would be more aesthetically pleasing and environmentally friendly. Mayor Pro-Tem Reed reviewed some of the requirements of the application process and the steps for approval as a Dark Skies Community. Mayor Vargus reported that it is virtually impossible for larger cities to achieve the Dark Skies designation

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because of the lighting for commercial establishments and major roadways that is already in place. Lakewood Village is in a position that is unique because a great deal of our development has not yet occurred. The requirements are practical and easy for Lakewood Village to meet. Mayor Pro-Tem Reed reported that the town has only 30 street lights and those could be replaced at the time new development comes in. Councilman Bushong stated that he believes this is the right time for Lakewood Village to put this plan in place. CoServ is testing two sets of new lights at the intersection of Hillside and Shoreline and the intersection of Peninsula and Shoreline that are Dark Skies approved. Mayor Pro-Tem Reed invited everyone to drive by and provide feedback on the lights. Councilman Newsome reported that the light pollution has quadrupled in the time that he has lived here and he supports the effort to standardize and control lighting.

Councilman Tantalo stated that he is concerned about priorities and requirements stated by this organization. Councilman Tantalo stated that he believes the town should pass an ordinance establishing the town priorities rather than joining an organization that requires compliance with their lighting regulations. Mayor Vargus stated that the purpose of this agenda item is to get feedback from the council about whether or not the council supports the idea of this effort before tasking Town Secretary Asbell to complete the application for certification. Councilwoman Shields asked about the timeline for compliance and maintenance of the designation. There was some discussion about the difference in pricing between International Dark Skies Association compliant and non-compliant light fixtures. Councilwoman Shields reported that she found a city in California that implemented Dark Skies fixtures which resulted in an 80% savings on their electric costs. There was some discussion about the cost of replacing street lights with compliant fixtures and the portion of the cost covered by CoServ. There was some discussion about the benefit of establishing a policy for consistent lighting requirements throughout the town. Councilwoman Shields stated that she is interested in the cost savings benefit of the effort. Mayor Pro-Tem Reed reported that the applications of other cities are available on the websites of International Dark Skies Association and the Texas Dark Skies Association. There was discussion about moving forward and the next steps in the process of applying for certification.

MOTION: *No Motion Made.*

**Consideration Minutes of the February 8,
2018 Council Meeting (Asbell)**

(Agenda Item D.2)

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilman Bushong and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Reed, council voted four (4) “ayes”, no (0) “nays” with one abstention (Newsome) to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2018 Council Meeting as presented. *The motion carried.*

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(Agenda Item E)

At 8:02 p.m. Mayor Vargus recessed into executive session in accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 551.001, et seq., the Town Council will recess into Executive Session (closed meeting) to discuss the following: (1) §551.071(2): Consultation with 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; (2) §551.087: To discuss or deliberate regarding commercial or financial information that the Town of Lakewood Village has received from a business prospect that the Town seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the Town of Lakewood Village and with which the Town is conducting economic development negotiations; and/or to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to the business prospect.; and (3) § 551.072 Texas Government Code to wit: deliberations about real property.

RECONVENE:

(Agenda Item F)

Mayor Vargus reconvened the regular session of the Lakewood Village Town Council at 8:09 p.m.

REPORTS

(Agenda Item G)

No Reports

ADJOURNMENT

(Agenda Item H)

MOTION: Upon a motion made by Councilman Bushong and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Reed council voted five (5) “ayes” and no (0) “nays” to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Lakewood Village Town Council at 8:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, 2018. The motion carried.

These minutes approved by the Lakewood Village Town Council on the 10th day of May 2018.

APPROVED

Ed Reed
MAYOR PRO-TEM

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ATTEST:

Linda Asbell, TRMC, CMC
TOWN SECRETARY