CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: 7 – Mayor Don Anderson; Deputy Mayor Jason Whalen; Councilmembers Mary Moss, Mike Brandstetter, Helen McGovern-Pilant, Marie Barth and Paul Bocchi.

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Members Present: 4 – Rebecca Huber, Mario Lee, Phillip Raschke and Linda Smith.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Legislative update.

Ms. Briahana Taylor, lobbyist, provided an overview of the 2013 legislative session. She noted that the City was successful in funding the community policing program in the amount of $231,000. She also noted that the Camp Murray annexation topic received much discussion, and although it didn’t pass, it did open up opportunities for more conversation that is needed with Camp Murray and the City on what the annexation would look like. She then reported on the projects list for SSMCP funding for the i-5 corridor along Joint Base Lewis McChord. She reported that all local government liquor excise tax revenues were eliminated for 2013 and liquor profit revenues were capped at the 2011 levels. She reported that although the bill on the Public Records Act reform to provide relief to public agencies who received harassing or overly burdensome public records requests did not pass, $25,000 was allocated to the Ruckelshaus Center to convene a public discussion for reforming the Public Records Act.

Discussion ensued on various transportation revenue proposals; clarification on HB 1253 lodging tax revenues and legislative bodies working with the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee; what is the status and the initiative from the Metropolitan Development Council’s Bill for a homeless shelter in Tillicum; what was the hold up on the SR-167 proposal; how can Lakewood be more successful at the legislature (be more focused on
fewer items); clarifying the diversion of funding from the Public Works Trust Fund within the next six years which would go into an operating fund; how did the City fare with the capital budget (CPTC improvements and a project with Steilacoom); and was funding received for officers’ houses on Western State property ($250,000).

**Lodging tax update.**

Acting City Attorney Kaser provided an overview of HB 1253, which included four major changes that involved a revised process for use of the lodging tax funds. He explained that both the Council and Lodging Tax Advisory Committee must be in concurrence with funding recipients and their funding amounts. Funds must be used directly for tourism marketing, the marketing or operation of tourism-related events, the operation of tourism-related facilities owned or operated by a non-profit organization or the acquisition or operation of a tourism-related facility owned or operated by the City. He explained that changes in the reporting procedures may be passed on to grant recipients. He also noted that there is an absence of a sunset provision in the bill.

Discussion ensued on the use of lodging tax funds and what is the format for Council’s approval if there is disagreement between the Council and Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) (i.e. Council remand the matter back to the LTAC); and lodging tax funds having been used in the past for staff and administrative costs and will those allocations be disclosed by the LTAC.

**Joint meeting with the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)**

Discussion ensued on use of lodging tax funds that did not pass through the LTAC.

Finance Manager Mary Ann Nordquist reported that there currently is $730,000 in the lodging tax fund and by the end of the year the City anticipates the fund to be approximately $800,000. The annual revenues amount to approximately $500,000. Mayor Anderson asked staff to provide the amount of the unallocated fund balance for lodging tax. Discussion ensued on what kind of gaps are missing to promote tourism (more summer events geared for families; multi-day events to generate overnight stays); are there better ways to utilize the McGavick Center; how to capture the market to bring more heads in beds in Lakewood and use some of the lodging tax for a tourism related facility and what competitive advantage does Lakewood have; consider allocating some of the 2014 lodging tax monies into savings; and Council providing LTAC with guidance and a focus on the use of lodging tax funds.

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Council recessed at 8:25 p.m. and reconvened at 8:37 p.m.

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Review of the Comprehensive Plan Public Participation Program.

Assistant City Manager Bugher provided an update on the 2015 Comprehensive Plan process. He spoke about a public involvement process including an initial outreach to stakeholders and the general public and holding a series of public meetings, including workshops and the hearings. He then reviewed the Comprehensive Plan schedule.

Discussion ensued on why only two months were allocated for public participation; how to encourage public participation in the Comprehensive Planning process and the long term importance of the planning process; will the need for a consultant be needed for this process; and including the neighborhood associations in the public participation process.

Review of a proposed expansion to the Sound Transit Station connector project.

Public Works Director Wickstrom reported that approximately $700,000 in Sound Transit funding is available due to costs coming under budget. He requested that the available funds be used for access improvements on 111th/112th Street from Bridgeport Way to Kendrick Street. He requested that Council consider supporting a resolution asking the Sound Transit Board for approval to use the balance of the fund associated with the Lakewood Station Connector project for said access improvement.

Discussion ensued on the landscaping project; where is this proposed project in the Transportation Improvement Program; are there opportunities to leverage funds for access; what kind of a grant is the WSDOT alternative grant (federal funds funded through WSDOT).

BRIEFING BY THE CITY MANAGER

Interim City Manager Wachter announced that Summerfest begins on July 13 and 14, 2013 at Ft. Steilacoom Park. She then asked if the Council would like there to be a moment of silence of the 19 fallen firefighters to be held at 9:00 a.m., on Tuesday, July 9, 2013. Council concurred.

Interim City Manager Wachter indicated that West Pierce Fire & Rescue will be recognizing the four youths who saved a heart attack individual. It was suggested that the Council jointly recognize the four youths with West Pierce Fire & Rescue.

She then reported that a media news story was running on legalization of marijuana in which Communications Manager Brewster provided comment.

She then asked the Council to clarify what the Council desired for the July 22, 2013 Study Session on economic development strategy, National Development Council and the potential development of Towne Center. Mayor Anderson asked for information on what tools are in the City’s tool box to have a win-win influence on economic development projects and creating a vision beyond soliciting tenants.
Interim City Manager Wachter noted that there were five fires over the weekend in which City staff is investigating.

**ITEMS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE July 15, 2013 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING:**

1. Adopting the Comprehensive Plan Public Participation Program.

2. Approving a request to Sound Transit to fund a proposed expansion to the Sound Transit Station connector project.

3. Recognizing the Best of the South Sound winners. *Chambers Creek Veterinary Hospital, Dr. Amber Marie Thiessen; Harborstone Credit Union, Ms. Vicky Nelson, Business Sales & Service Director; Infusion Interior Design, Ms. Barb Williams and Ms. Janet DeTray, Co-owners; and Fort Steilacoom Dog Park, Ms. Mary Dodsworth, Lakewood Parks & Recreation Director*

4. Presentation of the West-Pierce Fire District levy. *Fire Chief Jim Sharp*

5. Appointing individuals to serve on the Public Safety Advisory Committee through August 6, 2016.

6. Adopting the 2014-2019 Six Year Transportation Improvement Program.

7. Authorizing the execution of an amendment to the agreement with the Washington State Patrol, in the amount of $87,000, relative to the Missing and Exploited Children Task Force program through June 30, 2014.

8. Authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, in the amount of $90,000, for the Western State Hospital policing program.

**CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Moss commented that she and Councilmember Barth visited several local businesses.

Deputy Mayor Whalen commented on the 4th of July festivities. He then commented on a City Hall team at Summerfest. He indicated that he will be attending a Chamber meeting to receive a photo of the Farmer's Market.

Councilmember McGovern-Pilant commented on the Farmer's Market. She indicated that the CPSD Board meeting tonight was cancelled. She then commented on the Breaking Hunger event on August 9, 2013 at Gig Harbor.
Mayor Anderson commented on the 4th of July festivities he attended. He then commented on a Pierce Transit Board meeting he attended in which a plan was adopted to allocate a portion of their service to innovative programs. He reported that flags will be at half-staff at the City and West Pierce Fire & Rescue in recognizing the 19 fallen firefighters in Arizona.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

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DON ANDERSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

ALICE M. BUSH, MMC
CITY CLERK