



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Richland City Hall ~ Council

Chambers 625 Swift Boulevard

City Council Regular Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Christensen called the Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Welcome and Roll Call

Mayor Christensen welcomed those in the audience and expressed appreciation for their attendance.

Attendance: Mayor Christensen, Mayor Pro Tem Richardson, and Councilmembers Jones (remotely via Zoom), Kent, Lukson, VanDyke and Whitten were present.

Also present were City Manager Amundson, Deputy City Manager Schiessl, Assistant City Manager Florence, City Attorney Kintzley, Chief of Police Clary, Fire Chief Huntington, Development Services Director Jensen, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Energy Services Director Whitney, Finance Director Allen, Human Resources Director Paulsen, Parks & Public Facilities Director Hester, and City Clerk Rogers.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Christensen led the Council and audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM RICHARDSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Presentations

1. Visit Tri-Cities Annual Presentation

Kevin Lewis, CEO of Visit Tri-Cities, introduced himself, provided a brief overview of his work experience then shared personnel changes within his organization. Mr. Lewis then presented the Visit Tri-Cities 2022 Annual Report and 2023 Work Plan which outlined the Tourism Promotion Area (TPA) project requests. On behalf of the Tri-City Regional Hotel-Motel Commission, Visit Tri-Cities is requesting a transfer of \$441,500 from the TPA Reserve Account to be reinvested in additional tourism marketing projects. Additional information can be found in the PowerPoint presentation included in the agenda packet.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Lewis responded to a series of questions posed by Council.

Public Hearing

City Clerk Rogers read the Public Hearing and Public Comments procedures.

2. Amending the 2023 Budget in the General Fund and Fire Station Construction Fund in support of Fire Station No. 76, Ordinance No. 2023-05

Mayor Christensen opened and closed the public hearing at 6:36 p.m. No testimony was offered.

Public Comments

The following individuals provided public comments:

- Rob Welch - 1229 Columbia Park Trail, Richland, WA: Mr. Welch, former Richland Mayor and President of the new Richland Chamber of Commerce, announced that he and former City of Richland Mayor Dave Rose relaunched the Richland Chamber of Commerce in September 2022 for the purpose of fostering relationships between local community businesses and the City of Richland.

Mr. Welch announced that the Richland Chamber of Commerce meets on the second Tuesday of each month at noon at the 3 Margaritas restaurant located at 627 Jadwin Avenue. Mr. Welch invited councilmembers to attend the Richland Chamber of Commerce meetings, requested Council consider sponsoring the Richland Chamber of Commerce, and lastly, requested Council designate a council liaison to attend Richland Chamber of Commerce meetings.

- Randy Slovic - 74 Newcomer Street, Richland, WA: Ms. Slovic encouraged City Council to view the state of Nebraska's tourism campaign "Nebraska: Honestly, It's Not for Everyone."

Consent Calendar

City Clerk Rogers read the Consent Calendar.

COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Minutes

3. Approval of the March 7, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Ordinances - First Reading

4. Ordinance No. 2023-04, Amending the 2023 Budget in the General Fund in support of the Richland Police Department Officer Resiliency Program

Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage

None.

Resolutions - Adoption

5. Resolution No. 2023-38, Supporting OCOchem, Inc.'s Application for a U.S. Department of Energy Grant for Wastewater Treatment Development
6. Resolution No. 2023-39, Authorizing a Second Amendment to the Consultant Agreement with JUB Engineers, Inc. for the 2022-2026 Sewer System Modeling Project
7. Resolution No. 2023-40, Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with Parametrix, Inc. for 2023 Landfill Environmental Monitoring Services
8. Resolution No. 2023-41, Declaring 6,704.51 Square Feet of Property located in Gillespie Parkway as Surplus to the City's Needs
9. Resolution No. 2023-42, Authorizing a Fourth Amendment to the Services Agreement with Permit Surveying for On-Call Survey Services

Items - Approval

10. Appointments to the Arts Commission: David Boothroyd and Sharon Reyna
11. Appointment to the Economic Development Committee: Eileen Griffin
12. Appointments to the Parks & Recreation Commission: James Buelt, Samantha Mason, Navaj Nune and Srithan Thallapally

Expenditures - Approval

13. Expenditures from February 1, 2023 to February 28, 2023 for \$26,940,363.60 including Travel Check Nos. 20261-20270, Accounts Payable Check Nos. 308625-309373, Accounts Payable Wire Nos. 9409-9454, Payroll Wires & ACH Nos. 13199-13246 Payroll Direct Deposit & Check Nos. 203986-205111 and Pension Check Nos. 6391-6415.

Items of Business

14. Ordinance No. 2023-05, Amending the 2023 Budget in the General Fund and Fire Station Construction Fund in support of Fire Station No. 76

Finance Director Allen provided an overview of the proposed budget amendment. On February 28, 2023, City Council considered a staff presentation on escalated construction costs related to the construction of Fire Station No. 76. Additional funding in the amount of \$742,000 is necessary to complete the project with modifications made to the construction plan.

MAYOR CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM RICHARDSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2023-05, AMENDING THE 2023 BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND AND FIRE STATION CONSTRUCTION FUND IN SUPPORT OF FIRE STATION 76, FOR FIRST READING, BY TITLE ONLY. MOTION CARRIED 7- 0.

Reports and Comments

City Manager

City Manager Amundson made the following announcements:

- Announced volunteer opportunities for several City of Richland boards, commissions and committees, and encouraged interested citizens to visit the City's website to apply online.
- The Richland Police Department will hold a rebrand launch event on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at Richland City Hall for the unveiling of the new patch and badge. This event is open to the public.
- The Richland Parks & Recreation Department will host a *Ready, Set, Hop* event on April 1, 2023 at Columbia Point Marina Park. Registration for this event is \$5 per person (under age 3 is free) and ends on March 31, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
- The work crew agreement with Benton County, approved by Richland City Council at its March 7, 2023 regular meeting, was approved by Benton County earlier in the day.

City Council

Councilmember Jones had no comments.

Councilmember Kent shared that she participated in the Parks & Recreation Commission interview process and congratulated those who were appointed and reappointed to serve.

Councilmember Lukson expressed interest in receiving updates on specific work crew projects.

Councilmember VanDyke provided a brief report on items discussed at a recent Utility Advisory Committee (UAC) meeting and announced the opening of Kindred Spirits, an alcohol-free shop and bar.

Councilmember Whitten provided a brief report of projects discussed at a recent Arts Commission meeting. Next, Councilmember Whitten thanked Arts Commission member David Boothroyd for his continued service and welcomed newly appointed Arts Commission member Sharon Reyna.

Mayor Pro Tem Richardson reported on the Tri-Cities Clean Energy Sector Convening 2.0 meeting held on March 16, 2023 at WSU Tri-Cities. The meeting was successfully led by Port of Benton Executive Director Diahann Howard. Next, Mayor Pro Tem Richardson stated that she attended the City of Richland's annual employee breakfast on March 9, 2023, and complimented the creativity displayed throughout the event. Mayor Pro Tem Richardson acknowledged the many employees recognized for service milestones and for outstanding service through a nomination process.

Mayor

Mayor Christensen reminded councilmembers of their responsibility to participate in interviews conducted by the board, commission or committee to which they serve as liaison.

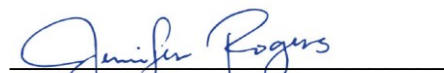
Adjournment

Mayor Christensen adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

APPROVED:


Terry Christensen, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: April 4, 2023

DATE PUBLISHED: April 5, 2023