



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, September 5, 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, Lukson, VanDyke, and Whitten were present. Councilmember Kent was absent.

COUNCILMEMBER LUKSON MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE SECONDED THE MOTION TO EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBER KENT. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Also present were City Manager Amundson, Deputy City Manager Schiessl, Assistant City Manager Florence, City Attorney Kintzley, Chief of Police Clary, Development Services Director Jensen, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Energy Services Director Whitney, Finance Director Allen, Parks & Public Facilities Director Hester, Deputy Fire Chief Aust, 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

MAYOR CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM RICHARDSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Presentations

1. Swearing-In of Richland Police Officer Shandi Coe

Chief of Police Clary, Deputy Chief of Police Neher, Police Commanders Jansen, Judge, and Schwarzer, and Police Professional Staff Manager Carper were in attendance to welcome newly commissioned Police Officer Coe. Chief of Police Clary administered the Oath of Office to Officer Coe then welcomed her to the department.

Mary Dover and Brandi Hilmes of the Richland Police Department Foundation welcomed Officer Coe to the department then presented her with a welcome basket on behalf of the Richland Police Department Foundation.

2. Constitution Week Proclamation

Mayor Christensen read aloud a proclamation declaring September 17-23, 2023 to be Constitution Week in the City of Richland.

3. Introduction to the Mid-Columbia Children's Museum Board of Directors

Deputy City Manager Schiessl introduced Chelsea Blair and Beth Crocker, both Board Members of the Mid-Columbia Children's Museum. Ms. Blair and Ms. Crocker provided a comprehensive overview of the Mid-Columbia Children's Museum (MCCM), including the background, mission, and vision. A timeline depicting the order of key events leading to MCCM's grand opening was included in the presentation. Additional information can be found at mccmuseum.org.

Council thanked Ms. Blair and Ms. Crocker for their presentation and their vision to establish MCCM. Council then engaged in a question-and-answer session with Ms. Blair and Ms. Crocker.

4. Tri-Cities Community Action for Responsible Environmental Stewardship (C.A.R.E.S.) Update

Paul Krupin of Tri-Cities Community Action for Responsible Environmental Stewardship (C.A.R.E.S.), provided an update on the Horse Haven Hills Wind and Solar Project adjudication process. Subsequently, Mr. Krupin provided an overview of the economic and environmental impacts the project will have on the Tri-Cities. Mr. Krupin urged Council to take action against the Horse Haven Hills Wind and Solar Project by publicly opposing the project through a formal legislative action.

Pam Minelli of Tri-Cities C.A.R.E.S. provided ways for citizens to stay informed, involved, and supportive of those who are actively representing the Tri-Cities in the Horse Haven Hills Wind adjudication process.

Community members were then invited to attend the Save our Ridges Horse Heaven Hills Fundraiser event on September 9, 2023 at 40405 E. Badger Road, Benton City, WA from 4:00 -7:30 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Richardson thanked Mr. Krupin and Ms. Minelli for their presentation and for their efforts in representing the Tri-Cities in the project. Mayor Christensen concurred with Mayor Pro Tem Richardson's statements.

5. New Hires and Retirements

A video featuring the new hires for the month of August was played for the audience. There were no retirements to recognize for the month of August.

Public Hearing

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

6. Proposed Annexation of Approximately 1,641 Acres to be known as the Northwest Advanced Clean Energy Park (formerly North Horn Rapids Industrial Park), Ordinance No. 2023-21

Mayor Christensen opened and closed the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. No testimony was offered.

7. Relinquishing the Remainder of a Utility Easement Located at 311 Van Giesen Street, Resolution 2023-143

Mayor Christensen opened and closed the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. No testimony was offered.

8. Relinquishing a Utility Easement Located at 924 George Washington Way, Resolution No. 2023-144

Mayor Christensen opened and closed the public hearing at 6:34 p.m. No testimony was offered.

Public Comments

The following individuals provided public comment:

- Elaine Chapman - 2625 Thoroughbred Way, Richland, WA: Ms. Chapman provided comments opposing the placement of any art sculpture at the Trailhead Native Plant Garden located at Trailhead Park. Ms. Chapman stated that in addition to its incompatibility, the placement of any art sculpture in the Trailhead Park Native Plant Garden will destroy the substantial progress made to restore the garden.
- Bob Bass - 1701 Fanning Road, Pasco, WA: Mr. Bass, President of Friends of Badger Mountain, provided comments opposing the placement of any art sculpture within proximity of the Badger Mountain Centennial Preserve. Mr. Bass then proposed alternate placement locations for Council consideration.
- Elizabeth Vann Clark - 1920 Pine Street, Richland, WA: Ms. Vann Clark stated she had attended several Arts Commission meetings over the last couple of months,

and noted the commission members were not informed of the Trailhead Native Plant Garden located at the Trailhead Park when discussing possible placement location of the Bernard Hosey art sculptures. Ms. Vann Clark emphasized the need for staff to communicate information with commission members and members of the public prior to assisting in the decision-making process.

- Jet Richardson - 2021 Fairway Court, Richland, WA: Mr. Richardson, Chair of the Richland Arts Commission, reiterated that though the Arts Commission had agreed to accept the Bernard Hosey art sculpture donations, the placement location has not been determined. Members of the Arts Commission will continue to work with staff and stakeholders to determine the appropriate placement of the art sculptures.

Consent Calendar

City Clerk Rogers read the Consent Calendar.

MAYOR PRO TEM RICHARDSON MOVED AND MAYOR CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR CHRISTENSEN, MAYOR PRO TEM RICHARDSON, AND COUNCILMEMBERS JONES, LUKSON, VANDYKE, AND WHITTEN. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Minutes

9. Approval of the August 15, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes and the August 22, 2023 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

Ordinances - First Reading

10. Ordinance No, 2023-20, Amending Chapter 9.04 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Crimes Against Persons

Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage

11. Ordinance No. 2023-18, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 2.04.210 related to Limited Commissions in the Richland Police Department
12. Ordinance No. 2023-19, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 8.10.070 related to Public Camping Enforcement

Resolutions – Adoption

13. Resolution No. 2023-124, Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with RH2 Engineering, Inc. for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System Replacement Project

14. Resolution No. 2023-132, Authorizing Change Order No. 2 with DGR Grant Construction, Inc. for the Richland Community Center Remodel Project
15. Resolution No. 2023-136, Awarding Commercial Facade Improvement Grant Funds to Monterosso's Italian Restaurant at 1026 Lee Boulevard
16. Resolution No. 2023-138, Authorizing Award of Bid to Big D's Construction of Tri-Cities, Inc. for the Badger Mountain Park-North Parking Lot Project
17. Resolution No. 2023-139, Accepting the Donation of an Art Sculpture Titled "Round and Round" by Artist Bernard Hosey
18. Resolution No. 2023-140, Accepting the Donation of an Art Sculpture Titled "On the Edge" by Artist Bernard Hosey
19. Resolution No. 2023-141, Accepting the Donation of an Art Sculpture Titled "On the Threshold of Liberty" by Artist Bernard Hosey
20. Resolution No. 2023-142, Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Kennewick and County of Benton for the 2023 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant

Items - Approval

21. Appointments to the Economic Development Committee: Brad Bricker, Eileen Griffin, and Kenneth Spencer, Jr.

Expenditures - Approval

None.

Items of Business

22. Ordinance No. 2023-21, Annexing Approximately 1,641 Acres Known as the Northwest Advanced Clean Energy Park (formerly the North Horn Rapids Industrial Park) - First Reading

Development Services Director Jensen provided an overview of the proposed annexation then responded to Council inquiries.

MAYOR CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2023-21, ANNEXING APPROXIMATELY 1,641 ACRES KNOWN AS THE NORTHWEST ADVANCED CLEAN ENERGY PARK, FOR FIRST READING, BY TITLE ONLY. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR CHRISTENSEN, MAYOR PRO TEM RICHARDSON, AND COUNCILMEMBERS JONES, LUKSON, VANDYKE, AND WHITTEN. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

23. Resolution No. 2023-143, Relinquishing the Remainder of a Utility Easement Located at 311 Van Giesen Street

Public Works Director Rogalsky provided an overview of the proposed utility easement relinquishment. The utility easement is no longer needed for municipal purposes and staff recommends adoption of the resolution.

MAYOR CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER LUKSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2023-143, RELINQUISHING THE REMAINDER OF A UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED AT 311 VAN GIESEN STREET. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

24. Resolution No. 2023-144, Relinquishing a Utility Easement Located at 924 George Washington Way

Public Works Director Rogalsky provided an overview of the proposed utility easement relinquishment. The site is under active development, and the easement is no longer needed for municipal purposes. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

MAYOR CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER LUKSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2023-144, RELINQUISHING A UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED AT 924 GEORGE WASHINGTON WAY. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Reports and Comments

City Manager

City Manager Amundson reported the City was successful in obtaining a \$100,000 cybersecurity grant from the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP). Grant funds will be utilized to implement a city-wide multi-factor authentication program. City Manager Amundson thanked Information Technology Manager Deepti Vijayan for her submission of a successful grant application.

Next, City Manager Amundson encouraged citizens to attend Richland's Cruizin' Car Show on Saturday, September 9, 2023 at the Columbia Point Golf Course from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This no-cost event will showcase classic cars and will include activities, live music, and food vendors. Parks & Public Facilities Director Hester announced that shuttle services will be available to and from the Columbia Point Marina Park and City Hall parking lot.

City Council

Councilmember Lukson thanked members of the public for their attendance and meaningful participation during council meetings. Councilmember Lukson then commented on the parking shortage at Claybell Park.

Councilmember Jones thanked Ms. Blair and Ms. Crocker of the MCCM for their presentation and offered assistance to make MCCM's vision a reality. Next, Councilmember Jones congratulated the City of Richland and Richland residents for the opportunities that can be realized through economic developments. Lastly, Councilmember Jones commented that perhaps additional courts are needed to accommodate the increasing popularity of pickleball.

Councilmember VanDyke thanked City Manager Amundson and Information Technology Manager Vijayan for submitting a successful grant application to fund cybersecurity projects. Next, Councilmember VanDyke thanked Public Works Director Rogalsky for overseeing the SCADA contract and system replacement project. Councilmember VanDyke then commented that residents have reported a noticeable improvement in the speeding issue within the city.

At Councilmember's request, Chief of Police Clary provided an update on the police department's recruitment and retention efforts. In conclusion, Councilmember VanDyke commended Chief of Police Clary for the recruitment efforts to fill vacant positions and thanked her for not lowering the Police Department's hiring standards.

Councilmember Whitten made the following comments:

- Thanked members of the public for their attendance and participation in council meetings.
- Thanked Ms. Blair and Ms. Crocker of the MCCM for their efforts to kick-start the MCCM and added the museum would greatly benefit the Tri-Cities.
- Thanked Chief of Police Clary and the entire Police Department for conducting themselves in a way that has gained the trust and respect of the community.
- Congratulated Monterosso's Italian Restaurant for successfully obtaining the requested Commercial Façade Improvement grant.
- Pointed out that adoption of Resolutions Nos. 2023-139, 2023-140, and 2023-141 on tonight's agenda did not include a placement location for the Bernard Hosey art sculpture donations since the placement has not been determined. The purpose of the resolutions was to accept the art donations, and a placement location will be decided at a future date.
- Thanked members of the Friends of Badger Mountain (FOBM) for their comments on the placement of the Bernard Hosey art sculptures.

Mayor Pro Tem Richardson made the following comments:

- She and Councilmember VanDyke attended an American World War II (WWII) Heritage City event in Los Alamos, New Mexico the previous month. The City of Richland has also been recognized as an American WWII Heritage City and will host the same group in May 2024.
- Matt Watkins will lead the construction of Pasco's aquatic center to be located at Road 100.

- September 2024 will mark the beginning of a three-year commitment for the Ironman Triathlon.
- Announced the Manhattan National Historic Park B-Reactor tours will close on November 18, 2023 for a couple of years for needed repairs.

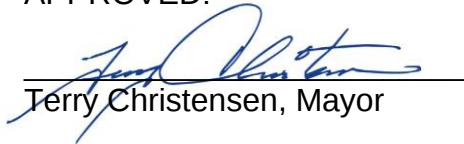
Mayor

Mayor Christensen thanked members of the MCCM for their presentation and their efforts to make the MCCM a reality. Next, Mayor Christensen encouraged members of the public to support Tri-Cities C.A.R.E.S. in their efforts to oppose the Horse Haven Hills Wind and Solar project. Lastly, Mayor Christensen explained the basis for Council participation in the approval and placement of public art within the City of Richland.

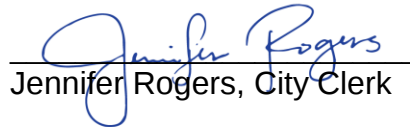
Adjournment

Mayor Christensen adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

APPROVED:


Terry Christensen, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: September 19, 2023

DATE PUBLISHED: September 20, 2023