



## MINUTES

### RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Richland City Hall ~ Council Chambers  
625 Swift Boulevard

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

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

#### Welcome and Roll Call

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

|                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Attendance: Mayor Richardson | Present |
| Mayor Pro Tem Kent           | Absent  |
| Councilmember Jones          | Present |
| Councilmember Lukson         | Absent  |
| Councilmember Maier          | Present |
| Councilmember VanDyke        | Present |
| Councilmember Whitten        | Present |

**COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO EXCUSE MAYOR PRO TEM KENT AND COUNCILMEMBER LUKSON. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

Also present were City Manager Amundson, Deputy City Manager Schiessl, Assistant City Manager Florence, City Attorney Kintzley, Interim Chief of Police Neher, Fire Chief Huntington, Development Services Director Jensen, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Energy Services Director Whitney, Finance Director Allen, and City Clerk Rogers.

#### Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Maier led the Council and audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Approval of Agenda

**COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

#### Presentations

##### 1. New Hires and Retirements

The City welcomed two (2) new employees to the City of Richland in March 2024:

- Maricruz Brito, Payroll Specialist, Finance Division
- Alexandra Griffin, Customer Service Representative, Customer Service Division

There were no retirements to recognize.

### **Public Hearing**

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

2. Proposed Amendment to the 2024 Budget in the City's General Fund, Streets Capital Construction Fund, and Water Fund, Ordinance No. 2024-16

Mayor Richardson opened and closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. No testimony was offered.

3. Relinquishing a Certain Portion of a Utility Easement at 1506 and 1508 Marshall Avenue, Resolution No. 2024-50

Mayor Richardson opened and closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. No testimony was offered.

### **Public Comments**

- Adam Fyall - Mr. Fyall of Richland, WA expressed support for the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-52 listed under the Consent Calendar. Mr. Fyall then thanked Public Works Director Rogalsky for his years of service, highlighted several impactful projects that Mr. Rogalsky contributed to throughout his tenure, and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to collaborate with Mr. Rogalsky over the years. Lastly, Mr. Fyall wished Mr. Rogalsky well in his retirement.

### **Consent Calendar**

City Clerk Rogers read the Consent Calendar.

### **Minutes**

4. Approval of the March 19, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes and the March 26, 2024 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

### **Ordinances - First Reading**

See Ordinance No. 2024-16 under **Items of Business**

### **Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage**

5. Ordinance No. 2024-13, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 13.06.400

regarding Ambulance Utility Service Fees

6. Ordinance No. 2024-14, Amending the 2024 Budget in the General Fund to include Seattle Police Department Internet Crimes Against Children Pass- Through Funding
7. Ordinance No. 2024-15, Amending Richland Municipal Code Title 9: Related to Trespass - First Degree

### **Resolutions - Adoption**

8. Resolution No. 2024-46, Authorizing Award of Bid to ESF Development, LLC for the Sewer Lift Station Site Upgrades Project
9. Resolution No. 2024-47, Authorizing a Purchase and Sale Agreement for Property at 550 and 560 Gage Boulevard for the Leslie Road - Gage Boulevard Intersection Improvements Project
10. Resolution No. 2024-48, Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with Parametrix, Inc. for 2024 Landfill Environmental Monitoring Services
11. Resolution No. 2024-49, Authorizing a Second Amended and Restated Disbursement Agreement with Benton County for Rural County Capital Funds in support of the Center Parkway - North Extension Project
12. Resolution No. 2024-51, Authorizing a Grant Agreement with the Washington State Department of Commerce to Purchase Drones
13. Resolution No. 2024-52, Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with Public Utility District No. 1 of Benton County for construction of a 115kV Transmission Highway Crossing and Installation of a 115kV Switch
14. Resolution No. 2024-53, Awarding a Purchase Order Contract to Great Western Installations, Inc. for Playground Equipment in Howard Amon Park and Superseding Resolution No. 2023-137

### **Items - Approval**

15. Appointment to the Parks & Recreation Commission: Karlee Hodges, Srithan Thallapally, and Ananya Gubba
16. Appointment to the Planning Commission: Todd Samuel, Heather Nicholson, Aaron Lambert, and Cara Hernandez

**COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR RICHARDSON AND COUNCILMEMBERS JONES, MAIER,**

**VANDYKE AND WHITTEN. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

**Items of Business**

17. Ordinance No. 2024-16, Amending the 2024 Budget to provide for Additional Appropriations in the City's General Fund, Streets Capital Construction Fund, and Water Fund

Finance Director Allen delivered a summary of the amendments proposed for the 2024 Budget as provided in the staff report. The presentation concluded without any inquiries from Council.

**COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2024-16, AMENDING THE 2024 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS IN THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND, STREETS CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION FUND, AND WATER FUND FOR FIRST READING, BY TITLE ONLY. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR RICHARDSON AND COUNCILMEMBERS JONES, MAIER, VANDYKE AND WHITTEN. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

18. Resolution No. 2024-50, Relinquishing a Certain Portion of a Utility Easement at 1506 and 1508 Marshall Avenue

Public Works Director Rogalsky provided an overview of the utility easement relinquishment request submitted by property owners David Saueressig and Lori Pappas to facilitate new construction on their property. The easement in question is no longer needed for municipal purposes as the utilities once within the easement have been relocated to the street side of the property.

**COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2024- 50, RELINQUISHING A CERTAIN PORTION OF A UTILITY EASEMENT AT 1506 AND 1508 MARSHALL AVENUE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

19. Proclamation of Appreciation and Plaque for Pete Rogalsky

Mayor Richardson read aloud a proclamation of appreciation for Public Works Director Pete Rogalsky, honoring his thirty (30) years of dedicated service to the City, and presented him with a commemorative plaque. Mayor Richardson expressed her gratitude to Mr. Rogalsky for his significant contributions to the City of the course of his career and extended her best wishes to him in retirement. Mr. Rogalsky expressed gratitude for the recognition and shared that his parents instilled in him a strong work ethic that guided and motivated him to perform at his highest level in all his endeavors for the City.

Mr. Rogalsky reflected on his rewarding career and his fulfilling experience of raising his family in Richland. He also expressed appreciation to his wife for her steadfast support

over the years, and acknowledged Public Works staff, both past and current, by praising their outstanding work and expressing confidence in their continued progress and success.

## **Reports and Comments**

### *City Manager*

City Manager Amundson informed Council of upcoming presentations by Benton-Franklin Council of Governments (BFCOG) on April 16, 2024 and the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission on May 21, 2024.

### *City Council*

Councilmember Maier thanked Public Works Director Rogalsky for his distinguished career and extended congratulations to Mr. Rogalsky's wife. He then inquired about the \$250,000 shortfall in the Water Fund, and asked if an alternative flexible budgeting mechanism exists to avoid the need for emergency declarations.

Councilmember Whitten congratulated Public Works Director Rogalsky on his well-deserved retirement and expressed his gratitude for his contributions to the City. He specifically acknowledged Mr. Rogalsky's significant efforts on the successful completion of the Duportail Bridge project, noting that his legacy will be remembered with each crossing of the bridge. In closing, Councilmember Whitten took a moment to greet Sgt. Hupf.

Councilmember Jones remarked on how rare it is that someone gets to enjoy the privilege of navigating through the City with an awareness of his role in the development of projects as Public Works Director Rogalsky is able to do. She expressed her gratitude for his service before inquiring about the City's plan to preserve Mr. Rogalsky's institutional knowledge. She questioned how his expertise would be documented and shared with current staff and whether there were plans to engage Mr. Rogalsky as a consultant to ensure a smooth transition.

Councilmember VanDyke thanked Public Works Director Rogalsky for his service and his ability to skillfully manage interactions with all councilmembers. He then expressed anticipation for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's upcoming presentation on May 21, 2024.

### *Mayor*

Mayor Richardson again thanked Public Works Director Rogalsky for his work, his informative responses, and his kind treatment of others, and then wished him well in his retirement.

Deputy City Manager Schiessl addressed Councilmember Maier's inquiry regarding the

Water Fund budget amendment, explaining that the budget increase was in support of a capital project to increase water pressure for an economic development buyer. The increase was not anticipated during the 2024 budget development process. The City's declaration of an "emergency" in the budget ordinance is a requirement of state law, but the City is not facing an actual emergency as that term is commonly understood. Councilmember Maier thanked Deputy City Manager Schiessl for the clarification.

In response to Councilmember Jones' concerns about preserving essential knowledge following the retirement of Public Works Director Rogalsky, City Manager Amundson highlighted Mr. Rogalsky's role in mentoring staff and developing their expertise in various subjects. City Manager Amundson acknowledged the challenge of losing institutional knowledge but assured City Council that efforts were being made to minimize the impact. The City and Mr. Rogalsky are discussing the possibility of Mr. Rogalsky providing guidance on specific projects when feasible.

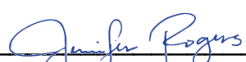
### **Adjournment**

Mayor Richardson adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
Theresa Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: April 16, 2024

DATE PUBLISHED: April 17, 2024