



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, July 16, 2024

Richland City Hall ~ Council Chambers
625 Swift Boulevard

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	Present
Councilmember Jones	Present
Councilmember Lukson	Absent
Councilmember Maier	Present
Councilmember VanDyke	Present (Remote via Zoom)
Councilmember Whitten	Present

COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM KENT SECONDED THE MOTION TO EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBER LUKSON. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Also present were City Manager Amundson, Deputy City Manager Schiessl, City Attorney Kintzley, Fire Chief Huntington, Development Services Director Jensen, Energy Services Director Whitney, Finance Director Allen, Human Resources Director Paulsen, Parks & Public Facilities Director Waite, Interim Public Works Director D'Alessandro, Interim Chief of Police Meidl, and City Clerk Rogers.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Richardson led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

MAYOR PRO TEM KENT MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Presentations

None.

Public Hearing

None.

Public Comments

City Clerk Rogers read the Public Comments procedures. No public comments were offered.

Consent Calendar

City Clerk Rogers read the Consent Calendar.

Minutes

1. Approval of the July 2, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Ordinances - First Reading

None.

Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage

2. Ordinance No. 2024-23, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 21.01.020 related to Administration, Permits, and Fees
3. Ordinance No. 2024-24, Amending Richland Municipal Code Sections 3.04.010 and 3.04.070 related to Small Works

Resolutions - Adoption

4. Resolution No. 2024-87, Declaring Intent to Eliminate the One-Year Assessment Exemption for New Businesses in the Downtown Business Improvement District and Setting a Public Hearing Date
5. Resolution No. 2024-88, Authorizing Current and Ratifying Former Grant Agreements with the Washington State Department of Ecology for the Biennial Storm Water Capacity Grant
6. Resolution No. 2024-89, Rejecting All Bids for the Richland Public Library Outdoor Reading and Children's Play Area
7. Resolution No. 2024-90, Authorizing a Local Heroes Grant from Gesa Credit Union for a Community Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Station

8. Resolution No. 2024-91, Authorizing an Interagency Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management for Wildland Fire Suppression
9. Resolution No. 2024-92, Ratifying the Richland Police Department's Application to the U.S. Department of Justice for the 2024 Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant

Items - Approval

None.

Expenditures - Approval

10. Expenditures from June 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024 for \$22,040,312.14 including Travel Checks Nos. 20561-20577, Accounts Payable Check Nos. 323876-324795, Accounts Payable Wire Nos. 10103-10144, Payroll Wires & ACH Nos. 14061-14113, Payroll Direct Deposit & Check Nos. 224425-225690, and Pension Check Nos. 6770-6791.

COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER WHITTEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR RICHARDSON, MAYOR PRO TEM KENT, AND COUNCILMEMBERS JONES, MAIER, VANDYKE AND WHITTEN. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Items of Business

None.

Reports and Comments

City Manager

City Manager Amundson informed Council that city staff recently participated in an entrance conference with the Washington State Auditor's Office to begin the City's financial and federal audit. Finance Director Allen added that the audit process should be completed by early to mid-August and will be followed by a compliance audit in September or early October. City Manager Amundson also mentioned that prior to the start of the audit, he and other city staff were invited to participate in interviews to assess areas of increased risk.

City Manager Amundson reviewed the agenda items for the July 23, 2024 workshop meeting and concluded by announcing that the annual Art in the Park event will start on Friday, July 26, 2024 at Howard Amon Park. This year, the City will staff a booth at the event to enhance public engagement.

City Council

Mayor Pro Tem Kent reported that she attended a Parks & Recreation Commission meeting held the previous week. She shared that the PRC heard a presentation from the Benton County Mosquito Control District on mosquito control, and a presentation regarding the Urban Greenbelt Trail renaming effort.

Members of the community proposed renaming the Urban Greenbelt Trail after Gustav Albin (G.A.) Pehrson, who was a notable architect known for his contributions to the construction of the Alphabet Homes in Richland. Mayor Pro Tem Kent encouraged councilmembers to view the July 11, 2024 Parks & Recreation Commission meeting video for more information.

Councilmember Van Dyke shared his positive experience at the recent Port of Benton Commission meeting and praised the Port of Benton for its efforts in pursuing grants, its progress on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and its collaboration with neighboring cities. Mayor Richardson commented that the City is fortunate to have a good relationship with the Port of Benton.

Councilmember Jones invited Council and the public to attend the REACH Museum's 10th anniversary celebration on July 23, 2024, which is free to local residents.

Councilmember Whitten had no comments.

Councilmember Maier reported that the Ben Franklin Transit is beginning its long-range Transit Plan and encouraged the public to participate by completing a survey on the BFT.org website. Councilmember Maier also provided an update on his efforts to collect pedestrian and cyclist crash data from RPD and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

Mayor

Mayor Richardson had no comments.

Adjournment

Mayor Richardson adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

APPROVED:



Theresa Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: August 7, 2024

DATE PUBLISHED: August 8, 2024