



MINUTES
Richland City Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 19, 2025
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	Absent
Councilmember Jones	Present
Councilmember Lukson	Present (arrived at 6:03 p.m.)
Councilmember Maier	Present
Councilmember VanDyke	Present
Councilmember Whitten	Absent

COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO EXCUSE MAYOR PRO TEM KENT AND COUNCILMEMBERS LUKSON AND WHITTEN. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

COUNCILMEMBER LUKSON JOINED THE MEETING AT 6:03 P.M.

Also present were City Manager Amundson, Deputy City Manager Schiessl, Assistant City Manager Florence, City Attorney Kintzley, Fire Chief Huntington, Finance Director Allen, Public Works Director D'Alessandro, Police Chief Pilcher, Parks & Public Facilities Director Waite, and Acting Deputy Clerk Follett.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of Agenda

COUNCILMEMBER MAIER MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Presentations

None.

Public Hearing

Acting Deputy Clerk Follett read the Public Hearing and Public Comments procedures.

1. Approving the 2025-2029 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Richland Police Command Association, Resolution No. 2025-112

Mayor Richardson opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. and closed the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. No testimony was offered.

Public Comments

The following individuals provided public comment:

- Sharon Felton, a Richland resident speaking on behalf of Kiwanis, provided a brochure about SIGN Fracture Care and highlighted the achievements of the organization. She noted that SIGN would be holding a conference in September and invited councilmembers to show support for its important contributions. Ms. Felton also requested that the City include SIGN in any upcoming videos about why it's great to live in Richland.
- Sheri Whitfield, a Richland resident, shared concerns about excessive speeding in the vicinity of Tanglewood Drive and Riverstone Drive. She noted the lack of stop signs along Tanglewood Drive, detailed her experience with aggressive drivers within the neighborhood, and asked the City to take action.
- Luke Erikson, a Richland resident, voiced his agreement with the statements made by Ms. Whitfield. He added that there are only two (2) posted speed limit signs and suggested more signs might be helpful.
- Colleen Spadoni, a Richland resident, echoed concerns about speeding. She suggested the City install 3-way stop signs along Harris Avenue at Spengler, Snyder, and Spring Streets to deter speeding in the neighborhood.
- Martin Brown, a Richland resident, reiterated his complaints made the previous month regarding feral cats and asked Council to consider action to address the issue.

Consent Calendar

Acting Deputy Clerk Follett read the Consent Calendar.

Minutes

2. Approval of the August 6, 2025 City Council Special Meeting Minutes

Ordinances - First Reading

3. Ordinance No. 2025-22, Establishing and Dedicating the Right-of-Way for a Segment of Gage Boulevard

Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage

4. Ordinance No. 2025-19, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 5.04.245 related to Business License Exemptions
5. Ordinance No. 2025-20, Ratifying a Grant Agreement with the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission and Amending the 2025 Budget to Provide for Additional Appropriations in the City's General Fund

Resolutions - Adoption

6. Resolution No. 2025-109, Establishing Pricing for City-Owned Properties in the Horn Rapids Business Center, Horn Rapids Commercial Plaza and Horn Rapids Industrial Park
7. Resolution No. 2025-110, Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with Transpo Group USA, Inc. for the Central Richland Active Transportation Improvements Project
8. Resolution No. 2025-111, Authorizing an Application to the Washington State Department of Ecology for the 2025-2027 Municipal Stormwater Capacity Grant

Items - Approval

9. Reappointment to the Tri-City Regional Hotel - Motel Commission: Lacey Stephens
10. Appointment to the Code Enforcement Board: Linda Johnson
11. Mayor Richardson Travel to National Cleanup Workshop - Arlington, VA, September 23–25, 2025

Expenditures – Approval

12. Expenditures from July 1, 2025 to July 31, 2025 for \$32,284,710.37 including Travel Checks Nos. 20813-20841, Accounts Payable Check Nos. 337604-338528, Accounts Payable Wire Nos. 10591-10668, Payroll Wires & ACH Nos. 14837- 14911, Payroll Check Nos. 237615-237627, and Payroll Direct Deposits Nos. 251830005479-252110006454.

COUNCILMEMBER MAIER MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PUBLISHED. THOSE IN

FAVOR: MAYOR RICHARDSON AND COUNCILMEMBERS JONES, LUKSON, MAIER AND VANDYKE. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Items of Business

13. Ordinance No. 2025-21, Amending Chapter 13.06 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Medical and Ambulance Service Utility Fees (First Reading)

With the aid of PowerPoint, Fire Chief Huntington detailed the proposed rate amendment and shared modeling and fund forecasts. He further discussed future needs and anticipated costs to provide medical and ambulance services over time. Fire Chief Huntington shared recommendations from the Utility Advisory Committee (UAC) and options for Council consideration.

Detailed information can be found in the PowerPoint presentation included in the agenda packet.

Following the presentation, Fire Chief Huntington answered questions from Council.

COUNCILMEMBER MAIER MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER VANDYKE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2025-21, AMENDING CHAPTER 13.06 OF THE RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO MEDICAL AND AMBULANCE SERVICE UTILITY FEES, FOR FIRST READING. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR RICHARDSON AND COUNCILMEMBERS JONES, LUKSON, MAIER AND VANDYKE. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

14. Resolution No. 2025-112, Approving the 2025-2029 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Richland Police Command Association

Police Chief Picher presented details of the 2025-2029 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Richland Police Command Association. He noted that the agreement covers four (4) staff members and highlighted base wage adjustments over the term of the agreement and other changes that reflect current organizational practices and procedures.

COUNCILMEMBER MAIER MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER JONES SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2025-112, APPROVING THE 2025-2029 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE RICHLAND POLICE COMMAND ASSOCIATION. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR RICHARDSON AND COUNCILMEMBERS JONES, LUKSON, MAIER AND VANDYKE. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Reports and Comments

City Manager

City Manager Amundson reported on communications with representatives from SIGN Fracture Care regarding ways to recognize the organization's contributions during the

upcoming conference. He also acknowledged the need for policy discussions with regional partners regarding the Tri-City Animal Shelter's trap, neuter, and release policy. He confirmed he has met with Pasco's Deputy City Manager, Richa Sigdel, to discuss the issue of feral cats, and intends to meet with Pasco's new City Manager, Harold Stewart, to discuss regional approaches and policy options in the near future.

Lastly, City Manager Amundson shared that earlier in the day, he attended Benton County's ribbon-cutting event for the newly renovated Moderate Risk Waste Facility located on S. Ely Street in Kennewick. The facility, which replaces the one lost to a fire more than 15 years ago, will provide residents with a location to dispose of items such as paints, pesticides, automotive fluids and cleaners.

Following City Manager Amundson's comments, Deputy City Manager Schiessl took a moment to congratulate City Manager Amundson on receiving the *Advancing the Profession Award*, which was presented to Mr. Amundson by the Washington City/County Management Association (WCMA) at its recent conference. Deputy City Manager Schiessl read portions of the award nomination and explained that City Manager Amundson was recognized by his professional association for establishing the Impact Academy, improving organizational culture, and implementing successful succession planning.

City Council

Councilmember Lukson congratulated City Manager Amundson on his award, adding that the City made an excellent choice in appointing him to the role. He then expressed an interest in receiving continued updates on the feral cat issue and voiced support for the City to work with regional stakeholders to address the feral cat issue.

Councilmember Maier agreed with Councilmember Lukson's comments regarding animal control within the City and emphasized the need for regional discussion on the topic. Councilmember Maier then provided a Ben Franklin Transit update, including the adoption of a new Transportation Plan and the addition of a new bus stop on Williams Boulevard. Councilmember Maier closed his remarks by congratulating City Manager Amundson on receiving the WCMA award.

Councilmember Jones offered congratulations to City Manager Amundson for his achievements regarding the WCMA award and his leadership. She then voiced support for greater City involvement in reviewing animal control services and the Tri-City Animal Shelter.

Councilmember VanDyke shared his thoughts on the regional TCACS and suggested a measured response and a holistic approach when evaluating services provided to the City. He encouraged broader stakeholder engagement and benchmarking with other regional facilities before considering policy changes.

Councilmember VanDyke recognized the Regional Chamber of Commerce for updating its award program to highlight local businesses. He then highlighted the upcoming Ironman 70.3 Washington Tri-Cities event that will take place on September 21, 2025, thanked staff for their proactive preparation efforts, and emphasized the importance of ensuring a successful event for the community. In conclusion, Councilmember Vandyke thanked City Manager Amundson and staff for consistently performing at high levels.

Mayor

Mayor Richardson congratulated City Manager Amundson on receiving the *Advancing the Profession Award* from WCMA and thanked him for his leadership. She also reported on her recent attendance at the opening performance of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at the HAPO Community Stage.

Adjournment

Mayor Richardson adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

APPROVED:



Theresa Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lynne Follett, Acting Deputy City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: September 16, 2025

DATE PUBLISHED: September 17, 2025