



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Richland City Hall ~ 505 Swift Boulevard
Tuesday, August 22, 2017

City Council Workshop – 6:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Mayor Thompson, Mayor Pro Tem Christensen, Councilmembers Kent and Lemley were present.

Also present were City Manager Reents, Assistant City Manager Amundson, City Attorney Kintzley, Energy Services Director Hammond, Community Development Director Jensen, Administrative Services Director Koch, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Parks and Public Facilities Director Schiessl and City Clerk Hopkins.

Agenda Items:

1. 2018 Electric Utility Retail Rates
- Bob Hammond, Energy Services Director

Mr. Hammond said the Energy Services Department (RES) staff along with rates consultant FCS Group have completed the update to the cost of service analysis (COSA) for the electric utility and finalized a proposed rate recommendation. The recommendation proposes increasing all electric utility customer class rates, resulting in a projected 6.5% increase in 2018 electric utility revenue.

This recommendation was presented and discussed in detail over the first three meetings in 2017 with the Utility Advisory Committee (UAC), which has endorsed this recommendation. Mr. Hammond and UAC Chair Roy Keck presented the rate recommendation and said it will come forward for City Council consideration at the September 19 and October 3 Council meetings.

Council had several questions for Mr. Hammond and Mr. Keck.

2. Solid Waste Disposal Alternatives
- Pete Rogalsky, Public Works Director

Mr. Rogalsky said the purpose of the workshop was to present the results of the recently completed Solid Waste Disposal Alternatives Study. The study's consultant, SCS

Engineers, were available by phone to explain the methodology and results of their analysis. Public Works Capital Project Manager Marlow was in attendance as well.

Mr. Rogalsky said the City's currently permitted landfill site will reach capacity in 2019 or 2020, according to current projections. The City's 2011 Solid Waste Management Plan included a recommendation to expand the Horn Rapids Landfill. This recommendation was based on a high level planning evaluation of costs and benefits. The work performed by SCS Engineers produced a project feasibility study level analysis that benefited from specific facility design cost estimates, operating cost estimates based on the rate study of current operations, surveys of regional vendors, and sensitivity analyses of key cost drivers. The rigorous cost analysis provided a basis from which the City can plan the facilities and services that are necessary and desirable for the period after 2019.

Mr. Rogalsky also explained the Disposal Alternatives Study was accompanied by a detailed rate study. SCS Engineers presented their Study findings and recommendations to the Utility Advisory Committee (UAC) at its May 9, 2017 meeting. The UAC concurred with the Study recommendation to expand the Horn Rapids Landfill and recommended refinements to the Study. The updated Study and rate study was reviewed at the July 11 UAC meeting. At that meeting the UAC passed a motion recommending expansion of the Horn Rapids Landfill to the City Council. In addition the UAC recommended that no rate changes be implemented in 2018. The rate study forecasts the need to increase rates beginning in 2019 when the capital expenses related to landfill expansion will require financing.

Council had questions for SCS Engineers and Mr. Rogalsky. Staff recommended the option to expand the Horn Rapids Landfill.

3. Port of Kennewick Partnership - Columbia Park Trail Project - Kerwin Jensen, Community Development Director

Mr. Jensen said the purpose of the workshop is to seek Council's concurrence with staff's proposal for a partnership project with the Port of Kennewick. The planned improvements to Columbia Park Trail between SR240 and the east City limits at Columbia Park have emerged as the recommended project. He presented the planned scope of improvements and the parameters of the partnership.

Council had a question and answer period with Mr. Jensen. The Council agreed to move ahead with the partnership.

4. Swift Corridor: City Hall Project Update
 - Joe Schiessl, Parks and Public Facilities Director
 - Darrin Sweeney, Parks and Public Facilities Project Manager

Mr. Sweeney said the Swift Corridor: City Hall project continues to make progress. He gave a presentation which included the current graphics of the interior and exterior of the building, current status of the project and said the plans are ready to be submitted for a building permit. He also said a ground breaking ceremony is being planned for September 22, 2017.

Council had several questions for Mr. Sweeney.

5. Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining
 - Jon Amundson, Assistant City Manager

COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM CHRISTENSEN SECONDED A MOTION TO MOVE INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

The Council moved into the closed session at 7:12 p.m.

City Attorney Kintzley added an executive session to the meeting to discuss per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (ii) current or potential litigation for 15 minutes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM CHRISTENSEN SECONDED A MOTION TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:30 P.M. TO DISCUSS PER RCW 42.30.110 (1) (II) CURRENT OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION FOR 15 MINUTES. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

MAYOR PRO TEM CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY SECONDED A MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:45 P.M. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

Adjournment:

Mayor Thompson adjourned the workshop at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcia Hopkins, City Clerk

FORM APPROVED:

Robert J. Thompson
Robert J. Thompson, Mayor

DATE APPROVED:

9/5/17

DATE PUBLISHED:

9/6/17