



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
Richland City Hall ~ 505 Swift Boulevard
Tuesday, September 25, 2018

City Council Workshop – 6:00 p.m.

Attendance:

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

Also present were City Attorney Kintzley, Community Development Director Jensen, Parks and Public Facilities Director Schiessl, Planning Manager Stevens and Deputy City Clerk Barham.

The two agenda items were reversed to accommodate a walking tour of the new City Hall building prior to sunset.

Agenda Items:

- I. New City Hall Update (30 minutes)
 - Joe Schiessl, Parks and Public Facilities Director

Mr. Schiessl led the tour of the new City Hall building with Council and staff.

2. Hearing Examiner System - RCW 35A.63.170 (30 minutes)
 - Heather Kintzley, City Attorney

Ms. Kintzley distributed a copy of the September 24, 2018 Hearing Examiner Decision Authority memorandum to Council and staff.

Consistent with the information provided in the City Attorney's memorandum, Mayor Thompson led the discussion regarding the pros and cons of shifting additional decision-making authority to the City's Hearing Examiner with judicial appeal immediately to follow. The discussion included acknowledgement of the competent and thorough decisions received by the City's current Hearing Examiner, and the frustrations experienced by both the public and Council based on the limitations placed on Council when serving in a quasi-judicial capacity. The City's land use decision-making history prior to introduction of the Hearing Examiner system was also briefly discussed. Council expressed support for adjusting the process for both Type II and Type III permits, on the condition that adequate information continues to be provided to Council and the public.

Other Business:

Ms. Kintzley updated Council on a final action meeting held on September 25, 2018 by Tri-City Railroad Company (TCRY) regarding proposed condemnation of an easement on the Horn Rapids Rail Spur.

Adjournment:

Mayor Thompson adjourned the workshop at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Debby Barham, Deputy City Clerk

FORM APPROVED:



Robert J. Thompson, Mayor

DATE APPROVED:

October 16, 2018

DATE PUBLISHED

October 17, 2018