



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Richland City Hall ~ 625 Swift Boulevard

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

City Council Workshop - 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen called the workshop to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Attendance: Mayor Pro Tem Christensen and Councilmembers Alvarez, Anderson, Kent, Lemley and Lukson were present. Mayor Thompson was absent.

Also present were City Manager Reents, Assistant City Manager Amundson, City Attorney Kintzley, Chief of Police Bruce, Fire & Emergency Services Director Huntington, Development Services Director Jensen, Administrative Services Director Koch, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl, Energy Services Director Whitney and Acting Deputy City Clerk Fulton.

Agenda Item

1. Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) Performance Review of Public Employee

MAYOR PRO TEM CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER LUKSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR FIFTY-FIVE (55) MINUTES TO DISCUSS PERFORMANCE OF THE CITY MANAGER PURSUANT TO RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). MAYOR PRO TEM CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY SECONDED A MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:25 P.M. THE EXECUTIVE SESSION ROOM WAS VACATED.

Those present during executive session include Mayor Pro Tem Christensen and Councilmembers Alvarez, Anderson, Kent, Lemley and Lukson. City Manager Reents was present for 45 minutes of the executive session.

2. Discuss Meeting Agenda Items

Council and staff briefly reviewed the proposed agenda scheduled for the regular meeting.

City Council Regular Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen called the Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Welcome and Roll Call

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen welcomed those in the audience and expressed appreciation for their attendance.

Attendance: Mayor Pro Tem Christensen and Councilmembers Alvarez, Anderson, Kent, Lemley and Lukson were present. Mayor Thompson was absent.

COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO EXCUSE MAYOR THOMPSON. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Also present were City Manager Reents, Assistant City Manager Amundson, City Attorney Kintzley, Chief of Police Bruce, Fire & Emergency Services Director Huntington, Development Services Director Jensen, Administrative Services Director Koch, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl, Energy Services Director Whitney and Acting Deputy City Clerk Fulton.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen led the Council and audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

MAYOR PRO TEM CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Presentations

3. New Hire/Retirements

Administrative Services Director Cathleen Koch introduced new hires from November, including new BCES SECOMM Dispatcher Ryan Majetich, Parks & Public Facilities Contracts Administrator Stacy Jackson, Energy Services Engineering Tech III Jared Waddell, Energy Services Meter Reader Corey Peck, and ASD Customer Service Representative Carrie Johnson.

Public Hearing

Acting Deputy City Clerk Fulton read the Public Hearing and Public Comments procedures.

4. Proposed Relinquishment of Utility Easement within 3077 and 3095 Kingsgate Way - Resolution No. 150-19

Public Works Director Pete Rogalsky presented a request to relinquish a utility easement lying within 3077 and 3095 Kingsgate Way. Mr. Rogalsky advised that the City no longer needs the easement, and recommended its surplus.

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen opened and closed the public hearing at 7:37 p.m. No testimony was offered.

5. Proposed Relinquishment of Waterline Easement within 2800 Polar Way - Resolution No. 151-19

Public Works Director Pete Rogalsky presented a request to relinquish a waterline easement lying within 2800 Polar Way. Mr. Rogalsky advised that the City no longer needs the easement, and recommended its surplus.

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen opened and closed the public hearing at 7:37 p.m. No testimony was offered.

6. Proposed Relinquishment of a Utility Easement lying within 2800 Polar Way - Resolution No. 152-19

Public Works Director Pete Rogalsky presented a request to relinquish a utility easement lying within 2800 Polar Way. Mr. Rogalsky advised that the City no longer needs the easement, and recommended its surplus.

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen opened and closed the public hearing at 7:38 p.m. No testimony was offered.

Public Comments

Paul Taiclet, American Cruise Lines, Guilford CT, shared that American Cruise Lines is experiencing a significant period of growth right now, and expressed interest in investments the company could make to improve tourism and the local economy in Richland. Mr. Taiclet spoke of American Cruise Line's appreciation for Richland as a port of call. Mr. Taiclet also spoke about the benefit of agreements between the City and American Cruise Lines that will give certainty of future use of local facilities. Mr. Taiclet provided a hand-out of information that was distributed to the City Council.

Francisca Meier, 2146 Hudson Avenue, Richland WA, spoke in favor of Resolution No. 153-19 regarding the WTSC grant funding being made available to the City. Ms. Meier spoke about her efforts to count cyclists and pedestrians in Richland, and her conclusion that driver behavior is creating unsafe conditions for pedestrians and cyclists in the downtown area during peak hours. Ms. Meier encouraged the City Council to approve Resolution No. 153-19.

Consent Calendar

Acting Deputy City Clerk Fulton read the Consent Calendar.

MAYOR PRO TEM CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER LUKSON SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PUBLISHED. THOSE IN FAVOR: CHRISTENSEN, ALVAREZ, ANDERSON, KENT, LEMLEY, AND LUKSON. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Minutes - Approval

7. Approval of the November 19, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes

Ordinances - First Reading

8. Ordinance No. 62-19, Approving the 2023 Council Compensation Plan

Ordinances - Second Reading/Passage

9. Ordinance No. 57-19, Amending Chapter 12.10 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Installation of Street Improvements
10. Ordinance No. 58-19, Approving Amendments to the 2019 Budget
11. Ordinance No. 59-19, Repealing Chapter 23.34 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Floodplain Combining District and Adopting Chapter 22.16 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Floodplain Damage Prevention
12. Ordinance No. 60-19, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 23.26.030 related to Industrial Use Districts Permitted Land Uses
13. Ordinance No. 61-19, Amending Chapter 3.24 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Miscellaneous Accounting Funds

Resolutions – Adoption

14. Resolution No. 150-19, Authorizing the Relinquishment of Utility Easements within 3077 and 3095 Kingsgate Way
15. Resolution No. 151-19, Authorizing the Relinquishment of a Waterline Easement lying within 2800 Polar Way
16. Resolution No. 152-19, Authorizing the Relinquishment of a Utility Easement lying within 2800 Polar Way
17. Resolution No. 153-19, Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission for Pedestrian Safety Grant Funding
18. Resolution No. 154-19, Authorizing a Financial Advisory and Consulting Services Contract with PFM Financial Advisors, LLC
19. Resolution No. 155-19, Adopting the City of Richland's 2020 Legislative Priorities

Items for Approval

None.

Expenditures - Approval

20. Expenditures from October 28, 2019 - November 22, 2019 for \$22,771,757.47 including Check Nos. 273123-274194, Travel Check Nos. 19869-19888, Wire Nos. 7832-7893, Payroll Check Nos. 157312-158403, and Payroll Wire/ACH Nos. 11223-11256

Items of Business

21. Resolution No. 156-19, Adopting Priority Transportation System Improvements for Improving North-South Travel through Richland

Public Works Director Pete Rogalsky introduced consultants from The Langdon Group, who presented on the outcome of the North-South Travel Capacity Study. After a robust public process, which included consideration of a number of different alternatives, the study concluded that the City's highest priority, as identified in both the advisory committee's work and the consultant's technical evaluation, should be to make improvements to SR-240, ultimately working toward a separated bypass, and to make improvements to the intersection at George Washington Way and Columbia Point Drive. According to the consultant, improvements at both locations will effectively move traffic north and south through Richland. The consultant clarified that the study is concept only, and that no concrete projects are in motion to make these changes occur.

Council asked a number of questions. Councilmember Kent sought clarification on the ranking of improvements to the intersection of George Washington Way/Columbia Point Drive. Councilmember Kent questioned, and the consultant acknowledged, that proposed improvements to the George Washington Way/Columbia Point Drive intersection rank high in value from a technical perspective, but are not popular with those who took the survey.

Councilmember Kent also asked why the improvements to Kingsgate Way scored so low in the survey. The consultant suggested that the low ranking was associated with cost, length of time to accomplish, and greater impacts (environmental and otherwise) to surrounding properties in return for minimal positive traffic impact.

Councilmember Lemley addressed the community feedback that was received related to a possible right-in/right-out on Swift at the Bypass Highway. Councilmember Lemley clarified that there is no project affecting the Swift/Bypass Highway intersection (or any other location recommended for improvement) at this time.

Councilmember Lukson sought more information about the survey participation, including the purported 1,100 visitors responding to the survey. The consultant advised

that it was not a scientific survey, and that the platform used (Survey Monkey) does require unique IP addresses in an effort to reduce multiple responses from the same participant.

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen clarified that although a recommendation was before Council on possible improvements that could improve north-south traffic through Richland, the recommendations are very high level, and that no specifics are included. If or when action is taken by the City to implement any improvements, each discrete project will have its own review process, including the opportunity for additional public input.

COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 156-19, ADOPTING PRIORITY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS FOR IMPROVING NORTH-SOUTH TRAVEL THROUGH RICHLAND. THOSE IN FAVOR: CHRISTENSEN, ALVAREZ, ANDERSON, KENT, LEMLEY, AND LUKSON. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

Reports and Comments

City Manager

None.

City Council

Councilmember Alvarez gave kudos to staff in Richland who volunteered to support the Tri-Cities Special Olympics. Councilmember Alvarez also thanked those who attended the meeting for their participation in local government.

Councilmember Lemley reported that he recently attended the Energy Community Alliance (ECA) conference in Nashville, TN, where he and two other councilmembers enjoyed authentic BBQ and cowboy boots.

Councilmember Lukson spoke of his trip to the ECA conference, where he learned a lot and was able to identify successes to be celebrated as the City continues to press forward with Hanford clean-up efforts.

Councilmember Kent advised that she toured the Animal Control Facility in Pasco, and encouraged others to do the right thing associated with pet ownership and pets who do not have homes.

Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen encouraged the community to have a great Thanksgiving holiday, and reminded everyone that there are only 22 shopping days until Christmas.

Adjournment

Mayor Pro Tem Christensen adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

APPROVED:


Robert J. Thompson, Mayor

ATTESTED:


Toni Fulton, Acting Deputy City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: December 17, 2019

DATE PUBLISHED: December 18, 2019