



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Richland City Hall ~ 625 Swift

Boulevard Tuesday, January 7, 2020

City Council Workshop - 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Thompson called the workshop to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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

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 City Clerk Rogers.

Agenda Item

1. Downtown Traffic Study

Public Works Director Pete Rogalsky gave a brief overview of the status of the Downtown Traffic Study, followed by a question and answer session with Council.

2. Discuss Meeting Agenda and Election Process

Council and staff briefly reviewed the proposed agenda scheduled for the regular meeting. City Attorney Kintzley provided an overview of the election process for Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem.

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

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

Welcome and Roll Call

Mayor Thompson welcomed those in the audience and expressed appreciation for their attendance.

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

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 City Clerk Rogers.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Thompson led the Council and audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

COUNCILMEMBER KENT MOVED AND MAYOR THOMPSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. MOTION CARRIED 7-0

Presentations

3. Swearing-in of Councilmembers

City Manager Cindy Reents administered the oath of office to the following councilmembers recently re-elected to office.

- Bob Thompson, Position No. 1, Re-elected, 2-Year Term
- Brad Anderson, Position No. 2, Re-elected, 4-Year Term
- Philip Lemley, Position No. 5, Re-elected, 4-Year Term
- Terry Christensen, Position No. 6, Re-elected, 4-Year Term

4. Selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Thompson announced that he will not serve as Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Thompson then opened the floor for nominations for Mayor. Councilmember Lukson was nominated by Councilmember Anderson. Councilmember Christensen was nominated by Mayor Thompson. No other nominations were made. The following votes were cast:

For Lukson: Anderson, Kent, Lemley, Lukson, Thompson

For Christensen: Alvarez, Christensen

Councilmember Lukson won the office of Mayor by a vote of 5-2.

Mayor Lukson took his new seat on the dais and opened the floor for nominations for Mayor Pro Tem. Councilmember Kent was nominated by Councilmember Thompson. Councilmember Lemley was nominated by Mayor Lukson. No other nominations were made. The following votes were cast:

For Kent: Thompson, Alvarez, Christensen, Kent, Anderson, Lukson

For Lemley: Lemley

Councilmember Kent won the office of Mayor Pro Tem by a vote of 6-1.

5. New Hire/Retirements

Administrative Services Director Cathleen Koch introduced the new hires in the month of December, which included: City Clerk Jennifer Rogers; Library Assistant I Mary Brown-Elmore; BCES SECOMM Dispatcher Ryan Majetich; RPD Officer Christopher Herrera; and RPD Officer Olivia Myers. Also, Battalion Chief Curtis Walsh was recognized for his retired after twenty-six years of service with the Richland Fire Department.

Public Hearings

City Clerk Rogers read the Public Hearing and Public Comments procedures.

6. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment - Resolution No. 02-20.

Public Works Director Rogalsky provided an overview of the proposed TIP amendment, which is necessary to add new grant funds that were recently secured through the Benton-Franklin Council of Governments (BFCG) grant award process. Five (5) city projects were awarded funding:

- Columbia Park Trail–East Improvements: \$1,800,000 Grant Award for Construction
- Vantage Highway Pathway–Phase 2: \$459,809 Grant Award for Design, Right-of-Way Acquisition, Construction
- South George Washington Way Intersection Improvements: \$692,000 Grant Award for Design and Right-of-Way Acquisition
- SR240/Aaron Drive Intersection Improvements: \$173,000 Grant Award for Design
- Island View to Vista Field Trail: \$125,000 Grant Award for Planning

Mayor Lukson opened the public hearing for comments at 7:47 p.m.

Mr. Joel Rogo, 21 Aaron Drive, Richland, reminded Council of Resolution No. 151-15, passed in August 2015, in which staff proposed to investigate a fourth intersection alternative that will not impact the Tri-Cities Academy of Ballet.

No other comments were offered during the public hearing. Mayor Lukson closed the public hearing at 7:49 p.m.

7. Proposed Relinquishment of an Easement lying within 1105 and 1107 Thayer Drive, Resolution No. 12-20

Public Works Director Rogalsky presented on a proposed relinquishment of a utility easement at 1105 and 1107 Thayer Drive. The easement is no longer necessary since the original utility line has been relocated. Staff is in support of relinquishing the easement.

Mayor Lukson opened and closed the public hearing at 7:50 p.m. No testimony was offered.

Public Comments

Randy Slovic – 74 Newcomer, Richland WA, voiced her concerns that Council passes numerous items on the consent agenda without a discussion. Ms. Slovic also commented on the number of pages contained in the Council agenda packet.

Lloyd Becker – 2120 Duportail Street, Apt.1, Richland WA, questioned certain information provided during the Transportation Improvement Project presentation. Mr. Becker also had questions regarding the Duportail project.

The following individuals stated their concerns about the poor condition of the current animal shelter, the need for a new shelter, the lack of funding contributions from the City, the need for additional kennels and the need for a low cost spay/neuter clinic for Pet Over-Population Prevention. All speakers urged City Council to participate in finding a solution.

Julie Webb – McEwan Drive, Richland
Alexis Ryan – Leopold Lane, Richland
Emily Downing – 8th Avenue, Kennewick
Lisa Dickson – John Day, Kennewick
Cindy Anderson – Horn Rapids, Richland
Nichole Boggs – 1st Avenue, Kennewick
Ashley Shonewold – Carriage Avenue, Richland
George Hagen – Horn Rapids, Richland
Angela Zilar – Kennewick

Consent Calendar

City Clerk Rogers read the Consent Calendar.

COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER THOMPSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PUBLISHED. MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Minutes

8. Approval of the December 17, 2019 Council Meeting Minutes

Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage

9. Ordinance No. 63-19, Amending the Richland Municipal Code related to Fees

Resolutions - Adoption

10. Resolution No. 01-20, Authorizing a Second Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Bell Brown & Rio, PLLC

11. Resolution No. 02-20, Amending to the 2020-2025 Transportation Improvement Program to Include Grant Funds

12. Resolution No. 03-20, Setting a Meeting Date to Review an Annexation Request
13. Resolution No. 04-20, Approving a First Amendment to the Consulting Agreement with Shannon & Wilson for Wetland Mitigation
14. Resolution No. 05-20, Approving a Third Amendment to the Consultant Agreement with Shannon & Wilson for Groundwater Monitoring
15. Resolution No. 06-20, Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with the Benton Conservation District regarding the District's Salmon Power Program
16. Resolution No. 07-20, Authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with the Port of Benton for Conveyance of a Saint Street Parcel
17. Resolution No. 08-20, Approving Amendments to Three Commercial Improvement Program Agreements with 702 The Parkway, LLC
18. Resolution No. 09-20, Approving a License with Zeco Systems for an Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station
19. Resolution No. 11-20, Directing the Planning Manager to give Notice related to Alteration of the Plat of The Dwellings
20. Resolution No. 12-20, Authorizing Relinquishment of a Portion of Utility Easements lying within 1105 and 1107 Thayer Drive
21. Resolution No. 13-20, Approving a Settlement and Release Agreement with Linda Cameron

Items for Approval

22. Authorize Travel for Mayor Thompson and Councilmember Lemley

Expenditures - Approval

23. Expenditures from December 9, 2019 - December 27, 2019 for \$30,258,635.09 including Check Nos. 274610-275322, Wire Nos. 7920-7959, Payroll Check Nos. 158972-159511, 160066-160073, and Payroll Wire/ACH Nos. 11274-11318

Items of Business

None.

Reports and Comments

City Manager

City Manager Reents provided clarification on the information provided during the public

comment period. She stated that the three city managers are working together on the animal control facility. City Manager Reents stated that, in a meeting held by the City of Pasco before Christmas, the Cities explained how they have been working on a design that was created in 2018 and finished the summer of 2019. City Manager Reents added that the City of Richland funded \$1,500,000 several years ago toward completion of the design.

City Manager Reents went on to explain how the city managers are grappling with the fact that the cost for a new facility is significant, and she advised that concerns received from the public are being taken into account. While the City of Richland has been involved in the entire process, the City of Pasco is the administrative jurisdiction for the Animal Control Authority, which means it manages the contract and the project. City Manager Reents reiterated that the City has set aside \$1,500,000 for this project, and that the three cities will continue to dialogue to find a solution.

City Council

Councilmember Anderson congratulated Mayor Lukson and Mayor Pro Tem Kent on their new leadership roles, and stated that he is looking forward to serving the next year under their leadership.

Mayor Pro Tem Kent thanked fellow councilmembers for the opportunity to serve as Mayor Pro Tem, and added that Mayor Lukson brings a new energy and different perspective to the role of Mayor. Mayor Pro Tem Kent went on to say that animal control is a complicated issue, but staff and Council will continue to work to find a solution.

Councilmember Alvarez congratulated Mayor Lukson and Mayor Pro Tem Kent. He thanked the volunteers for their time spent taking care of the animals at the animal shelter. Councilmember Alvarez further stated that he has met with City Manager Reents to discuss the animal shelter and progression of the plans. Lastly, Councilmember Alvarez acknowledged the Boy Scouts in the audience who were present to earn their Citizenship badge.

Councilmember Thompson commented on the changed demographics in the community, which appeared to be consistent with the Council's change in leadership. Councilmember Thompson stated that he is looking forward to working through the challenges ahead, and working with Mayor Lukson and Mayor Pro Tem Kent.

Councilmember Christensen thanked those in the audience for attending the meeting, and congratulated Mayor Lukson and Mayor Pro Tem Kent on their new leadership roles.

Mayor

Mayor Lukson congratulated Mayor Pro Tem Kent and thanked Council for its support. Mayor Lukson also thanked those who are passionate about the animal control issue for voicing their concerns. Mayor Lukson then stated that he is interested in scheduling a

workshop with the city managers and staff to further discuss the issues surrounding the animal control shelter.

Adjournment

Mayor Lukson adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:



Ryan Lukson, Mayor

Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: January 21, 2020

DATE PUBLISHED: January 22, 2020