



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Richland City Hall ~ 625 Swift Boulevard

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

City Council Workshop - 6:45 p.m.

Mayor Lukson called the workshop to order at 6:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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

Agenda Item

1. Tri-City Animal Control Authority Update

City of Pasco City Manager Dave Zabell and Administrative and Community Services Director Zach Ratkai provided information on the operations and condition of the Tri-Cities Animal Control Authority (ACA).

Mr. Ratkai reviewed in great detail the history of the Animal Control Authority, the duties and responsibilities of the ACA and its contractor, the status of the current shelter, and the history and status of the proposed new facility. Lastly, Mr. Ratkai reviewed community concerns pertaining to staff, animals and the general public.

At 7:30, Mayor Lukson extended the work session to 7:37 p.m.

2. Discuss Meeting Agenda Items

Council was provided the opportunity to identify any comments or concerns with the evening's agenda.

City Council Regular Meeting - 7:37 p.m.

Mayor Lukson called the Council meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Welcome and Roll Call

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

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

MAYOR LUKSON MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBERS ANDERSON AND THOMPSON. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

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 and City Clerk Rogers.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of Agenda

COUNCILMEMBER ALVAREZ MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM KENT SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. THE MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Presentations

1. New Hire/Retirements

Administrative Services Director Cathleen Koch introduced new hires for the month of January. Laborer Rille Berg, Meter Reader Jose Sanchez, Library Supervisor Michael Scarfo and Human Resources Generalist Amy Stang were named. In addition, retiree Jackie Carpenter was recognized for her 19 years of service with the City. Ms. Carpenter worked in several departments throughout the years, but retired as an Officer Coordinator in the Energy Services Department.

2. Development Services Year in Review 2019

Development Services Director Kerwin Jensen began his presentation by announcing that the Development Services Department broke several development records in 2019. He gave a detailed report on single family dwellings, commercial construction, subdivision activity, land use, community development, real estate sales, economic development and planning and land use within the City.

Mayor Lukson stated that he is excited to see continued expansion in the City. He commended staff for implementing the use of advanced technology to simplify the application process for both developers and staff.

Public Hearing

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

3. Proposed Relinquishment of an Easement at 1050 Gilmore Avenue, Resolution No. 21-20

Public Works Director Rogalsky reported on this item, stating that the easement is no longer needed for municipal purposes and that surplus and relinquishment is appropriate.

Mayor Lukson opened the public hearing at 8:02 p.m. No public testimony was received. Mayor Thompson closed the public hearing at 8:02 p.m.

4. Proposed Relinquishment of an Easement at 1933 and 1947 Saint Street, Resolution No. 22-20

Public Works Director Rogalsky reported on this item, stating that the easement is no longer needed for municipal purposes and that surplus and relinquishment is appropriate.

Mayor Lukson opened the public hearing at 8:02 p.m. No public testimony was received. Mayor Thompson closed the public hearing at 8:03 p.m.

Public Comments

Cigdem Capan – 7701 Gray Street, Richland, WA – Ms. Capan urged Council to consider building a larger facility to accommodate more animals.

Tim Taylor – 462 Palm Drive, Richland, WA – Mr. Taylor agreed with the comments made by Ms. Capan, and made statements related to OSHA and facility compliance. Lastly, he asked Council to consider increasing their funding contributions towards the new shelter by using funds obtained from the City's real estate sales.

Alexis Ryan – 526 S. 40th Avenue, West Richland, WA – Ms. Ryan played an audio recording of an animal she stated developed a respiratory infection while at the animal shelter. Ms. Ryan also shared her concern about other animals becoming ill during their stay at the animal shelter due to poor air quality.

Tammy Falker – 8006 W. Brauned Place – Ms. Falker stated that she is a manager at a PetSmart location and is also in charge of pet adoption events for PetSmart in Washington and Oregon. Ms. Falker spoke of the animal over-population issues and the transfer of animals within the state to assist with over-population. She stated that a larger animal shelter is needed than what is currently proposed.

Ms. Falker also expressed concerns about lack of animal control services during the weekend. She shared that she serves as *de facto* animal control for Petco and the Tri-Cities during the weekend as a result.

Cindi Anderson – 3121 Redhawk, Richland, WA – Ms. Anderson encouraged Council to contribute funding towards the cost of spaying and neutering services and pet overpopulation prevention.

Rennae Rosenberg – 411 S. Zinser Street, Kennewick, WA – Ms. Rosenberg announced that she is attending the council meeting to support the animal shelter advocates. She encouraged Council to support the animal shelter volunteers and do more for the animals.

Shirley Gray – 139 Mesa Drive, Richland, WA – Ms. Gray stated that she had a dog that was impounded at the shelter for a few days and suffered health problems during his stay. Ms. Gray stated that since her arrival to the area in 1978, the animal shelter has remained the same size. The population in the area has increased over the years, but the size of the shelter has not grown to accommodate additional animals.

Ronna Dojer – Richland resident – Ms. Dojer stated that she has not visited the animal shelter since 2010 due to the strong odors. She is requesting a functional shelter for the volunteers and animals.

Emily Downing – W. 8th Avenue, Kennewick, WA – Ms. Downing addressed the alternatives to the overflow problems of the animal shelter as discussed by Council during the workshop. Ms. Downing stated that alternative methods mentioned by Council are already actively practiced by the animal shelter staff and volunteers. Ms. Downing stated that every animal leaving the shelter is spayed or neutered to encourage adoptions. Based on the numbers provided by Mr. Ratkai, the shelter is operating at capacity even with alternatives actively pursued. Ms. Downing requested that the new facility be built at the same size or larger, and that it be more functional to accommodate the growing population. Lastly, Ms. Downing thanked Council for listening to the public's comments and for holding the workshop.

Dawn Hansen – 225 Rachel Rd., Kennewick, WA – Ms. Hansen encouraged Council to be progressive when it comes to the animal shelter, and to explore more humane alternatives. Ms. Hansen stated that pet overpopulation resources are imperative, and involves more than education; it involves accessibility.

Jessica Hendrickson – 2894 Saulk Avenue, Richland, WA – Ms. Hendrickson stated that she has gone to the animal shelter for years and has been embarrassed by the condition of the animal shelter.

Kristin Engbrecht – 3510 Reserve Lane, Pasco, WA – Ms. Engbrecht thanked Council for holding the workshop, and said that she had hoped to receive a timeline for construction of the animal shelter.

Julie Webb – 4972 McEwan Drive, Richland, WA – Ms. Webb provided information on the number of animal kennels the shelter should have to accommodate the number of animals housed. She encouraged Council to locate property that is suitable to construct a larger shelter.

Elizabeth Lech – 1115 Margaret St. Pasco, WA – Ms. Lech gave an overview of the process involved in transporting animals through a coalition of shelters in Portland. She encouraged Council to consider the solution of euthanasia as an antiquated idea.

Consent Calendar

City Clerk Rogers read the Consent Calendar.

COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. THOSE IN FAVOR: ALVAREZ, CHRISTENSEN, KENT, LEMLEY AND LUKSON. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Minutes- Approval

5. Approval of the January 21, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes and the January 28, 2020 Council Workshop Minutes.

Ordinances - First Reading

None

Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage

6. Ordinance No. 01-20, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 2.31.030 related to Fingerprinting for Nonmunicipally Related Matters

Resolutions - Adoption

7. Resolution No. 17-20, Approving a Purchase and Sale Agreement with BDG Investments, LLC
8. Resolution No. 18-20, Approving the Final Plat of White Bluffs Phase 6
9. Resolution No. 19-20, Authorizing the Award of Bid to 2F Enterprises for the 2019 Pedestrian-Activated Crossings with Beacons Project
10. Resolution No. 20-20, Approving a Funding Agreement with the Kennewick Housing Authority for Micro Homes

11. Resolution No. 21-20, Authorizing Relinquishment of an Easement at 1050 Gilmore Avenue
12. Resolution No. 22-20, Authorizing Relinquishment of an Easement at 1933 and 1947 Saint Street
13. Resolution No. 23-20, Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with Hill International for Procurement and Project Management Services for Public Safety Response Stations 73 and 75
14. Resolution No. 24-20, Establishing Council Assignments for Calendar Years 2020-2021

Items - Approval

Expenditures - Approval

15. Expenditures from January 13, 2020 - January 24, 2020 for \$12,646,946.10 including Check Nos. 275855-276284, Travel Check Nos. 19899-19900, Wire Nos. 7975-8000, Payroll Check Nos. 160602-161143, and Payroll Wire/ACH Nos. 11343-11359.

Items of Business

None

Reports and Comments

City Manager

City Manager Reents announced that this is the time of year when departments give their annual reports to Council. 2019 annual reports from Richland Fire & Emergency Services and The Reach will be presented at the February 18, 2020 Council meeting.

City Council

Councilmember Alvarez thanked the Planning Department for its hard work. He then asked City Manager Reents if Richland was the first of the three cities to receive the Animal Control Authority update, to which City Manager Reents replied in the affirmative. Councilmember Alvarez addressed the animal shelter advocates in the audience by saying that Council is working hard to resolve the issues mentioned. He also provided reasoning for the questions he asked during the ACA update. Councilmember Alvarez recognized an animal shelter volunteer in the audience and thanked him for his hard work.

Councilmember Lemley addressed the concerns and proposed solutions regarding animal control and the animal shelter mentioned during the public comments period.

Councilmember Christensen stated that Council is continually learning, and that it takes time to fully understand all aspects of the animal control issue. Councilmember Christensen asked that the animal shelter advocates please keep in mind that it was a challenge to find funding for the shelter years ago, and that the City is now faced with locating additional funding for other items in addition to the request for a larger animal control facility. Council will need more information on the proposed building before action can be taken.

Mayor Pro Tem Kent thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for providing comments. She agreed with previous statements made by councilmembers regarding the animal shelter. Mayor Pro Tem Kent stated that the library recently hosted a virtual reality session for the public, and asked Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl to provide information on the event. Mr. Schiessl replied that the library has a state of the art virtual reality system that is used many times throughout the year.

Mayor

Mayor Lukson expounded on several items approved under the consent agenda, including the 3.95 acres of property was recently sold in the Horn Rapids Industrial Park, \$310,000 spent to enhance pedestrian crossings, and \$750,000 on behalf of the Tri-Cities HOME Consortium to provide housing options for the homeless, which currently consists of sixteen micro homes being built in the region. Mayor Lukson then thanked the animal shelter advocates for attending the meetings and providing Council with information.

Adjournment

Mayor Lukson adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

APPROVED:



Ryan Lukson, Mayor

ATTESTED:



Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: February 18, 2019

DATE PUBLISHED: February 19, 2020