



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Richland City Hall ~ 625 Swift Boulevard

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

City Council Workshop - 7:00 p.m.

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

Attendance: Mayor Lukson, Mayor Pro Tem Kent, and Councilmembers Alvarez, Anderson, Christensen, Lemley and Thompson 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, Transportation & Development Manager West, Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl, Energy Services Director Whitney and City Clerk Rogers.

1. Executive Session Per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i): Discuss Current or Potential Litigation With Legal Counsel

COUNCILMEMBER THOMPSON MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:00 P.M. TO DISCUSS CURRENT OR POTENTIAL LITIGATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL FOR 20 MINUTES. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

COUNCILMEMBER THOMPSON MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO EXIT EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:20 P.M. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Those present during executive session included Mayor Lukson, Mayor Pro Tem Kent, and Councilmembers Anderson, Alvarez, Christensen, Lemley and Thompson. City Manager Reents, City Attorney Kintzley and Attorney Ken Harper were also present for the 20-minute executive session.

2. Columbia Park Trail Design Project Update

Transportation & Development Manager West shared the proposed design concept for the Columbia Park Trail - East Improvements project, and discussed the intended project schedule. A brief question and answer period for Council followed.

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

Mayor Lukson called the Council meeting to order at 7:30 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, Anderson, Christensen, Lemley and Thompson 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, Transportation & Development Manager West, Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl, Energy Services Director Whitney 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 THOMPSON MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Presentations

3. New Hire/Retirements

Administrative Services Director Cathleen Koch introduced the new hires for the month of February, which included: Risk & Safety Program Administrator Justin Tucker, and RFD Firefighter/EMTs Matthew Jubb, Kody Keaton, Chad Miller, Emily Nicoara, Dalton Reents, Eric Senner, John Togial and Benjamin Marcear.

There were three retirements for the month of February. Water Treatment Plant Mechanic II Dennis Crater and Police Sergeant Mike Harrison each retired with thirty (30) years of service to Richland. Tracia Nunnally retired after twenty-seven (27) years as a Firefighter/EMT with RFD.

Lastly, Administrative Services Director Koch announced that Brian Hedengren has joined the City Manager's Office to serve a 10-week internship.

4. Richland Arts Commission 2019 Contributions to the Arts Awards

Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl announced that the Richland Arts Commission honors one (1) organization and one (1) individual, on an annual basis, for their extraordinary contributions to the arts.

Dr. Jeff Kissel, Arts Commission Chair, and members of the Richland Arts Commission were in attendance to present both awards. Davin Diaz, founder of DrewBoy Creative, was the recipient of the Contributions in Support of the Arts Award for an organization.

Dr. Kissel listed DrewBoy Creative's numerous accomplishments since it began operating in Richland in 2015. Mr. Diaz acknowledged the support he has received from various individuals.

Dr. Kissel presented Luke Ray with the Individual Award for Contributions in Support of the Arts. Dr. Kissel shared that Mr. Ray has been instrumental in creating the Uptown Plaza's second Saturday Art Walk. Dr. Jeff Kissel then listed some of Mr. Ray's accomplishments and involvements within the arts community. Mr. Ray thanked individuals for their support.

Lastly, Dr. Kissel announced that the Contributions in Support of the Arts Award is now located in Carol Woodruff Plaza.

Mayor Lukson thanked the Arts Commission for its service to the community.

5. United Way 2020 Census Presentation

LoAnn Ayers, President & CEO of United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties, provided a brief presentation on the 2020 Census which begins on March 12, 2020. Ms. Ayers emphasized the importance of making sure everyone in the City is counted, and elaborated on the impact it makes on the community. Both state and federal funding are driven by the results of the census. Ms. Ayers further shared stated that in 2010, Franklin County had a non-responsive rate of 31%, and Benton County had a non-responsive rate of 26.4%. Funding received would address critical issues that are faced by a growing community.

Ms. Ayers explained various ways one would be able to participate in the census count, and how to avoid fraud and scams.

6. Census Week Proclamation

Mayor Lukson presented LoAnn Ayers, President & CEO of United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties, with a Census Week Proclamation.

Public Hearing

None.

Public Comments

City Clerk Rogers read the Public Comments procedure.

Cindi Anderson – 3121 Redhawk Drive, Richland, WA – Ms. Anderson stated that she

attended three different gatherings recently, and took those opportunities to describe the poor conditions of the animal shelter. She urged Council to keep its commitment and move forward without further delay with a new animal shelter.

Veronica Hanson-Pitkoff – 5310 W. 8th Ave., Kennewick – Ms. Hanson-Pitkoff thanked Council for listening to the concerns many have voiced about the animal shelter. She stated that she is looking forward to Mr. Ratkai's report, which will hopefully include a new design and location. She hopes that the new shelter will keep up with the growth of the Tri-Cities, and be a viable building for the next fifty years.

Candi Johns – Richland, WA – Ms. Johns stated that she has volunteered at the animal shelter for years, and has not seen any updates to the facility. Ms. Johns gave City Clerk Rogers a photo album to give to Councilmember Lemley, as he stated previously that he is not able to visit the shelter. Ms. Johns further welcomed Councilmember Lemley and anyone interested to view the photos. She thanked the Councilmembers for their time.

Tim Taylor – 462 Palm Drive, Richland, WA – Mr. Taylor stated that putting animals in the conditions they are in at shelter is the wrong thing to do, and urged Council to do the right thing. Mr. Taylor shared that he recently visited the shelter and had to launder his clothes afterwards because of the strong odors that lingered from his visit.

Elaine Getic – 548 Canyon Street, Richland, WA – Ms. Getic encouraged Council to give the animals a safe place to live until they find a permanent home.

Consent Calendar

City Clerk Rogers read the Consent Calendar.

COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER THOMPSON SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PUBLISHED. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Ordinances - First Reading

7. Ordinance No. 04-20, Amending Chapter 1.04 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Conduct of Council Business

Minutes

8. Approval of the Minutes from the February 18, 2020 City Council Meeting, the February 21, 2020 Council Retreat, and the February 25, 2020 Council Workshop

Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage

9. Ordinance No. 02-20, Amending the 2020 Budget to Increase Appropriations in the Water Fund

10. Ordinance No. 03-20, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 2.04.125 related to the Selection Process for Council Appointments

Resolutions - Adoption

11. Resolution No. 36-20, Authorizing a Water Pipeline Oversizing Agreement
12. Resolution No. 37-20, Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with JUB Engineers, Inc. for Design of Clubhouse Lane and Utilities Improvements
13. Resolution No. 41-20, Authorizing an Award of Bid to Magnum Power, LLC for Rebid: Dock Crew - Miscellaneous Projects.
14. Resolution No. 42-20, Authorizing the Submittal of an Application to the Washington State Department of Transportation Safety Grant Program

Items - Approval

None.

Expenditures - Approval

15. Expenditures from February 10, 2020 - February 21, 2020 for \$9,226,946.66 including Check Nos. 276683-277094, Travel Check Nos. 19906-19911, Wire Nos. 8016-8032, Payroll Check Nos. 161680-162225, and Payroll Wire/ACH Nos. 11384-11400.

Items of Business

Resolution No. 38-20, Authorizing a Facility Use Agreement with Tri-Cities Girls Fastpitch Softball Association.

Councilmember Christensen declared that he has been an officer of the Association for the last three decades, and will abstain from participating and voting on the proposed agreement.

Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl provided background information relating to creation of the proposed facility use agreement with Tri-Cities Girls Fastpitch Softball Association, including the fact that TCGFSA was supportive of the Agreement, and that the proposed FUA was on par with previous FUA's executed with Greater Richland Little League (GRLL), Richland National Little League (RNLL) and Richland Lacrosse.

COUNCILMEMBER THOMPSON MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM KENT SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 38-20, AUTHORIZING A FACILITY USE AGREEMENT WITH TRI-CITIES GIRLS FASTPITCH SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0. COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN ABSTAINED.

16. Resolution No. 39-20, Authorizing a Progressive Design-Build Agreement with DGR Grant Construction, Inc. to Design and Construct Public Safety Response Station Nos. 73 and 75

Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl announced that the City has been fortunate to continue to experience strong economic growth, and has become the third highest residential growth area in the State of Washington by county. This growth is attributed to Council's leadership, strategic planning, and thoughtful and deliberate decision-making.

Mr. Schiessl stated that the City currently operates four (4) fire stations, and is transitioning to incorporate police services into fire facilities as new facilities are constructed. During the 2020 budgeting process, Council approved capital improvement projects to replace current Station 73 in a new, more advantageous location a short distance away, and to build Station 75, which will be a new facility serving north-central Richland.

With construction of Station Nos. 73 and 75, the City will have a total of five (5) public facility response stations. The former Station 73 at Jadwin and McMurray will become surplus to the City's needs, and future decisions about the fate of that facility will need to be made.

As occurred with Station 74 and the new Richland City Hall, the City received authorization from the State to utilize progressive design-build, an alternative public works delivery method. DGR Grant Construction, a Richland-based company, best met the City's procurement requirements. ClearGov, a new tool recently procured by the City, will be launched on the website to allow public access to City projects, including budget information, project management information, project descriptions and timelines.

Fire Chief Huntington and Police Chief Bruce were present during Mr. Schiessl's presentation. The two chiefs represent both branches of public safety for the City of Richland, and are significant contributors to the project's development and ultimate success.

COUNCILMEMBER LEMLEY MOVED AND MAYOR PRO TEM KENT SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 39-20, AUTHORIZING A PROGRESSIVE DESIGN-BUILD AGREEMENT WITH DGR GRANT CONSTRUCTION, INC. TO DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT PUBLIC SAFETY RESPONSE STATION NOS. 73 AND 75. THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

Reports and Comments

City Manager

None.

City Council

Given recent concerns regarding the coronavirus, Mayor Pro Tem Kent encouraged citizens to look out for one another by being educated and staying informed. Safety of families and neighbors is paramount.

Councilmember Lemley stated that he was encouraged that a local company was awarded the bid for Station Nos. 73 and 75.

Councilmember Thompson reflected on recent discussions about roundabouts, bridges, and efforts to influence policy at the state level regarding transportation. Councilmember Thompson asked to receive information if a plan has been developed of which he is not aware. Regarding coronavirus, Councilmember Thompson advised people to seek out balanced information and make informed decisions.

Mayor

Mayor Lukson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Mayor Lukson encouraged citizens to continue to review Council's agenda because meeting times will soon change to 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Mayor Lukson adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

APPROVED:



Ryan Lukson, Mayor

ATTESTED:



Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: March 17, 2020

DATE PUBLISHED: March 18, 2020