



## **MINUTES**

### **RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

**Tuesday, November 3, 2020**

**Zoom- Public Telephone Access: (206) 337-9723 or (253) 215-8782**

**Meeting ID No. 969 0152 3221**

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#### **Closed Session - 5:45 p.m. via Zoom**

Richland City Council met in closed session for fifteen (15) minutes to discuss bargaining pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b). Those present during the closed session included Mayor Lukson, Councilmembers Alvarez, Boring, Christensen, Lemley and Thompson, City Manager Reents, Assistant City Manager Amundson and Administrative Services Director Koch.

#### **City Council Regular Meeting - 6:02 p.m.**

Mayor Lukson called the remote Council meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

#### **Welcome and Roll Call**

Mayor Lukson welcomed those joining the remote meeting and expressed appreciation for their attendance.

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

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

Also remotely 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 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 6-0.**

## **Presentations**

### **1. COVID-19 Update**

City Manager Reents provided an overview of information related to COVID-19, including the rising number of positive cases among young adults, an upcoming mask survey to determine the mask usage rate, the number of patients with COVID-19 admitted to hospitals, the number of tests administered at the testing sites, new grant opportunities made available by the Department of Commerce, CARES Acts funds allocated for utility assistance applicants in the City of Richland, and the reopening of the Richland Public Library at twenty-five percent (25%) capacity. City Manager Reents shared that the Benton-Franklin Health District is not attributing the increase in COVID-19 positive cases to the reopening of schools.

Councilmember Lemley stated that schools in Walla Walla were recently closed as a result of the rising numbers of COVID-19, and inquired if there are concerns with possible closures in the Richland School District. City Manager Reents replied that Dr. Person did not indicate there should be a reason for concern as the community spread was not within the schools. Mayor Lukson agreed with statements made by City Manager Reents, adding that he was in a meeting with Dr. Person earlier in the day, and Dr. Person confirmed that the increased spread of COVID-19 recently seen in the community is not occurring as a consequence of opening schools.

Councilmember Christensen asked whether staff was actively pursuing advancement to Phase 3 of Governor Inslee's *Safe Start* reopening plan. City Manager Reents shared that the city managers and county administrators discussed this topic at a recent meeting. However, because Governor Inslee has yet to release new phasing, the cities and county have not been able to develop a plan. Although the city manages continue to press for a plan to enter Phase 3, Benton County and the Benton-Franklin Health District have not yet taken the matter up.

Councilmember Christiansen questioned when in-person council meetings would resume. City Manager Reents replied that guidelines outlining in-person meetings can be found in Phase 3 and 4 of the *Safe Start* plan.

Mayor Lukson made a personal announcement regarding COVID-19.

## **Public Hearing**

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

### **2. Proposed 2021 Budget and 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Plan, Ordinance No. 46-20**

Administrative Services Director Koch presented on the Proposed 2021 Budget and 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Plan. City Manager Reents and Administrative Services

Director Koch answered questions from Council.

Mayor Lukson opened the public hearing at 6:37 p.m.

The following individuals submitted public hearing testimony urging the Richland City Council to allocate additional funds toward construction of a new Tri-Cities Animal Shelter.

Cindy Anderson - 3127 Redhawk Dr., Richland  
Kelly Arevalo - 106 Quincy St., Kennewick  
Kathy Batdorf - 592 Punkie Lane Richland  
Nicole Boggs - 8813 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Kennewick  
Cheyenne Brown - 514 Goethals, Richland  
Jennifer Chapa - 702 Cedar Ave., Richland  
Stephanie Clifford - 415 Sanford Ave., Richland  
Karen Cowan - 4501 Tamarack Rd., West Richland  
Moe Davari - 70104 E 710 PR NE, Richland  
Shannon Chapman Davari - 70104 E 710 PR NE, Richland  
Ragan Faylor - 315 Spokane St., Richland  
Pamela Frick - 1728 Alder Ave., Richland  
Lindsay Gailey - 5505 Oasis, West Richland  
Zachary Garland - 1108 Adams St., Richland  
Debra Gazur - 1920 Lassen Ave., Richland  
Dale Heaston – 1070 Allenwhite Dr. Richland  
Suzanne Heaston - 1070 Allenwhite Dr., Richland  
Haille Heid - 785 Canyon St., Richland  
Lisa Knuter-Peach - 190 Bitterrott Dr., Richland  
Noelle Kollmar - 204 Falley St., Richland  
Sherry Kowalski - 73518 N. Pederson Rd., West Richland  
Jordan Long - 212 S. Louisiana St., Kennewick  
Sue Mandell - 1642 Verona, Richland  
Kristin Manke - 1227 Jonagold Dr., Richland  
Evelyn Martinez - 7056 W. 31<sup>st</sup> Pl., Kennewick  
Amanda Nelson - 2043 Howell Ave., Richland  
Dick Nelson - 2043 Howell Ave., Richland  
Ethan Nelson - 2043 Howell Ave., Richland  
Jaimie Pincock - 250 Gage Blvd., Richland  
Patricia Ponte - 1557 Sacajawea Ave., Richland  
Laura Potter - 3020 S. 38<sup>th</sup> Ave., West Richland  
Kristin Privette - 1608 Milan Lane, Richland  
Ashley Schoenwald - 2300 Carriage Ave., Richland  
Shaleen Severson - 99608 E. Ridgeview Dr., Kennewick  
Stacie Sexton - 801 Stanton Ave., Richland  
Shayla Stelter - 5565 Shale, West Richland  
Carrie Stevey - 2101 S. Arthur Loop, Kennewick  
Deanie Sullivan - 1857 Kingston Rd., Richland  
Jonathan Ullman - 2101 S. Arthur Loop, Kennewick

Dorothy Vowels - 2412 Pullen St., Richland  
Julie Webb - 4972 McEwan Dr., Richland  
Shane Webb - 4972 McEwan Dr., Richland  
Mike Wingfield - 87 Waldron St., Richland  
Debbie Young - 1015 Sanford Ave., Richland

Mayor Lukson closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

3. Proposed 2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Southeast Washington Telecommunicators Guild (SEWTG), Resolution No. 148-20

Administrative Services Director Koch stated that the public hearing, which is required by Article VI of the Richland City Charter, was being held to solicit public comments on the proposed 2021 collective bargaining agreement with IUOE.

Mayor Lukson opened and closed the public hearing at 7:08 p.m. No testimony was offered.

4. Proposed 2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), Resolution No. 149-20

Administrative Services Director Koch stated that the public hearing, which is required by Article VI of the Richland City Charter, was being held to solicit public comments on the proposed 2021 collective bargaining agreement with SEWTG.

Mayor Lukson opened and closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m. No testimony was offered.

### **Public Comments**

None.

### **Consent Calendar**

City Clerk Rogers read the Consent Calendar.

**COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER THOMPSON SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PUBLISHED. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR LUKSON AND COUNCILMEMBERS ALVAREZ, BORING, CHRISTENSEN, LEMLEY AND THOMPSON. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

### **Minutes**

5. Approval of the October 20, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes and the October 27, 2020 Council Workshop Minutes

### **Ordinances - First Reading**

6. Ordinance No. 46-20, Approving the 2021 Budget and the 2021-2026 Capital Improvement Plan
7. Ordinance No. 47-20, Amending Chapter 2.04 of the Richland Municipal Code related to the City of Richland's Administrative Code

### **Ordinances - Second Reading & Passage**

8. Ordinance No. 35-20, Amending the 2020 Budget to Increase Appropriations in the General Fund, Stormwater Fund, Wastewater Fund, and Industrial Development Fund
9. Ordinance No. 37-20, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 18.16.080 related to the Restricted Use of Water for Irrigation Purposes
10. Ordinance No. 38-20, Approving the 2021 Ad Valorem Tax and Property Tax Levies
11. Ordinance No. 39-20, Determining Substantial Need in Setting the Limit Factor for the 2021 Tax Levy
12. Ordinance No. 40-20, Approving a Change to the 2021 Ad Valorem Tax over the Prior Year
13. Ordinance No. 41-20, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 9.26.020 related to Discharging Firearms
14. Ordinance No. 42-20, Amending Chapter 12.16 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Cleaning and Maintenance of Sidewalks and Property within the Public Rights-of-Way
15. Ordinance No. 43-20, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 7.03.010 related to the Definition of Potentially Dangerous Animal
16. Ordinance No. 44-20, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 9.06.075 related to Second Degree Criminal Trespass
17. Ordinance No. 45-20, Amending Richland Municipal Code Section 5.36.010 related to Special Lodging Assessments

### **Resolutions - Adoption**

18. Resolution No. 126-20, Authorizing a Consultant Agreement with Commonstreet Consulting, LLC for Right-of-Way Acquisition Services

19. Resolution No. 139-20, Approving the 2021 Tri-City Regional Hotel-Motel Commission Budget and Marketing Plan
20. Resolution No. 145-20, Approving a Second Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement for Establishment of a Tri-City Regional Tourism Promotion Area
21. Resolution No. 146-20, Updating Council Assignments for the 2020-2021 Calendar Years
22. Resolution No. 148-20, Approving the 2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Southeast Washington Telecommunicators Guild
23. Resolution No. 149-20, Approving the 2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers
24. Resolution No. 150-20, Adopting the City of Richland's 2021 Legislative Priorities
25. Resolution No. 151-20, Adopting the Street Light Standards Update Plan
26. Resolution No. 152-20, Authorizing a Grant Agreement with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission for Pedestrian Safety Funding
27. Resolution No. 153-20, Authorizing a Renewal Agreement with the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau for the Promotion of Tourism

**Items - Approval**

None.

**Expenditures - Approval**

None.

**Items of Business**

28. Resolution No. 147-20, Authorizing a Funding Agreement with Benton County for the Center Parkway - North - Gage to Tapteal Project

Public Works Director Rogalsky provided a brief overview of the proposed agreement with Benton County for rural county capital funds in support of the Center Parkway project. Interlocal agreements with the Port of Benton and Port of Kennewick are also scheduled to be presented for Council consideration at the November 17, 2020 City Council meeting. Major elements of work that remain includes property acquisitions, design and construction.

**COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTENSEN MOVED AND COUNCILMEMBER BORING SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 147-20. THOSE IN FAVOR: MAYOR LUKSON AND COUNCILMEMBERS ALVAREZ, BORING,**

**CHRISTENSEN, LEMLEY AND THOMPSON. THOSE OPPOSED: NONE. THE MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

## **Reports and Comments**

### ***City Manager***

City Manager Reents had no comments.

### ***City Council***

Councilmember Alvarez thanked those who submitted comments and emails relating to the animal shelter. Councilmember Alvarez stated that he fully supports the construction of a new animal shelter, but wants to be certain that the City of Richland is financially responsible in the process. Councilmember Alvarez shared his efforts to advocate for reallocation of city funds toward the project. Lastly, Councilmember Alvarez reassured the citizens that their comments are being heard, and he anticipates the City will proceed with plans to construct a new animal shelter facility.

Councilmember Boring announced that she toured the animal shelter earlier in the day and agrees with much of the testimony that was submitted in support of constructing a new animal shelter. Councilmember Boring added that she believes Council has always been in support of constructing a new shelter, it was doing its due diligence regarding funding and receiving answers to questions. Now that Council has received the needed information, Councilmember Boring believes Council can proceed.

Councilmember Thompson stated that Richland City Council has never been opposed to the construction of a new animal shelter. Instead, there were unanswered questions, and additional planning was needed before proceeding was an option. Councilmember Thompson shared his position that taking a fiscally responsible approach to the animal shelter's construction is a priority.

Councilmember Lemley commented that he fully supports construction of a new animal shelter.

### ***Mayor***

Mayor Lukson stated that despite the negative narrative being circulated, the Richland City Council is not opposed to constructing a new animal shelter facility. City Council is engaging in due diligence by conducting research and seeking answers to questions before proceeding.

## **Executive Session**

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

Richland City Council convened into executive session with retained legal counsel at 7:32 p.m. to discuss current or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). Those present during the executive session included Mayor Lukson, Councilmembers Alvarez, Boring, Christensen, Lemley and Thompson, and attorney Ann Marie Soto.

Council exited executive session at 8:08 p.m.

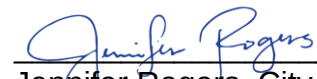
**Adjournment**

Mayor Lukson adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
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Ryan Lukson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: November 17, 2020

DATE PUBLISHED: November 18, 2020