



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

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

Meeting ID No. 505 625 7380

City Council Regular Workshop Meeting - 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Mayor Alvarez called the remote Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Also remotely present were Assistant City Manager Florence, City Attorney Kintzley, Fire Chief Huntington, Development Services Director Jensen, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl, Energy Services Director Whitney, Human Resources Director Paulsen, Deputy Chief of Police Clary, Police Commander Schwarzer, Police Sergeant Swanson, Economic Development Manager Wallner, and City Clerk Rogers.

Agenda Items

1. Homelessness Presentation by Benton County

Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl provided a recap of the homelessness information presented at the September 17, 2021 City Council Fall Retreat. Information regarding the impacts of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and the Washington State Supreme Court's rulings on homelessness was communicated. The City is prohibited from enforcing ordinances that have the effect of criminalizing homelessness. Governor Inslee's 2022 Homeless Housing Agenda was included in the packet.

Parks & Public Facilities Director introduced Benton County Manager of Human Services Kyle Sullivan to present the *Benton & Franklin Counties' Five-Year Plan to End Homelessness Plan*. Mr. Sullivan also spoke about Benton County's sales tax and use tax which will fund chemical dependency and mental health treatment services. Mr. Sullivan added that he would be interested in presenting an annual update to Council regarding the current projects, challenges, and successes of Benton County's *Five-Year Plan to End Homelessness*.

Council engaged in a question and answer session with Mr. Sullivan throughout the presentation.

2. Charter Amendments

City Attorney Kintzley provided a brief overview of the charter amendment discussion held during the September 17, 2021 City Council Fall Retreat. City Attorney Kintzley reminded

Council that, at the conclusion of the presentation in September, she was directed to bring the matter back after the first of the year to determine whether the newly constituted Council wanted to pursue amendments to the City Charter in 2022. After discussion, Council reached a consensus that charter amendments were not necessary at this time.

3. Council Assignments

City Attorney Kintzley facilitated a discussion with Council regarding assignments to various internal and external boards, commissions and committees for the 2022-2023 calendar years. Council discussed proposed assignments and provided feedback for preparation of a resolution to formalize the assignments at the February 1, 2022 Council meeting.

Adjournment

Mayor Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

APPROVED:



Michael Alvarez, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: February 1, 2022

DATE PUBLISHED: February 2, 2022