



MINUTES

RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR WORKSHOP MEETING

Tuesday, February 22, 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

Due to technical difficulties experienced by Mayor Alvarez at the start of the meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Christensen called the remote Council Workshop meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

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

Also remotely present were City Manager Amundson, Assistant City Manager Florence, Fire Chief Huntington, Public Works Director Rogalsky, Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl, Energy Services Director Whitney, Interim Chief of Police Clary, Library Manager Nulph, Transportation & Development Manager D'Alessandro, and City Clerk Rogers.

Agenda Items

1. Recommendation from Library Board of Trustees to Eliminate Fines for Late Material

Parks & Public Facilities Director Schiessl introduced the topic and turned the floor over to Library Manager Nulph, who provided an overview of the proposed recommendation to eliminate fines for late materials at the Richland Public Library. Eliminating fines for late materials will increase the number of citizens who are eligible to utilize the Library's resources and reduce the number of items that are never returned. This practice has been embraced by an increasing number of libraries across the state and country.

Library Manager Nulph invited Library Board of Trustees Chair Kurt Maier to provide additional comments. Mr. Maier voiced support of the proposal to eliminate fines for late materials in the Richland Public Library.

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

2. Washington State University Property Development – Property Transfer Proposal

With the aid of a PowerPoint Presentation, Public Works Director Rogalsky provided background information regarding the 1993 land transfer to Washington State University (WSU) for the benefit of the college branch campus. Public Works Director Rogalsky also expounded on the transfer provisions and the quitclaim deed's revisionary clause that was removed by vote of Council in 2019.

Lastly, Public Works Director Rogalsky shared a current WSU proposal to receive additional property from the City to resolve all claims surrounding the initial transfer in 1993 and the presence of wetlands on the conveyed property. The proposed land transfer includes 1.7 acres near the North Richland Slow Sand Filtration Facility. Transferring these this 1.7-acre property to WSU would significantly improve the value of the adjacent WSU property.

Public Works Director Rogalsky, WSU Tri-Cities Chancellor Sandra Haynes, and Interim Vice-Chancellor for Finance and Administration Damien Sinnott engaged in a question and answer session with Council.

3. Local Roads Safety Plan – WSDOT City Safety Grant Program

With the aid of a PowerPoint Presentation, Public Works Director Rogalsky provided a detailed overview of the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) Safety grant program. The 2022 WSDOT City Safety Program is funded at \$35 million through Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program funding. The Program's focus is to reduce fatal and serious injury collisions on city streets using engineered infrastructure improvements and countermeasures.

Preparation of a Local Road Safety Plan is required to be eligible for grant funds. Richland's Local Road Safety Plan includes a thorough analysis of the past five (5) years of crashes in the City. The City's Plan recommends projects for grant applications that will contribute toward successful achievement of the City's fundamental objectives.

A resolution will be presented for Council review and approval at the March 1, 2022 City Council regular meeting.

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

Adjournment

Mayor Alvarez adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

APPROVED:



Michael Alvarez, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

DATE APPROVED: March 1, 2022

DATE PUBLISHED: March 2, 2022