

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 3, 2023**

1. Call to Order –

Mayor Gerry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call –

Present:

Mayor Brent Gerry
Mayor Pro Tem Fred Brink
Councilmember Richard Bloom
Councilmember David Fetto
Councilmember May Hays
Councilmember Kate Moran
Councilmember John Smart
Councilmember Ken Stoker

Attorney Mike Rio
City Clerk Stephanie Haug
Police Chief Thomas Grego
Finance Director Erin Gwinn
Associate Planner Elisha Ransom
Public Works Director Roscoe Slade

3. Pledge of Allegiance –

Mayor Pro Tem Brink led the council, staff, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda –

Mayor Pro Tem Brink moved to approve the agenda as presented. It was seconded by Councilmember Bloom. Council unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

5. Presentations-

a. Benton REA – Ownership Check

Troy Berglund from Benton REA presented a check for ownership credits to the city in the amount of \$7,857.10. Mayor Gerry and Mr. Berglund also took a moment to recognize Councilwoman May Hays’ retirement from Benton REA/the West Richland Chamber of Commerce with kind words and a plaque.

6. Consent Agenda – Mayor Gerry read the consent agenda titles for consideration:

a. Payment of Bills

Description	Check Number(s)	Amount
Accounts Payable Checks	72352-72458	\$860,583.75
Accounts Payable Voids	71904	\$(180.00)
Manual Payroll	16812-16820	\$16,699.17
Electronic Wire Payments	APPKT01843,1864,1869,1871,1877,1890,1891,1892,1893,1895,1903,1916,1918,1922,1924,1925,1927	\$400,036.32
Direct Deposit		\$334,658.35
LGIP, Bank Fee & Q3 Transfer		\$84,622.14
Total		\$1,696,419.73

b. Approve Minutes - Regular Meeting –December 6, 2022 & Workshop December 13, 2022

c. Motion to approve 2023-2024 Strategic Focus Areas

d. Motion to award Bombing Range Road & Keene Road Intersection Modification Project

e. Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign an Interlocal between Benton Co and City of West Richland for District Court Services

f. RES. 01-23 – (Corrected)- Utility Easement Vacation VACA-009-2022 (Gjerdevig)

RESOLUTION NO. 01-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, VACATING A PORTION OF A 30-FOOT-WIDE PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED ON SHORT PLAT 3223, LOT 2 PARCEL NUMBER 1-0698-301-3223-002.

Councilmember Bloom moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the consent agenda.

- 7. **Citizen Public Comments** – There were no citizen comments.
- 8. **Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions and Public Hearings-** There were no ordinances, resolutions, motions, or public hearings.
- 9. **Unfinished Business** – There was no unfinished business.
- 10. **New Business** – There was no new business.
- 11. **Citizen Public Comments** – There were no citizen comments during this comment period.

12. Announcements, Reports & Comments

Staff Reports

Finance Director Erin Gwinn announced that the State Auditor’s Office Exit Conference for the city’s recent audit will be Tuesday, January 10th and asked that if any of the Councilmember’s plan to attend, that they notify Stephanie to adjust for a quorum if necessary.

City Clerk Stephanie Haug reported that the workshop that had been scheduled for January 10th has been postponed until January 24th to allow the Richland School District to use the Council Chambers for their board meeting, as they had experienced a pipe break and flood in their board room.

Council Reports

Councilmember Moran spoke of the lack of warming centers available in our region, specifically in West Richland and hoped that the city could help with that in the future.

Councilmember Bloom inquired about the use of the Noski Community room at the police facility, as the BFT building will be torn down soon for the construction of the new facility and other organizations may need a space to rent.

Councilmember Smart thanked Erin for providing the financial background for the District Court agreement and spoke of his interest in developing a park maintenance cost matrix to use for making maintenance decisions moving forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink reported he will be attending the AWC Mayor’s Exchange on behalf of Mayor Gerry next week in Olympia, which is in conjunction with the Washington State Legislative Session. He also plans to attend the City Action Days event next month, which AWC hosts and allows elected officials opportunities to communicate with the legislators.

Mayor Gerry reported that the City Managers and Administrators from the other jurisdictions were working on the regional legislative priorities and thanked the Public Works department for all their work during the winter storms we experienced over the last several weeks keeping the streets clear.

- 13. **Executive Session** – There was no executive session.

- 14. **Meeting Conclusion-** The meeting concluded at 6:22 p.m.



Brent Gerry, Mayor



Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk