

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND
REMOTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 2021**

- 1. Call to Order** – Mayor Brent Gerry called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
- 2. Roll Call** –

Present:

Mayor Brent Gerry	Police Chief Ben Majetich
Mayor Pro Tem Fred Brink	Finance Director Erin Gwinn
Councilmember Richard Bloom	Public Works Director Roscoe Slade
Councilmember Gail Brown	Comm. Dev. Director Eric Mendenhall
Councilmember Rich Buel	Associate Planner Elisha Ransom
Councilmember David Fetto	City Clerk Stephanie Haug
Councilmember Kate Moran	City Attorney Bronson Brown
Councilmember John Smart	

- 3. Pledge of Allegiance** – Mayor Brent Gerry led the council, staff, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 4. Approval of Agenda** – *Upon motion by Mayor Pro Tem Brink, seconded by Councilor Smart, Council unanimously approved the agenda.*
- 5. Presentation**- There were no presentations.
- 6. Consent Agenda** – Mayor Brent Gerry read the consent agenda titles for consideration.
 - a.** Approve Minutes-
 - Reg. Meeting of December 15TH, 2020
 - Special Meeting of December 17TH, 2020
 - b.** **ORD. 01-21**-Relating to Speed Limit on portion of Keene Road
ORDINANCE NO. 01-21- AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO SPEED LIMIT ON A PORTION OF KEENE ROAD, AMENDING SECTIONS 10.08.050(F), 10.08.060(B) AND 10.08.065(C) AND ADDING SECTION 10.08.050(1) OF THE WEST RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE.
 - c.** Motion to authorize Mayor to execute Franchise Agreement with Benton County
 - d.** Motion to award Engineering Services Contract for Water System Plan Update
 - e.** Motion to award Engineering Services Contract for General Sewer System Plan
 - f.** **RES. 01-21** –Approve Wainwright Short Plat Security Agreement
RESOLUTION NO. 01-21- A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND EXECUTE A SECURITY AND IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT.
 - g.** **RES. 02-21** –Setting Public Hearing Date- Utility Easement Vacation (EV 2020-17)
RESOLUTION NO. 02-21- A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO CONSIDER A UTILITY EASEMENT VACATION ON SHORT PLAT #1950 LOTS 3 AND 4, PARCEL NUMBERS 1-0898-401-1950-003 AND 1-0898-401-1950-004.

Upon motion by Councilmember Brown, and seconded by Councilmember Moran, Council unanimously approved the consent agenda.

7. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, MOTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS-

a. Public Hearing for CB Group, LLC Access Easement Vacation (VACA 05-2020)

Associate Planner Elisha Ransom presented an ordinance for public hearing and action to vacate a portion of the 30' access easements on lots 4 and 5 and a 20' access easement in the northeast corner of lot 1 of Short Plat 526. The easement on lot 4 is located along the south boundary and the easement on lot 5 is located along the north boundary. Staff completed all procedural requirements and recommends approval of the resolution.

Mayor Brent Gerry opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m.

There were no comments.

Mayor Brent Gerry closed the hearing at 6:09 p.m.

b. ORD. 02-21- CB Group, LLC Access Easement Vacation (VACA 05-2020)

ORDINANCE NO. 02-21- AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, VACATING THE 30 FOOT WIDE ACCESS EASEMENTS LOCATED IN SHORT PLAT 525 LOTS 4 AND 5, PARCEL NUMBERS 1-0197-302-0000-004 AND 1-0197-302-0000-005; AND A 20 FOOT WIDE ACCESS EASEMENT LOCATED IN SHORT PLAT 526 LOT 1, PARCEL NUMBER 1-0197-302-0001-000.

Councilmember Moran moved to approve Ordinance 02-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Fetto. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

c. ORD. 03-21- 2021/2022 Budget Amendment

Finance Director Gwinn presented a staff report on a proposed 2021-2022 Budget Amendment

ORDINANCE NO. 03-21- AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink moved to approve Ordinance 03-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Buel. Council held a discussion regarding concerns with the changes and potential effects on impacted departments. Council also commented that they believe a committee meeting on the topic would have been warranted. The motion passed with Councilmembers Bloom, Brink, Buel, Fetto, Moran and Smart voting yea and Councilmember Brown voting nay.

8. Unfinished Business – There was no unfinished business.

9. New Business –

a. Periodic Shoreline Management Plan Update

Community Development Director Eric Mendenhall presented a staff report on the Shoreline Management Plan Periodic Update. Councilmember Bloom commented on the National Autobahn Society and Councilmember Brink inquired about the number of written comments. Councilmember Moran requested the track changes version. Director Mendenhall will be sending the track changes as well as the PowerPoint presentation to Council.

10. Citizen Public Comments- No citizens provided comment at or for this meeting.

11. Announcements, Reports & Comments

a. Council Reports

Councilmember Bloom spoke about the area surrounding lot 79 on the consent agenda. He is concerned about more asphalt with the groundwater issues he is experiencing in his crawl

space. He indicated the groundwater continues to be an issue.

Councilmember Brown attended the virtual Good Roads State Conference. There were several state level people presenting. She reported that there is an approximately \$7.6 billion dollar shortfall, there's a 64% decrease in transit because of COVID and that the panelists spoke of WSDOT trying to move away from maintaining fish culverts around the state for budgetary reasons. She also reported the importance of the extra-wide white striping on the roadways for electric cars. She was elected to the Benton County Executive Board for Good Roads. She also attended the local Renters Association meeting and reported that lots of long-term landlords are selling out due to the eviction moratorium and it's going to effect the rental market because they are selling them for hirer amounts, resulting in hirer mortgages and rent.

Councilmember Moran attended a BFCOG meeting where they reviewed the Community & Economic Development Strategies. They reviewed the unemployment claims for 2020. They have a new Executive Director, Michelle Holt, and will be having a meet & greet sometime soon. Council members should contact Stephanie at BFCOG if they'd like more information about attending. She also mentioned that this is an election year, and now would be the time to review a change of the form of government, and the potential of forming a Metropolitan Park District. These could be discussed at a future Council retreat. She also volunteered to assist in reviewing the parks for opportunities to xeriscape to save money on irrigation.

Councilmember Smart suggested the Collins Road BLM area as a possible conservation area/native area park with a trail. He also asked about possible changes to the building code to address the groundwater issues like on lot 79 or others where there's a potential for elevated groundwater. He also stated that he doesn't believe we are currently in a state of emergency in regards to COVID, although it is important to follow CDC guidelines.

Councilmember Moran mentioned that the City of Pasco is considering a hybrid meeting approach, with some members attending the meetings in person, and others remaining virtual. She asked if West Richland is looking into this option, with the possibility of contracting out A/V services.

b. Staff Reports

Public Works Director Slade reported on some legislative items, including possible inclusion of the Well 10 project in the Governor's' budget. On January 14th we should hear more on the State Transportation Budget for SR224. He also reported that after about 18 months, the Department of Ecology has finally submitted the NPDES for staff review.

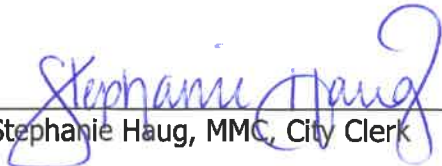
Mayor Gerry forwarded information from the BFHD regarding the vaccine distribution. The Health District is now a recipient of the vaccines and part of the distribution plan. He also sent information to Council regarding the Governor's new COVID plan.

12. Executive Session – There was no executive session.

13. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.



Brent Gerry, Mayor



Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk

