

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND  
REMOTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021**

- 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 Gail Brown  
Councilmember Rich Buel  
Councilmember David Fetto  
Councilmember Kate Moran  
Councilmember John Smart

Police Chief Ben Majetich  
Finance Director Erin Gwinn  
Public Works Director Roscoe Slade  
Comm. Dev. Director Eric Mendenhall  
Associate Planner Elisha Ransom  
City Clerk Stephanie Haug  
City Attorney Michael Rio  
*(for Bronson Brown)*

- 3. Pledge of Allegiance** –

Mayor Gerry led the council, staff, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 4. Approval of Agenda** –

Mayor Gerry received requests to move items 6b and 6g off of the consent agenda. They will be moved to items 7e and 7f. Also, an update to item 6c was sent to Council and should be noted.

*Upon motion by Mayor Pro Tem Brink, seconded by Councilor Smart, Council unanimously approved the amended agenda.*

- 5. Presentations** -

- a.** Peter King- AWC- Award Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership to Mayor Pro Tem Brink  
Mr. King presented Mayor Pro Tem Brink his Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership. Only approximately 350 elected officials in the state of earned the Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership since its inception.
- b.** Michael Novakovich- Visit Tri-Cities- Annual Report  
Mr. Novakovich presented the Visit Tri-Cities Annual Report and Work Plan. City Council thanked him for his team's hard work over the past year, including the regional COVID messaging, as well as adapting their marketing messages to meet the restrictions put in place by the pandemic.

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

- a.** Approve Minutes- Regular Meeting March 16, 2021, Special Meeting March 16th, 2021, Special Meeting March 23, 2021 & Workshop March 23, 2021
- b.** *Moved to item 7e*
- c.** **RES. 13- 21** – Inter-local Agreement with City of Richland – Signal Programming Assistance  
**RESOLUTION NO. 13-21-** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT REGARDING TRAFFIC SIGNAL TECHNICAL AND PROGRAMMING ASSISTANCE WITH THE CITY OF RICHLAND.
- d.** Motion to authorize Mayor to execute professional services contract with Northwest Groundwater Services LLC for Well #2
- e.** Motion to authorize Mayor to execute amendment #1 to professional services contract with JUB for

SR 224 Record of Survey.

- f. Motion to authorize Mayor to execute amendment #1 to professional services contract for Biosolids Removal Contract – Natural Selection Farms Inc.
- g. *Moved to item 7f*

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

**7. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, MOTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS-**

- a. **ORD. 11- 21-** 2021/2022 Biennial Budget Amendment

Finance Director Erin Gwinn presented an ordinance amending the 2021/2022 Biennial Budget, an amendment to true up carryover from 2020 for all funds. This amendment authorizes an increase in the 2021/2022 appropriation in the amount of \$7,278,130 and recognizes an increase in total resources in the amount of \$11,068,801 bringing the revised budget to a total of \$83,877,455.

**ORDINANCE NO. 11-21** -AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022.

*Councilmember Moran moved to approve Ordinance 11-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Fetto. Council held a discussion on the various amendments, and then unanimously approved Ordinance 11-21.*

- b. **Public Hearing** – Interim Development Regulations Finding of Fact: Transmission Lines

Community Development Director Eric Mendenhall presented an ordinance adopting the Findings of Fact to support the Interim Development Regulation for Transmission Line use and amends the West Richland Municipal Code.

Mayor Brent Gerry opened the public hearing at 6:54 p.m.

There were no comments.

Mayor Brent Gerry closed the hearing at 6:54 p.m.

- c. **ORD. 12- 21-** Interim Development Regulations Finding of Fact: Transmission Lines

**ORDINANCE NO. 12-21-** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS TO SUPPORT AN EMERGENCY INTERIM DEVELOPMENT REGULATION (AS ADOPTED IN ORDINANCE NO. 8-21), CREATING A DEFINITION FOR TRANSMISSION LINES, ESTABLISHING DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS FOR, AND ALLOWING ITS USE AS A CONDITIONAL USE IN ALL ZONING DISTRICTS WITHIN THE CITY, AND CONFIRMING THE MAINTENANCE OF THE INTERIM DEVELOPMENT REGULATION FOR SIX MONTHS AFTER INITIAL IMPOSITION AS THE EFFECTIVE PERIOD.

*Councilmember Bloom moved to approve Ordinance 12-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Smart. City Council unanimously approved Ordinance 12-21.*

- d. Setting the 2021 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Docket

Community Development Director Eric Mendenhall presented a staff report of the proposed 2021 Comprehensive Plan amendment docket. Proposed Amendments include map amendments for Tieggs, Wood-Bush, Markel and 7HA Family, LLC, and text amendments as proposed by the City of West Richland.

*Councilmember Brown moved to approve forwarding the Comprehensive Plan proposed*

*amendments as the 2021 Docket to the Planning Commission for review and processing, together with the associated area-wide rezone. It was seconded by Councilmember Moran. After a brief discussion, City Council unanimously approved the motion.*

- e. **ORD. 10- 21-** Amendment to WRMC 9.40 and 9.44 Possession of Marijuana and Drug Paraphernalia  
Police Chief Majetich, with City Attorney Rio, presented an ordinance for approval updating the City's regulations in response to the recent State v. Blake case law changes.

**ORDINANCE NO. 10-21-** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON AMENDING SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 9.40 AND CHAPTER 9.44 CRIMES OF POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OF THE WEST RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE

*Councilmember Brown moved to approve Ordinance 10-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Bloom. City Council discussed whether or not to change the "his" or "her" references to "their." It was determined to leave as prepared by the City's legal counsel. City Council unanimously approved Ordinance 10-21.*

- f. Flat Top Park Deed Restriction

Community Development Director Eric Mendenhall presented a proposed deed restriction for Flat Top Park, as recommended by Staff and the Parks and Recreation Board.

Citizen Peggy Panisko submitted written comments opposed to this deed restriction.

*Councilmember Bloom moved to authorize the Mayor to sign and record the proposed deed restriction for Flat Top Park as presented. It was seconded by Councilmember Fetto. City Council discussed the need for the deed restriction, and unanimously voted NAY to the motion to authorize the Mayor to sign and record the proposed deed restriction for Flat Top Park.*

- 8. **Unfinished Business** – There was no unfinished business.
- 9. **New Business** – There was no new business.
- 10. **Citizen Public Comments-** There were no citizen comments.
- 11. **Announcements, Reports & Comments**

- a. **Staff Reports**

Public Works Director Slade reported that the City had received favorable bids for the 38<sup>th</sup> Signal project and the project will come before Council on April 20<sup>th</sup> to award the bid. He also reported that the project will take longer than originally planned due to manufacturing delays of the signal components. He also informed Council that the Utility Committee will be meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> for a general Public Works update.

- b. **Council Reports**

Councilmember Bloom reported that Benton County Mosquito Control now is using a large drone to apply pellets along the river. They are currently borrowing Franklin County's drone, but theirs should be arriving this week. He also reported that Ben Franklin Transit is continuing their vaccination access program, and that they are still unable to provide rides to the fairgrounds site due to the mass vaccination site protocols.

Councilmember Moran informed Council that she will get her second shot on Saturday thanks to the Walla Walla VA and she reminds veterans of all ages that they have the opportunity to also get vaccinated through their VA health benefits. She also thanked Mosquito Control for using the

pellets instead of the spray, as the pellets have less of an effect on bees. (Councilmember Bloom indicated that they do still in fact use the spray, but they do it in the evenings after the bees have returned to their hives and they apply a barrier to protect them.

Councilmember Brown relayed topics that were brought up at the lobbying session the week prior, including homelessness/HB 1220, transportation updates, and also suggested having a discussion, as Councilwoman Moran had previously stated, on changing the form of government. She indicated that with the City growing like it is, it is worth discussing, especially with it being an election year.

Councilmember Fetto mentioned that the President announced that as of May 4<sup>th</sup>, he wants all adults to be eligible, but as of April 15<sup>th</sup>, all Washingtonians 16 and older will be eligible. He also thanked Chief Majetich for posting construction updates on Facebook.

Councilmember Smart inquired about the upcoming utility meeting if traffic sensors could be mentioned. He also mentioned that it is almost campaign season, and the importance of providing information on current sign regulations for candidates. He also would like to participate in the change of government discussion, but also indicated he didn't think it was a top priority.

Councilmember Moran mentioned that a citizen had contacted her regarding the Brotherhood neighborhood and they wanted to make sure that Council didn't forget about them. She stated that the Council values all of the city residents and that the City Council needs to always remember the residents north of Van Giesen when making decisions.

Mayor Gerry provided a follow-up on HB 1220, as well as an update on the mass vaccination site, including the addition of Johnson and Johnson vaccine availability. COVID case rates seem to be doing ok, and he doesn't anticipate the Counties moving back into Phase 2.

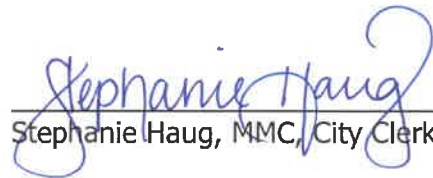
**12. Executive Session** – There was no executive session.

**13. Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



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Brent Gerry, Mayor



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Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk