

CITY OF WEST RICHLAND

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 6, 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

City Attorney Jessica Foltz

Finance Director Erin Gwinn

Comm. Dev. Director Eric Mendenhall

Police Chief Thomas Grego

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade

City Clerk Stephanie Haug

Comm. Dev. Planner Elisha Ransom

3. Pledge of Allegiance –

Councilmember Fetto led the council, staff, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda –

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

5. Presentations-

- a. **Visit Tri-Cities** – Kevin Lewis presented the Visit Tri-Cities Annual Report numbers and provided information to Council regarding the programs Visit Tri-Cities operates.
- b. **1st Quarter Financial Presentation** – Finance Director Gwinn presented the First Quarter Financial report to the City Council. Revenues are currently down and are being monitored.

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

- a. **Approve Minutes** - Regular Meeting May 16, 2023
- b. **ORD. 10-23** – Updating Afterhours Service Times for Utilities

ORDINANCE NO. 10-23

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON AMENDING SECTION 13.90.130 (A) TERMINATION, DISCONNECTION, AND RECONNECTION – PAYMENT REQUIRED AND SECTION 13.90.140 TEMPORARY DISCONTINUANCE OF WATER, SEWER, AND GARBAGE SERVICE OF THE WEST RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE

- c. **RES. 33-23** - Authorizing Mayor to execute Memorandum of Agreement between Cities of Richland, Pasco, Kennewick, and West Richland with Franklin Conservation District for Public Education Program Services.

RESOLUTION NO. 33-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND AUTHORIZING AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITIES OF PASCO, RICHLAND, KENNEWICK, WEST RICHLAND, AND FRANKLIN CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM SERVICES.

- d. **RES. 34-23** - Amending the 2023-2024 Salary Schedule to change Permit Technician II to Permit Technician.

RESOLUTION NO. 34-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE 2023-2024 SALARY SCHEDULE.

- e. Motion to accept Belmont Business District Improvement Project as complete.
- f. Motion to authorize Mayor to sign MOU with Greater Columbia Region Municipalities Opioid Abatement Council (OAC)
Councilmember Bloom moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Moran seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the consent agenda.

7. Citizen Public Comments –

Pat Carranza presented information on invalidating Ordinance 10-20 and provided the city with a packet of information explaining her position.

Tex – asked Council for help in reducing speeding on 38th Avenue.

8. Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions, and Public Hearings

a. Public Hearing - 2024-2029 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade presented a staff report on the 2024-2029 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan.

Mayor Gerry opened the public hearing @ 6:54 pm

There were no comments.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink closed the public hearing @ 6:54 pm

b. RES. 35-23 – Adopting 2024-2029 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan

RESOLUTION NO. 35-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE CITY'S 2024-2029 SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

Councilmember Moran moved to pass Resolution 35-23, adopting the 2024-2029 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 35-23.

c. Public Hearing –Frontage improvement waiver–Lot 74, Section 6 (S. 58th Ave & Everett St)

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade presented a staff report on the Frontage improvement Waiver request for Lot 74, Section 6 (S. 58th Ave & Everett Street).

Mayor Gerry opened the public hearing @ 6:57 pm

Roy Cohn attempted to comment, but his audio via Zoom was garbled. Mayor Gerry suggested that he call the meeting phone number, which City Clerk Haug recited several times. After waiting a few minutes for a new audio connection, and upon not seeing one,

Mayor Gerry closed the public hearing @ 7:02 pm

d. RES. 36-23 -Granting a frontage improvement waiver–Lot 74, Sect. 6 (S. 58th Ave & Everett St)

RESOLUTION NO. 36- 23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, GRANTING A FRONTAGE IMPROVEMENT WAIVER FOR FRONTAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO N. 58TH AVE AND EVERETT STREET PER WRMC 12.04.060 FOR LOT 74, PLAT OF SECTION 6.

Councilmember Moran moved to pass Resolution 36-23, granting a frontage improvement waiver for Lot 74, Section 6 (S. 58th Ave & Everett Street). Councilmember Fetto seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 36-23.

e. Public Hearing - Utility Easement Vacation for VACA-001-2023

Planner Elisha Ransom presented a staff report on the request to vacate a utility easement on Willamette Heights Section 6, Lot 142 (Parcel No: 106983020142000). The easement sought to be vacated is the west 20 feet of the east 30 feet and the north 20 feet of the south 30 feet of Willamette Heights Section 6, Lot 142.

Mayor Gerry opened the public hearing @ 7:07 pm

Roy Cohn attempted to comment, but his audio was still garbled.

Mayor Gerry closed the public hearing @ 7:09 pm

f. RES. 37-23 - Utility Easement Vacation for VACA-001-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 37-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, VACATING A PORTION OF A 33-FOOT-WIDE PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED ON WILLAMETTE HEIGHTS SECTION 6, LOT 142, PARCEL NUMBER 1-0698-302-0142-000.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink moved to pass Resolution 37-23, vacating a portion of a 33-foot-wide public utility easement located on Willamette Heights Section 6, lot 142, parcel number 1-0698-302-0142-000. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. After a brief discussion regarding comments received and the lack of comments received, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 37-23.

g. Public Hearing - Utility Easement Vacation for VACA-002-2023

Planner Elisha Ransom presented a staff report on the request to vacate a utility easement on 803 Creer Way, legal description Western Ridge Phase 2, Lot 35 (Parcel No: 101973030000035). The easements sought to be vacated are a 20-foot-wide storm drain easement within lot 35 of the plat of Western Ridge Phase 2, and a five-foot-wide irrigation easement within lot 35 of the plat of Western Ridge Phase 2.

Mayor Gerry opened the public hearing @ 7:15 pm

There were no comments.

Mayor Gerry closed the public hearing @ 7:15 pm

h. RES. 38-23 - Utility Easement Vacation for VACA-002-2023

RESOLUTION NO. 38-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, VACATING A 20-FOOT-WIDE STORMWATER EASEMENT AND A FIVE-FOOT-WIDE IRRIGATION EASEMENT LOCATED ON WESTERN RIDGE PHASE 2, LOT 35, PARCEL NUMBER 1-0197-303-0000-035.

Councilmember Bloom moved to pass Resolution 38-23, vacating a 20-foot-wide stormwater easement and a five-foot-wide irrigation easement located on Western Ridge Phase 2, lot 35, parcel number 1-0197-303-0000-035. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 38-23.

i. ORD. 11-23 - Amending 2023-2024 Biennial Budget and Motion to award Everett Street Pressure Sewer Project

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade presented a staff report on awarding the Everett Street Pressure Sewer Project, which requires a budget amendment as shown in proposed Ordinance 11-23.

ORDINANCE NO.11-23

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink moved to pass Ordinance 11-23 amending the City of West Richland 2023-2024 Biennial Budget-Amendment #3 and to award the Everett Street Pressure Sewer Project to the low bidder, Goodman & Mehlenbacher, in the amount of \$96,553.86 including sales tax and authorize the Mayor to execute the contract. Councilmember Stoker seconded the motion. After a brief discussion on future costs to connect and the number of connections needed to recoup the cost of the project, Council voted 6-0 to approve Ordinance 11-23 and to award the Everett Street Pressure Sewer Project. Councilmember Bloom abstained from voting due to owning property that could benefit from the project.

9. Unfinished Business – There was no unfinished business.

10. New Business – There was no new business.

11. Citizen Public Comments

John Clark – Owner of lot 74 referenced for the frontage waiver. Indicated he felt forced to sign the waiver and is disappointed he now lost his right to vote no for an LID.

Pat Carranza discussed the legality of the Willamette Heights plat and the City’s authority regarding the easements.

12. Announcements, Reports & Comments

Staff Reports

Chief Tom Grego provided information on the number of tickets issued recently on 38th (3).

Community Development Director Eric Mendenhall reported that the survey will be open for an additional week to gather more responses.

Council Reports

Councilmember Fetto stated that he was installed as a West Richland Board Member at the meeting earlier in the day, and he will attend the Chamber luncheon at noon on June 7th, where Roscoe will be speaking.

Councilmember Moran reported that it was tough to get a quorum at the last BFCOG meeting, but they were able to vote on the bylaws by the end of the meeting. They discussed that Washington State had over-obligated funds and may be eligible for a redistribution of funds from other states. BFCOG will be reviewing a comprehensive plan map that includes information from all the cities' comprehensive plans with the respective cities later this summer. Councilmember Moran also reported that BFCOG has been hiring interns to meet their planning needs.

Councilmember Hays congratulated Councilmember Fetto for his appointment to the West Richland Chamber Board. She also invited everyone to the renaming of the senior center to the Bill Shane Senior Center on Saturday, June 10th at 11:30 am.

Councilmember Bloom will attend the Executive Committee meeting as the alternate for HAB for a strategic planning session. He has also been selected to be the vice chair of the Land and Infrastructure Committee.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink will be attending the annual AWC Conference in Spokane June 20-23rd. The city can name three voting delegates, and he suggested that the three attendees, himself, Councilmember Moran, and Councilmember Fetto be named as the voting delegates for West Richland. He also mentioned that the 4th of July is coming up, and that means fireworks. He suggested that all be familiar with the regulations and note that there will be fireworks at the raceway on July 14th and 15th as well.

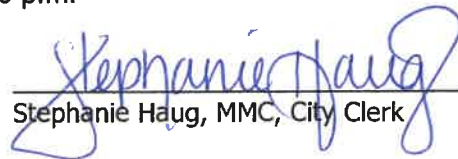
Mayor Gerry reported on his ECA trip to Paducah, Kentucky, and noted that there will be another meeting in Vienna later this year to meet with European nations to speak about spent nuclear fuels.

13. Executive Session – There was no executive session.

14. Meeting Conclusion- The meeting concluded at 7:40 p.m.



Brent Gerry, Mayor



Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk