

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND
REMOTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 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

HR Manager Selena Smathers

Associate Planner Elisha Ransom

City Clerk Stephanie Haug

City Attorney Bronson Brown

3. Pledge of Allegiance –

Councilmember Smart 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 Buel. Council unanimously approved the agenda.

5. Presentations –

- a. Proclamation Presentation – Juneteenth-** Mayor Gerry presented a proclamation proclaiming June 19, 2021 to be Juneteenth Day in the City of West Richland, Washington, and urge all to become more aware of the significance of this celebration in African-American History and in the heritage of our nation and City. The proclamation was presented to Jalani Green, the outgoing Miss Juneteenth Queen from West Richland, who shared with the Council what Juneteenth means to her. She also invited everyone to attend this year's pageant, which will be held on June 18th.

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

a. Approve Payment of Bills

b. Approve Minutes- Regular June 1, 2021

c. RES. 24-21 Adopting 2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program

RESOLUTION NO. 24-21 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING THE 2022-2027 SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

d. Motion to award Harrington Road Pavement Preservation Project

e. Motion to authorize PWTF loan application – Well #2

f. Motion to Amend On-Call Building Permit Service Agreement – NW Code Professionals.

g. RES. 25-21- Authorizing Adoption of a Proclamation Proclaiming September 2021 to be Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

RESOLUTION NO. 25-21 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF A PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 2021 AS CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

h. ORD. 18-21- Establishing General Fund 006 - Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund and Authorizing the Mayor to Accept ARPA Funding

ORDINANCE NO. 18-21 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON ESTABLISHING GENERAL FUND 006 - CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUND.

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

7. Citizen Public Comments- There were no Citizen Comments.

8. Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions And Public Hearings-

a. Public Hearing: Utility Easement Vacation

Associate Planner Elisha Ransom presented a resolution for the vacation of a 20' sewer easement located on Kingview Addition 7 Lots 30 and 31. It appears that the vacation of the easement would not unduly jeopardize the health, safety, welfare, or public good. Additionally, the retention of the easement no longer serves any useful public purpose.

Mayor Brent Gerry opened the public hearing at 6:13 p.m.

There were no comments.

Mayor Brent Gerry closed the hearing at 6:14 p.m.

b. RES. 26-21 - Utility Easement Vacation

RESOLUTION NO. 26-21 - A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, VACATING A PORTION OF THE 20 FOOT WIDE PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED ON KINGVIEW ADDITION NO. 7 PHASES 2-7 LOTS 30 AND, PARCEL NUMBERS 1-0598-312-0000-030 AND 1-0598-312-0000-031.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink moved to approve Resolution 26-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Moran. Council held a brief discussion about vacating a sewer line in place, and then unanimously approved Resolution 26-21.

c. ORD. 19-21 - Amending WRMC 12.03 Complete Street Policy

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade presented a staff report on Ordinance 19-21, and ordinance updating the City's Complete Streets Policy. The City of West Richland's Complete Streets Policy, codified as WRMC 12.03, was established in September 2016. Public Works engineering staff reviewed the City's policy against current guidance for Complete Street Policy on Municipal Research Services Center (MRSC) and National Complete Street Coalition websites. Most of the changes are minor with the exception of exemption approvals. Under the proposed amendment, exemptions would be approved at the council level rather than at the director level. The Transportation Improvement Board is expected to accept nominations later in 2021 to award local agency grants up to \$500,000 as part of their Complete Streets Award Program. Updating the City's Complete Street Policy will improve West Richland's chances of being nominated for an award and receiving a grant.

ORDINANCE NO. 19-21 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AMENDING WEST RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE 12.03 COMPLETE STREETS POLICY.

Councilmember Moran moved to approve Ordinance 19-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Buel. City Council unanimously approved Ordinance 19-21.

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.

12. Announcements, Reports & Comments

a. Staff Reports

Community Development Director Eric Mendenhall reported that his department is planning an Open House for July 15th at Libby Middle School. Although the event is planned to give citizens an opportunity to participate face-to-face with the parks plan, other departments, including finance and public works, will be there to answer questions. Councilmember Bloom inquired about a possible quorum of attendees, and Councilmember Smart inquired about the format of the meeting.

b. Council Reports

Councilmember Brown attended an AWC housing webinar where they discussed 1590, with 1/10th of 1% tax that is flexible to pay for low income housing. Other jurisdictions have passed this in the state. They also discussed City RV options for low income housing and 1406, which would provide double the sales tax in the webinar. She inquired about the Well #2 loan, and requested that the Council hold a workshop on infrastructure/growth. She asked Eric if the City has a housing assessment, which he will check into and report back.

Councilmember Bloom reported that he had found an alternative to the Long Term Care plan that Selena presented at the last meeting. He will submit the information he found to Selena for others to take a look at. Councilmember Bloom also reported on the Ben Franklin Transit Board meeting he attended the Thursday prior. The County Commissioners are calling the transit to cut their budget. The BFT Board will be meeting in person starting in July, and he inquired if the City would be meeting in person in July.

Councilmember Moran inquired about the May police stats from Chief Majetich. She reported that she was in the audience of the BFT meeting and appreciated Councilmember Bloom's ability to stay calm. She provided more information about Juneteenth and the upcoming activities associated with the holiday and reminded Council that June is also Pride month. She also mentioned that Benton City is currently going to vote to change the form of government, asked about when the Parks Committee meetings occur and inquired about what the current sewer and water capacities are for the City.

Councilmember Brown asked Chief Majetich about the Three Rivers Recovery Center and if they needed any elected officials support for the project. Mayor Gerry reported that Benton County will be building the center. (Chief Majetich clarified that Benton County is building the behavioral center, and it is a different thing than what Councilmember Brown mentioned.)

Councilmember Bloom followed up Councilmember Moran's comment on the Benton City situation and a conversation he'd had with a Benton City councilmember. They didn't realize the cost of a full time city manager and were experiencing some sticker shock. He also provided information on the behavioral health center and finding the operating funding.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink mentioned that the AWC Annual Conference is next week and he plans to attend. General Mattis will be a speaker at the event, and others should register if interested. He also stated he was riding his bicycle on Paradise today and even from afar, the Police Facility is looking great!


13. Executive Session –

a. The City Council adjourned to executive session at 6:53pm for 20 minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110-1(c) to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale. The executive session was extended 10 minutes and Council exited the session at 7:23pm.

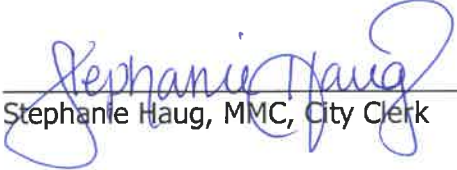
b. The City Council adjourned to a second executive session at 7:23pm for 15 minutes pursuant to

RCW 42.30.110-1(a)(ii) to consider information regarding the infrastructure and security of computer and telecommunications networks. The executive session was extended 10 minutes twice and Council exited the session at 7:58pm.

14. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 7:58p.m.



Brent Gerry, Mayor
Fred Brink, Mayor Pro Tem



Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk