

CITY OF WEST RICHLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 18, 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 Tern Fred Brink (*Virtual*)
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
Comm. Dev. Planner Elisha Ransom
Public Works Admin Aimee Hunt

Absent:

Councilmember Richard Bloom

Councilmember Fetto moved to excuse Councilmember Bloom. It was seconded by Councilmember Moran. Council unanimously approved excusing Councilmember Bloom.

3. Pledge of Allegiance -

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

4. Approval of Agenda -

Councilmember Smart moved to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Councilmember Stoker. Council unanimously approved the agenda.

5. Presentations- none

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

a. Payment of Bills

b. Approve Minutes - Regular Meeting June 20, 2023

c. RES 45-23 - Setting Public Hearing Date for Amending Water Use Efficiency Goals

RESOLUTION 45-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO WEST RICHLAND'S WATER USE EFFICIENCY GOALS

d. RES. 46-23 - Amending Master Fee Schedule – The Heights Park Pavilion Reservation Fee

RESOLUTION NO. 46-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON AMENDING THE MASTER FEE SCHEDULE

e. RES. 47-23 - Authorizing the Mayor to Sign a Security & Improvement Agreement

RESOLUTION NO. 47-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND EXECUTE A SECURITY AND IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT

f. RES. 48-23 - Surplus of Handguns

RESOLUTION NO. 48-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

g. ORD. 14-23 - Amending WRMC Chapter 9.05

ORDINANCE NO. 14-23

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON AMENDING SECTIONS 9.05.005, 9.05.010, and 9.05.020 OF WEST RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 9.05 VIOLATION OF COURT ORDERS

- h. Motion** approving Final Plat of Red Mountain Multiuse Phase 1
- i. Motion** authorizing Submission of RCO Grant Application(s)
- j. Motion** authorizing submission of TIB Grant Applications
- k. Motion** to Authorize Mayor to Execute Amendment #2 To Engineering Services Contract for Sewer System Plan Update – JUB
- l. Motion** to Authorize Reimbursement to Developer for Upsizing of Water Main-Parcel #1-0197-300-0007-000
- m. Motion** to Reappoint Civil Service Board Member – R. Light
- n. Motion** to award Police Facility Storage Building
Councilmember Moran moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Stoker seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the consent agenda.

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

8. Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions, and Public Hearings

- a. Public Hearing -** Amending 2023 – 2028 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program
Public Works Director Roscoe Slade presented a staff report on the 2023 – 2028 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan support material that is needed to allocate funds for the Keene Road Pathway Project.

Mayor Gerry opened the public hearing @ 6:08 pm

There were no comments.

Mayor Gerry closed the public hearing @ 6:08 pm

- b. RES. 49-23 -** Amending 2023 - 2028 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program

RESOLUTION NO. 49-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE 2023-2028 SIX-YEAR TRANSPORTATION

Councilmember Stoker moved to approve Resolution 49-23, amending the 2023 – 2028 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. After a brief discussion regarding resident impact, federal dollars and slope easements Council unanimously approved the motion.

- c. ORD. 15-23 -** 2023/2024 Budget Amendment

ORDINANCE NO. 15-23

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

Councilmember Moran moved to approve Ordinance No. 15-23, amending the 2023/2024 budget. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. After a discussion explaining the streetlight ROAM project and phases, getting a further explanation of the legal services increases and the Code Enforcement position, Council unanimously approved the motion.

- d. Motion** to Authorize Mayor to Execute a Contract for Civil Legal Services

Director of Finance Erin Gwinn presented the staff report laying out the civil legal services increases and contract costs. Staff recommends authorizing.

Councilmember Stoker moved to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract for civil legal services. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. After verifying that there is no cap in the contract and the City of West Richland’s procedure on who discusses information with legal services, Council voted unanimously to approve the motion.

- e. Motion** to Authorize Mayor to Execute a Contract for Prosecution Legal Services

Director of Finance Erin Gwinn presented the staff report laying out the prosecution legal services increase and contract costs. Staff recommends authorizing.

Councilmember Moran moved to pass the Mayor to execute a contract for professional services. Councilmember Fetto seconded the motion. After a brief discussion regarding time frame verification on the contract and how the increase is being compensated for, Council voted unanimously to approve.

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

Staff Reports

Chief Tom Grego provided information on the July 4th complaints. The date used from 6/23/23-7/5/2023. Data showed an increase in calls overall for the time-period as well as the increase in fireworks complaint calls. Two fires in the City; one was a bush fire and one a field fire. 1 citation was issued, and numerous warnings were given to residents since a police officer didn't see the actual violation. Officers were doing their due diligence.

Chief Grego discussed the Tyler Report. Overall, West Richland is down 9.3% in crime while the sister cities of West Richland are up. Washington state has 1.3% officers per 1000 residents. The national average is 2.31% officers per 1000 residents. Chief Grego promoted National Night Out on 8/1/2023. Appreciate all who have donated and volunteered. Discussed the ACO and how well she is doing finding owners of lost pets for the city.

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade reported the switch in lanes on Bombing Range and Keene. Completion of the project is scheduled for October 2023. Director Slade discussed SR224 road closures happening the week of 7/24/23. Director Slade will be on KONA on 7/20/23 discussing projects. Public Works Director Slade and the Public Works Department are working with the Utility Committee and updating models for the general water and sewer plans that are being updated. These plans will be presented to Council in phases.

Community Development Director Eric Mendenhall shared that the survey results were presented to Senior Staff. Workshop on 7/25/23 at 5 pm to discuss the survey results in full. Cannabis retail planning a public meeting in August. Will update Council via email regarding this.

Council Reports

Councilmember Moran talked about her absence last council meeting because of attending an AWC conference in Spokane. Encourages to look on the AWC website for training. She also discussed the BFCOG meeting and Urban Boundaries. The next BFCOG meeting is on 7/21/23 at 10 am, this is a hybrid meeting.

Councilmember Fetto explained that the booths for the National Night Out on 8/1/23 will be moved to the lower field to use the shade available there. He will be out of town for the Workshop on 7/25/23.

- 13. Executive Session** - There was no executive session.
- 14. Meeting Conclusion-** The meeting concluded at 6:48 p.m.



Brent Gerry, Mayor



Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk