

CITY OF WEST RICHLAND

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 15, 2023

1. Call to Order -

Mayor Pro Tem Brink called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call –

Present:

Mayor Pro Tern Fred Brink
Councilmember Richard Bloom
Councilmember David Fetto
Councilmember May Hays
Councilmember Kate Moran (6:04pm)
Councilmember John Smart

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
City Clerk Stephanie Haug

Absent:

Mayor Brent Gerry
Councilmember Ken Stoker

Councilmember Bloom moved to excuse Councilmember Stoker and Mayor Gerry. It was seconded by Councilmember Smart. Council unanimously approved excusing Councilmember Stoker and Mayor Gerry.

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 stated that Councilmember Bloom had requested to move item 6h to the regular agenda, so it would now be listed as item 8g and that the executive session that was scheduled was no longer needed, so it should be removed. Councilmember Bloom moved to approve the agenda as amended. It was seconded by Councilmember Smart. Council unanimously approved the amended agenda.

5. Presentations-

Mid-Columbia Library – Annual Update – Sara Schwan & Jason Bond of MCL presented the library district's annual report to the City Council. The Council inquired about the selection of the collections, what happens to old items from the collection, and how new purchase requests are made.

6. Consent Agenda - Mayor Pro Tem Brink read the consent agenda titles for consideration:

a. Payment of Bills

b. Approve Minutes - Regular Meeting July 18, 2023, & Workshops on July 25, 2023 & August 8, 2023

c. ORD 16-23 - Amending WRMC 10.08 relating to the speed limit on Keene Road.

ORDINANCE 16-23

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO SPEED LIMIT ON KEENE ROAD AMENDING SECTIONS 10.08.050, 10.08.60 AND 10.08.065 OF THE WEST RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE.

d. RES 50-23 – Auth. Adoption of a Proclamation Proclaiming September as Attendance Matters Month

RESOLUTION 50-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF A PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 2023 AS "ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH"

e. RES 51-23 – Auth. Adoption of a Proclamation Proclaiming September 17-23, 2023 as Constitution Week

RESOLUTION 51-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF A PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 17 – SEPTEMBER 23, 2023, AS “CONSTITUTION WEEK”

- f. **RES 52-23-** Auth. the Mayor to execute an ILA with the City of Seattle regarding WA State Reference Network.

RESOLUTION 52-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SEATTLE REGARDING WASHINGTON STATE REFERENCE NETWORK.

- g. **Motion** auth. Mayor to execute Engineering Services Contract with RH2 for design of sewer lift station upgrades.

Councilmember Smart moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Bloom 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 WRMC 17.13.020 to allow event centers in the RL-40 zone as a conditional use.**

City Planner Elisha Ransom presented the staff report for Text Amendment File Number TXT-005-2023. Both City Staff and the Planning Commission recommend that the Council adopt the proposed text amendment to allow event centers as a conditional use in the RL-40 zone on parcels larger than 10 acres.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink opened the public hearing @ 6:36 pm.

Dan Ritchie – 508 Austin Drive – Spoke in favor of the text amendment.

Randi Walli – Applicant – Spoke in favor of the text amendment.

Gail Brown – 4405 Chelan – Spoke in opposition to the text amendment, stating it should be a rezone.

Pat Carranza – Spoke in opposition to the text amendment, stating there should not be a perpetual Conditional Use Permit in residential areas.

Peggy Panisko – Spoke in opposition to the text amendment, stating it would allow commercial use in residential areas.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink closed the public hearing @ 6:52 pm.

- b. **ORD 17-23 – Amending WRMC 17.13.020 to allow event centers in the RL-40 zone as a conditional use.**

Councilmember Smart moved to approve Ordinance 17-23, approving the proposed text amendment File No.: TXT-005-2023 to allow event centers as a conditional use in the RL-40 zone on parcels larger than 10 acres. It was seconded by Councilmember Hays. After a discussion, Councilmember Moran moved to postpone Ordinance 17-23 until staff can address the concerns requested by the Council, including developing performance standards for event centers. Councilmember Bloom seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

- c. **Public Hearing - Amending Water Use Efficiency Program Goals**

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade presented a staff report on the proposed amendment to the Water Use Efficiency Program to maintain water distribution system loss to 10% of less based on a three-year rolling average and reduce average day demand per equivalent residential unit (ERU) from 441 gallons per day (gpd) to 423 gpd by 2032 based on a three-year rolling average.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink opened the public hearing @ 7:28 pm.

Dewayne Juhnke – spoke of his concerns about the City’s water consumption to water the green area across from him on Bombing Range Road.

Gail Brown – 4405 Chelan – asked the City to look at how it’s watering all City properties and to address the replacement of water lines for leaks.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink closed the public hearing @ 7:31 pm.

d. RES 53-23 - Amending Water Use Efficiency Program Goals

RESOLUTION NO. 53-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AMENDING WEST RICHLAND’S WATER USE EFFICIENCY PROGRAM GOALS.

Councilmember Moran moved to approve Resolution 53-23, amending the Water Use Efficiency Program Goals. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. After a brief discussion regarding other community’s benchmarks and retrofitting the City’s green spaces with natural fauna, the Council unanimously approved the motion.

e. ORD 18-23 - Amending 2023-2024 Biennial Budget

Finance Director Gwinn presented a staff report on the proposed budget amendment to reflect changes in the spending plans of the city. The amendment recognizes additional investment interest received due to higher interest rates for invested funds in Fund 355. And addresses cash flow needs for the city’s large construction projects funded by state agencies.

ORDINANCE NO. 18-23

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

Councilmember Bloom moved to approve Ordinance No. 18-23, amending the 2023/2024 budget. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the motion.

f. RES 54-23 - Establishing an Interfund Loan from Fund 401 to Fund 355

RESOLUTION 54-23

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON ESTABLISHING AN INTERFUND LOAN FROM THE WATER/SEWER OPERATING FUND (401) TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT FUND (355).

Councilmember Bloom moved to pass Resolution 54-23, establishing an Interfund Loan from 401 Water/Sewer Fund to 355 Transportation Improvement Fund. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion.

g. Motion auth. Mayor to execute an amendment to Engineering Services Contract with JUB for Well #2 Project.

Public Works Director Slade presented the staff report on the proposed amendment #1 that would increase the engineering services contract amount \$174,447 from \$530,800 to \$705,277 (total includes \$48,300 management reserve) to cover the cost of additional environmental permitting and other administrative tasks associated with the \$2.5M congressional delegation community grant obtained from US Senator Patty Murray’s office, design of an off-site water main from the new Well #2 to the existing reservoirs on Flat Top hill and additional consultant project management and construction inspection associated with contractor delays in completing the drilling of the replacement wells.

Councilmember Bloom moved to authorize the mayor to execute amendment #1 to the Well #2 Project Engineering Services Contract with JUB increasing the total contract amount \$174,477 from \$530,800 to \$705,277 (includes \$48,300 in management reserve). Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion.

- 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

Finance Director Erin Gwinn notified Council that the city is currently undergoing its audit, so they can anticipate information for the entrance conference soon.

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade reported that the drilling for the Well #3 project was going much better than the Well #2 project and anticipates both projects being completed by Spring 2025.

Chief Grego thanked those who participated in the National Night Out event. He thought this was the best one yet.


Council Reports

Councilmember Moran also thanked everyone for attending National Night Out. There will be a BFCOG meeting on Friday at 10 a.m., and she will continue to send the agenda information to the Mayor, Eric, and Roscoe so they are aware of what is going on at the meetings.

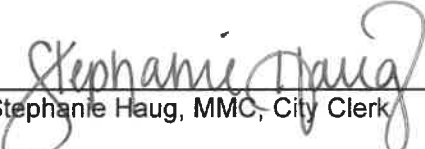
Councilmember Bloom reported that West Nile has been identified in West Richland and encouraged everyone to wear Mosquito repellent to protect themselves from bites. He thanked Chief Grego for his work with the Veteran’s Assistance Center and their work with Ben Franklin Transit.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink announced that he had been reappointed to the State Forensic Investigations Council and will serve for another four-year term and that he was chosen to be the AWC Secretary, which is part of the path to becoming AWC Vice-President and President.

- 13. **Executive Session** - There was no executive session.
- 14. **Meeting Conclusion**- The meeting concluded at 7:54 p.m.



Brent Gerry, Mayor



Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk