

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022**

**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

Finance Director Erin Gwinn

Police Chief Thomas Grego

Associate Planner Elisha Ransom

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade (remote)

City Clerk Stephanie Haug

Absent:

Councilmember Ken Stoker

*Mayor Pro Tem Brink moved to excuse Councilmember Stoker. It was seconded by Councilmember Fetto. Council voted to excuse Councilmember Stoker.*

**3. Pledge of Allegiance –**

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

**4. Approval of Agenda –**

Councilmember Smart requested to remove item 6c – Resolution 41-22 to the regular agenda, and staff requested to remove items 8a and 8b.

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

**5. Presentations-** There were no presentations.

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

a. Approve Minutes- Regular Meeting –August 16; Special Meetings August 23, & August 30, 2022

b. **ORD.16-22-** Designating no parking on Cooperative Way

~~c. **RES. 41-22-** Adopting Park Maintenance Level of Service Standards~~

d. **RES. 42-22-**Setting public hearing date to consider a petition for frontage improvement waiver–Arena Rd.

e. **RES. 43-22-** Proclamation Request – Daughters of the American Revolution – Constitution Week

f. **RES. 44-22-** Proclamation Request – Attendance Matters

g. Motion to authorize amendment #1 to WSP Engineering Services Contract

h. Motion to authorize amendment #1 to SSP Engineering Services Contract

i. Motion to approve Opioid Settlement – Allocation Agreement & Participation Agreement

j. Motion to Confirm Mayor’s Appointment to Salary Commission

k. Motion authorizing staff to submit a Public Work Trust Fund application for Well #1 Replacement.

*Councilmember Fetto moved to approve the amended consent agenda. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the amended consent agenda.*

**7. Citizen Public Comments –**

**Garrett Premel –** Spoke of his concern of pedestrian safety crossing Keene Road between Watkins and Belmont and the lack of crosswalks. He doesn’t want to see anyone get hurt as the cars tend to speed through that area and there are no crosswalks.

**8. Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions and Public Hearings-**

~~a. Closed Record Hearing for PLAT 008 2022 Paradise Townhomes Preliminary Plat~~

~~b. Motion to approve PLAT 008 2022 Paradise Townhomes Preliminary Plat~~

*(Items 8a & 8b were removed from the agenda)*

**c. Public Hearing - Amending 2022 – 2027 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program.**

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade presented a staff report explaining the proposed amendments to the 2022 – 2027 Six Year TIP. These amendments include changing the funding for the SR 224 Pathway Project and the Bombing Range and Keene Road Intersection Modification Project from planned to secured.

Mayor Brent Gerry opened the public hearing at 6:10 p.m.

Mr. Garrett Premel - Spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mayor Brent Gerry closed the hearing at 6:10 p.m.

**d. RES. 45-22 - Amending 2022 – 2027 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program.**

*Councilmember Bloom moved to adopt Resolution 45-22, amending the City's 2022-2027 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program to change funding for the SR 224 Pathway Project and the Bombing Range Road and Keene Road Intersection Modification Project from planned to secured to recognize the recently awarded BFCOG Federal STBG-UL and TAP-UL grants, Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. After a brief discussion regarding resolution attachments, Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 45-22.*

**e. RES. 46-22 – Amendment the Master Fee Schedule – Garbage**

Finance Director Erin Gwinn presented a staff report explaining the proposed amendments to the Master Fee Schedule for the garbage rates. Changes include a 4.95% increase adjustment to rates beginning October 22, 2022, and a 5.95% rate increase effective December 22, 2022.

*Councilmember Bloom moved to approve Resolution 46-22, amending Schedule E of the Master Fee Schedule. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution 46-22.*

**f. ORD. 17-22 – 2021/2022 Budget Amendment**

Finance Director Erin Gwinn presented a staff report explaining the proposed amendments to 2021/2022 Biennial Budget, which include appropriating additional funds in the General Fund for a Parks Operations Supervisor, a transfer to the Transportation Improvement Fund, additional appropriations in the Cumulative Reserve Fund for the Belmont Property Buyback, and the transfer in of the money to the Transportation Improvement Fund as part of the WSDOT/FHWA process to reallocate the property north of SR 224 from transportation purposes.

*Councilmember Bloom moved to approve Ordinance 17-22, amending the 2021/2022 biennial budget. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 17-22.*

**g. RES. 41-22 - Adopting Park Maintenance Level of Service Standards**

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade presented a staff report for the proposed adoption of the park maintenance levels of service that had been discussed at the Council Workshop on August 23, 2022.

*Councilmember Bloom moved to approve Resolution 41-22, adopting park operations and maintenance levels of service standards. Councilmember Smart seconded the motion. Councilmember Smart asked questions and had concerns regarding the inclusion of the recommendation to create a parks department in the "whereas" portion of the resolution, and asked for it to be removed. Councilmember Bloom explained it is not in the action of the Resolution, and Council voted to approve the Resolution as presented, with Hays, Moran, Fetto, Brink, and Bloom voting in the affirmative and Smart voting nay.*

**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 during this comment period.

## 12. Announcements, Reports & Comments

### Staff Reports

Chief Grego updated Council on the department's recruiting efforts, and indicated they've had a great response, with 7 lateral inquiries and 11 candidates for entry level. He also reported to Council that he had given City Clerk Stephanie Haug a letter of commendation for her work implementing body worn cameras and coordinating the move to the new police facility.

Public Works Director Roscoe Slade provided Council with some background information on the safe routes to school plan regarding Keene Road: that no child should need to cross Keene to get from their home to their school. His department is looking at the pedestrian needs as they work on the design for the widened road.

### Council Reports

Councilmember Bloom reviewed his event with the Yakima Fish and Wildlife Advisory Board at Bateman Island last week, reporting the concerns that were expressed over the causeway and fish migration. The removal of the causeway means no more foot traffic to the island, and may have impacts to the marina.

Councilmember Fetto spoke of the emails he had received prior to the meeting regarding the appointment of former Councilmember Rich Buel to the Salary Commission. He stated that he has known Rich Buel to be fair and just, and the citizens must agree, as he was voted to 5 terms on the City Council.

Councilmember Moran echoed Councilmember Fetto regarding Rich Buel's appointment, and thanked the citizens for their emails. She indicated that there are additional vacancies on the City's volunteer boards and commissions, and that she's like to see that information found more prominently on the City's website.

Councilmember Hays announced that Harvest Festival will be Saturday, September 10 at Flat Top Park, and Time of Remembrance will be September 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>. She encouraged the Council and the public to attend to show support for the Gold Star Families.

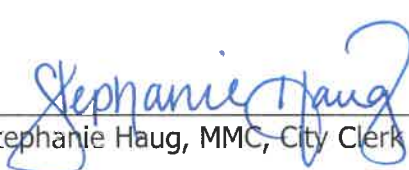
Councilmember Smart spoke of the emails regarding the Salary Commission Appointment and asked for a short, written report regarding the actions of the Salary Commission, which might eliminate concerns.

Mayor Pro Tem Brink attended the Desert Sky Elementary Ribbon Cutting with Mayor Gerry. He also attended the Law and Justice Council meeting, which addresses the use of the Public Safety Tax. He encouraged public involvement at the meetings, which occur the last Wednesday of the month at the Benton County Courthouse. The next meeting is September 28<sup>th</sup> at noon. Mr. Brink also thanked Mr. Premel for voicing his concerns regarding Keene Road, and also mentioned the concerns he had received over pedestrians crossing at the Keene Road/Kennedy crosswalk.

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

**14. Meeting Conclusion-** The meeting concluded at 6:53p.m.

  
Brent Gerry, Mayor

  
Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk

