

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND
REMOTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 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
HR Manager Selena Smathers
Associate Planner Elisha Ransom
City Clerk Stephanie Haug
City Attorney Bronson Brown

3. **Pledge of Allegiance** –
Upon the request of Mayor Gerry, Councilmember Buel 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 Brown. Council unanimously approved the agenda.
5. **Presentations**- There were no presentations.
6. **Consent Agenda** – Mayor Gerry read the consent agenda titles for consideration.

- a. Approve Minutes - Regular Meeting on August 17th, 2021 and Special Meeting August 31, 2021
- b. **RES. 34-21** - Soroptimist Proclamation

RESOLUTION NO. 34-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF A PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 3, 2021, SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF THREE RIVERS DAY

- c. **RES. 35-21** – Auth. Mayor to execute Inter-Local Agreement for Stormwater Grant Application

RESOLUTION NO. 35-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT REGARDING ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDING OF QUAD-CITY STORMWATER EFFECTIVENESS STUDY AND WATER QUALITY STORMWATER GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE CITIES OF RICHLAND, PASCO AND KENNEWICK AND REPEAL RESOLUTION 76-20.

- d. **RES. 36-21** - Setting Public Hearing date to consider a petition for a frontage improvement waiver.

RESOLUTION NO. 36-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING DATE TO CONSIDER A PETITION FOR A FRONTAGE IMPROVEMENT WAIVER PER WRMC 12.04.060.

- e. **RES. 37-21** - Authorizing the Mayor to sign a Security & Improvement Agreement

RESOLUTION NO. 37-21

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

f. RES. 38-21 - Amending Master Fee Schedule- Body Cam Records

RESOLUTION NO. 38-21

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

- g.** Motion authorizing Mayor to execute amendment #1 to Legal Services Agreement – Menke Jackson Beyer, LLP – Ken Harper.

Upon motion by Councilmember Brown and seconded by Councilmember Buel, 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 - Vacation of a public utility easement (VACA-003)

Associate Planner Elisha Ransom presented a staff report for the vacation of a utility easement on Willamette Heights Section 6, Lot 70, address 405 S 54th Avenue. The easement sought to be vacated is a portion of the 30' utility easement on the north and west boundaries of the property. 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 6:07 p.m.

There were no comments.

Mayor Brent Gerry closed the hearing at 6:07 p.m.

b. RES. 39-21- Vacation of a public utility easement (VACA-003)

RESOLUTION NO. 39-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, VACATING A PORTION OF THE 30 FOOT WIDE PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED ON WILLAMETTE HEIGHTS SECTION 6, LOT 70, PARCEL NUMBER 1-0698-202-0070-000.

Councilmember Bloom moved to approve Resolution 39-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Moran. Councilmember Bloom then rescinded his motion. Councilmember Smart moved to approve Resolution 39-21 and Councilmember Bloom seconded the motion, Councilmember Smart declared that he is a neighbor to this property, but he has no bias towards the outcome. Council voted to approve Resolution 39-21.

c. RES. 40-21 - Salary Schedule Amendment – IT Position

HR Manager Selena Smathers presented a staff report for Resolution 40-21, amending the 2021-2022 Salary Schedule by adding a Full Time Information Systems Administrator to address the growing demand for IT support, to improve the City's cybersecurity, and to audit our systems.

RESOLUTION NO. 40-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE SALARY SCHEDULE FOR THE 2021-2022 BIENNIUM

Councilmember Smart moved to approve Resolution 40-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Fetto. Council held a lengthy discussion on potential solutions and alternatives to this addition, as well as the need due to insurance, police and number of computers. Council voted to approve Resolution 40-21.

d. ORD.23-21- Amending 2021-2022 Biennial Budget

Finance Director Erin Gwinn presented a staff report for Ordinance 23-21, amending the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget to reflect the additional Full Time Information Systems Administrator expense that was approved with Resolution 40-21.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-21

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022

Councilmember Moran moved to approve Ordinance 23-21. It was seconded by Councilmember Bloom. Council voted to approve Ordinance 23-21.

- 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. Council Reports

Councilmember Brown reported that she'd heard some concerns about the parks, including the pathway near that gateway, overgrown brush, and new parks in new subdivisions. She also heard a concern about light pollution near the new auto shop.

Councilmember Bloom mentioned that the Conservation District's new river weed whacker has arrived and will be on display on Friday. They will be doing a demo at the Horn Rapids park area. They are hoping to see an improvement in the river with the use of the machine.

Councilmember Moran attended the BFCOG Economic Development meeting. They approved a TIP amendment and discussed the local funding cost increase. BFCOG will be conducting a traffic count the 6th-10th of September, and they will be forming a finance committee to review the current financial conditions of the organization.

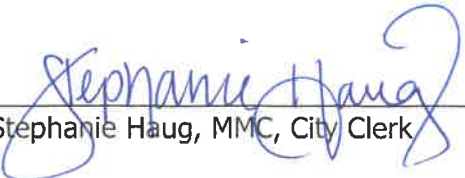
b. Staff Reports

Police Chief Majetich updated Council on the police event that occurred on August 25th, reminding them that bad things can come from the outside, and those are the types of events they prepare for. He also stated that they should be proud of their department for the way they handled the event. He next reported that the new facility is coming along and that they'll be moving into it in just three short months, and that the West Richland Command Staff will be attending the 9/11 memorial in Kennewick on Saturday. This year marks the 20th Anniversary.

Public Works Director Slade announced that he and the Mayor would be providing a public works tour to Representative Klicker of the 16th District on Thursday, highlighting projects such as SR 224 and the Keene/Bombing Range Intersection. He also addressed Councilmember Brown's concerns over the gateway park, indicating they are working to identify what can be trimmed and working with Benton County Mosquito Control to spray the trees.

- 13. Executive Session** – There was no executive session.
- 14. Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.


Brent Gerry, Mayor


Stephanie Haug, MMC, City Clerk

