

**City of Rainier  
Regular City Council Meeting  
March 18, 2019  
7:00 PM  
Rainier City Hall**

Councilman Nelson called the meeting to order at 7pm

**Council Present:** Jenna Weaver, Sloan Nelson, Rick Sanders, Steve Massey, James Bradfield

**Council Absent:** Mayor Cole, Robert duPlessis, Mike Kreger

**City Staff Present:** Sue Lawrence, Public Works Director; Sarah Blodgett, City Clerk; Debra Dudley, City Advisor

**City Attorney Present:** No

**Flag Salute**

**Additions/Deletions from the Agenda-** none

**Mayor's Address:** none

**Visitor Comments:** Al Guist of 109 West D Street stated he has a varmint problem with skunks and raccoons and believes that chickens in the area are bringing them in. Guist stated the City had previously said they would have a trapper trap them and then the last time he asked, he was told to call ODF&W. Guist stated he would like the City to take care of the problem. Council and staff stated they would check into the issue and put it back on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Consider Approval of the Consent Agenda:**

**Consider Approval of the March 4, 2019 Work Session Meeting Minutes –** Weaver moved, Massey 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve March 4, 2019 Work Session Meeting Minutes as presented-**motion passed unanimously**

**Unfinished Business:**

**a. Affordable/Senior Housing-** none

**b. 'A' Street Update ODOT-** Tony Schneider Area Manager from Astoria, gave a project review of the construction and financial aspects of the 'A' Street Project. Tom from Portland and Western Railroad explained that the rail will be closing the tracks every other week from Friday to Monday and they will replace 200' sections each time. Tom expects to begin mid-June and be done in September and then coming back after final paving to install the rail crossing assemblies. Workflow and logistics were discussed by both ODOT and the Railroad. A spokesperson from P&W stated the rail will cover their own overages. Schneider handed out documents showing the breakdown of costs and who is liable for whatsts. Schneider reviewed and explained the handout. Dudley asked if the City has a cap for the projected shortfall. Schneider stated that he has a verbal commitment from his Regional II Manager to get another \$496,000 and that he is talking to Hal Gard ODOT head of Rail Safety Division to get another half million as ODOT wants the project to be successful and they realize the City cannot come up with the million dollar shortfall. Schneider provided a hand out showing the City's financial liability; \$811,779 for the utility agreement #32538, \$7,500 for agreement #32071, and \$77,025 (10.27% of \$750,000) for agreement #32345. Schneider also noted that they feel the cost estimates are very close to what the actual bids should come in at. Schneider stated that ODOT is not participating in the City's Utility Costs. Schneider stated there is another \$134,000 not included in that and it is a separate contract the City has with DEA. Dudley stated that these engineering costs have been paid as work is done for the Sewer design agreement. Schneider stated that the agreement is silent on who pays the engineering costs for the City's water line and a few other things that have been added on. Debbie reminded Schneider that there is no agreement for these costs. Schneider stated what happens is there is a grant from the Oregon Business Development Department and that is free money and there is no match to it and so far Schneider cannot find any mention of repayment for it. Schneider stated that doesn't seem possible so he has their attorney's and contract specialist looking into it. After a question and answer discussion, Dudley stated she still has more financial questions and items to review and it was agreed she would have a phone meeting with Schneider.

**c. 'A' Street Plaza Update/Riverfront Trail-** none

**d. Fox Creek Update-** none

**New Business:**

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**a. Consider Acceptance of Annual Financial Statement-**Weaver moved, Massey 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the Annual Financial Statement as presented by Pauly Rogers- **motion passed unanimously**

**b. Library Update-** Board member Megan Kiplinger passed out a Library Report to City Council and updated the City Council on the progress of the Library. Librarian Eli Mendez also shared about the upcoming summer reading program topics and what she has plans on doing for the summer ready program here at the Library.

**Staff Reports:** Lawrence stated she is working on getting a flood alarm setup at the water treatment plant to notify them of flooding

**Council Reports:** none

**City Calendar/Announcements:**

Dudley stated Council members needed to complete their Oregon Ethics filing done by April 15, 2019.

Executive Session: ORS 192.610-192.690 (2) (a) To consider employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55PM

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Mayor Cole

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Sarah Blodgett, Interim City Recorder