

**City of Rainier  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 7, 2011  
7:00 p.m.  
Rainier City Hall  
106 West "B" Street**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Jerry Cole at 7:05 p.m.

**Council Present:** Mayor Jerry Cole, Sloan Nelson, David Langford, Phil Butcher, Mike Avent, Scott Cooper and Bill Viladri

**Council Absent:** Russ Moon

**City Staff Present:** Lars Gare, Gregg Griffith and Debbie Dudley

**City Attorney Present:** Steve Petersen

**Visitors Present:** Michael Carter, Vernae Christophersen, Terry Deaton, Paul Rice, Amanda Younger, Rob Piercy, Debbie Hazen, Clatskanie Chief and Cheryll Borgaard, Longview Daily News

**Flag Salute**

**Additions/Deletions from the Agenda:**

**Motion** by Butcher, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Langford to add appointment of Budget Committee members to the agenda.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Mayor's Address:**

Mayor Cole read the Proclamation honoring the services of Chief Painter, declared January 5<sup>th</sup> as Chief Ralph Painter Day and presented a framed copy of the Proclamation to Amy Painter and members of the Painter family.

Presented HOPE with the funds from the donut sale which was promoted by Chief Ralph Painter.

Acknowledged the Proclamation from the City of Longview honoring Chief Ralph Painter.

A moment of silence was observed for our fallen soldiers.

Stickers are being sold as a fund raiser for a track scholarship honoring Chief Painter; more information will be provided as it's received.

**Visitor Comments:** Michael Carter; "I'd like to thank all of you for the last few weeks, your leadership has been wonderful, I know it's been a difficult time and we also want to advise you to keep to the path, you have some more difficult decisions to make in the future concerning our entire community, thank you for serving, we acknowledge it and we also understand the difficult task you have and to the new members thank you for stepping up."

**Motion** by Avent, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Butcher to approve the January 3, 2011 Work Session Meeting Minutes as presented.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Motion** by Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vilardi to approve the January 3, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Motion** by Cooper, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Butcher to approve the January 7, 2011 Emergency Meeting Minutes as presented.

**Passed, with Nelson abstaining**

**“C” Street-** No report

**Motion** by Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Butcher to approve Resolution 11-02-01, Revocation of REDCO Board Appointments.

**Aye: Cooper, Butcher, Vilardi, Langford, Nelson**

**Nay: Avent**

**Motion Passed**

**Motion** by Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Avent to Approve Resolution 11-02-02, Appointing City Council as the REDCO Board.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Motion** by Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Avent to purchase signs from Rainier Sign Company not to exceed \$195, advertising board vacancies. These signs will be placed at City Hall. Discussion Summary; various types of display styles were discussed at a higher cost, at some point the Columbia Rider location may be including a reader board sign.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Adding 2 Citizen Advisory Positions to the Council Discussion Summary;**

Cooper suggested including a senior citizen and high school student as advisory board members to the Council. The proposed term would be from September to June. This would be a non-voting position. The appointment would add diversity and may provide other view points to the Council. The Council consensus was favorable and for Cooper to move ahead with the details to present to the Council for approval.

**Marketing Rainier Discussion Summary;**

How can the Council help to grow Rainier, need to capitalize on Rainier’s uniqueness, look into what marketing opportunities are available, look into working with the Chamber, Journal of Commerce, REDCO and County, take advantage of the traffic coming through Rainier, Council asked Gare to invite David Stocker from the Columbia County Economic Team to attend a Council meeting and discuss some of these questions.

**Motion** by Nelson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Avent to Affirm the Mayoral Appointment of Sgt. Griffith as Interim Chief of Police. Discussion Summary; Complimented the Police Department and the Sergeant for the professionalism they demonstrated in conducting their duties.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Motion** by Langford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Avent to approve hiring a lateral police officer position. Discussion summary; a lateral position would be someone ready to start immediately, already certified, someone not already certified could take up to a year before they're ready, if the Police Chief position is not filled internally the department will have hired an additional staff position that has not been budgeted, the lateral position was discussed as possibly being a temporary position for at least 6 months, but it was pointed out the lateral position would be difficult to fill as a temporary position, recruitment for the Chief position could take months, the last Chief was promoted internally without any recruitment, evaluate the interim Chief in several months, recognized that all positions are not guaranteed employment for any period, go ahead and hire this position as a regular position.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Motion** by Avent, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Langford to appoint Vernae Christophersen and Paul Rice to the Budget Committee with a term expiration of 12/31/2014.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Motion** by Butcher, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nelson to appoint Charlene Andrews to the Budget Committee with a term expiration of 12/31/2012.

**Passed Unanimously**

**Staff Reports:**

Dudley – Report provided in the work session.

Gare – Subway has requested a design review application, working on issues with a business in the Rockcrest business area, looking into compliance with codes.

**Council Reports:**

Avent – Businesses going into the Rockcrest area could have a significant impact on traffic. The City may need to require traffic impact studies. Complimented Mayor Cole on his leadership and stated that he was proud to live in Rainier. All Council agreed.

Langford – Foss is putting up an active railway warning sign, delivery trucks in that area are parking on the tracks without realizing it is an active railroad.

Cooper- Inquired about the new sign ordinance, how the code is enforced, are current signs checked for compliance, as he understands the Police Department is responsible for enforcement, would like to start enforcing the code.

Cole – “For the next agenda and a lot of this is just catch up we’ll get a report from the Judge”...a motion was made to wait until January to get a report of hours worked from the Judge, “was supposed to happen in January, but that got moved.”

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Jerry Cole, Mayor

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Dudley, Recorder