

City of Rainier
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2012
7:00 PM
Rainier City Hall
106 West "B" Street

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

Council Present: Mayor Cole, Sloan Nelson, James Bradfield, Bill Vilardi, Mike Avent, Scott Cooper, David Sills and Council President Phil Butcher.

Council Absent: None.

City Staff Present: Debbie Dudley, Darlene Lavelle, Bobby Jo Brusco-Harding, Dan Foultnier, Gregg Griffith, and Wayne Smith.

City Attorney: Absent.

Flag Salute:

Agenda Additions/Deletions:

Addition – Nelson moved, Cooper 2nd, to add the sign in front of City Hall as a New Business item. A vote was not taken.

Mayor's Address: Mayor Cole read the names of four service personnel who have fallen since the last council meeting and a moment of silence was observed.

Mayor Cole reported that things are going really well in the City, public works has stepped up and is doing a good job, the office is running smoothly and as far as where we are at today and where we used to be it is a lot different.

Visitors Comments: (Mayor Cole reminded everyone to keep it at two or three minutes at most):

Michael Carter, Rainier School District Superintendent, thanked for City for the partnership between the City and the school district, appreciates the help from public works and Dudley's efficiency. Carter addressed as a citizen of Rainier that he understood that Council might be addressing a proposal for the use of legalizing a marijuana store and he hopes Council strongly considers not letting that happen in our City, the students have enough of that already, he is speaking as a private citizen and he disagrees with it and it is a poor reflection of what we have done in the community.

Nick Clark of Natures Choice Alternative Medicine in Astoria and he is looking at opening up another store in Rainier as another branch. Clark said he has a piece of property at the old movie store, he has already talked to the owners and they are in agreement, they are all for it, and when he came to City Hall to get a permit he was told

he needed to go before Council. Clark said he has been in business a year in Astoria; everything has been going really well, Detective Hansen has come in and checked out his store; Hansen really enjoyed it and likes what they were doing. Clark said they are keeping it safe, keeping it away from children and there is no way kids could come in unless you get an OMP card and get checked in his store, everything is computerized and monitored, there is 24 hour surveillance, you could wink your eyes and do what you want but it is legal and we are doing very well, we have a lot of patients surviving with cancer, doing all kinds of great things with it, kids aren't getting it by me, by other people, we keep it in the store and keep it safe and away from kids it will be much safer than what it is right now and he would like you guys to come on into town and start it up.

Mayor Cole stated you have to have a business license. Clark said there was some kind of penalty if he didn't have one. Dudley said that was correct. Clark said he is also putting on Astoria's first hemp festival August 25th and 26th and they are looking at between 10,000 and 20,000 people so he is doing a lot more than what a lot of people think and this isn't drug dealing or whatever you guys think it is, it is all regulated by Oregon and he does a very good job with it.

Mayor Cole said that as far as a business license the City follows our rules and rights from the Department of Justice and what they have told us is that both Oregon and federal law both make it illegal to sell marijuana. Clark said that is correct. Mayor Cole added it makes no difference what marijuana is for, whether the sale is exchanged for donation or distribution it violates the law and that is how we base it whether or not we give a business license. Clark said not under Oregon and Oregon state law it is legal to not sell but typically the patient reimburses for it. Mayor Cole said the City would not be issuing Clark a business license for it.

Dudley asked Clark if he would like her to read the City of Rainier municipal code that pertains to the issuance of business licenses. It states that the City can deny a business license if you fail to meet the requirement or is doing business in violation of federal, state, county or municipal law and according to the U.S. Department of Justice dispensing marijuana is a violation of the federal law, therefore, the City can not issue a business license. Dudley added there could be a civil penalty up to \$500 per day if you do business without a business license. Clark asked if that was per year and Dudley replied that it was per day. Clark said we should be able to get this resolved and Mayor Cole said he would be more than happy to get this resolved and Clark has had his two minutes.

Mike Mullins, Stoney Girl Gardens, Happy Valley thanked the Council for the opportunity to present to them and reminded the Council they had presented to them a year ago and the difference between today and one year ago is that last year there was only 35,000 patients in the program and today there is 70,000 patients and by the end of the year there will be 140,000 patients in the program. Mullins said that over 45,000 patients cannot find a place to go, they are outstanding citizens, our neighbors, the

average age is 57 years old, there are over 30 clubs running in Oregon at this time, they work with the Department of Justice, the state and all this will be cleared up very soon in law. Mullins said that the patients right now, over 45,000 of them don't know where to go to get marijuana so they are calling up their niece or nephew asking to score a bag at the school and all the marijuana for these patients comes from licensed, legal growers in Oregon and what they would like the City to look at is possibly regulating this along with them, talk to the legislatures, go ahead and give a business license, go ahead and open it up so the police can monitor this activity, we are very much upfront and very clear on how they do their business.

Jennifer Valley, Happy Valley, said she spoke with Council last year and she has just been told by her doctor that the tumors in her lungs were gone because of a cannabis oil extract treatment, she has been working with patients across the state for the past year and has seen reductions in melanoma, colon cancer, progressive prostate cancer, breast cancer and have also seen a major impact on the clubs that they have put in place. Valley said the drug dealers are sending her death threats because when they create an outlet where patients can get their medication at cost as the law states they are allowed to do because they reimburse their growers and that means the drug dealers cannot get the \$350 an ounce on the streets anymore because the patients aren't going to them. Valley said they have seen a lot of patients who have been able to reduce their morphine and they are going to be getting involved with the cross roads program this year so they can use their cannabis extract oil instead of methadone because they have seen dramatic results in getting patients off of opiates which is a huge issue. Valley said they are seeing a huge shortage of pain management drugs and a very large shortage of cancer control drugs so they are stepping up to fill a void and would like the Council's cooperation.

Bonnie Burnham, 26593 Hammond Road, Rainier, Oregon asked how the other dispensary opened and this one can't. Mayor Cole replied that the other one is closed and they never got a business license. Valley stated the other one did have a business license and Dudley said they applied for one but they never were granted a business license. Burnham asked if that was for the same reason, the same basis and Dudley said it was. Burnham asked if this was going to be discussed or if the two of them were making the decision. Dudley clarified that when Clark came in she shared with him her concerns about issuing a business license based on the U.S. Department of Justice and she told Clark that if he wanted he could come to the Council meeting tonight under visitors comments and if he wanted to be placed on the agenda that was something we could discuss for the next meeting because the agenda for tonight was full. Mayor Cole said he would be more than happy to put him on a future agenda. Dudley stated that tonight was for public comment only. Mayor Cole asked Clark if he wanted to be on the next agenda for the April 2nd meeting and Clark said that would be perfect because his planned opening date is April 20th, he could get the remodel started and be ready to go by then.

Cooper explained that visitors' comments are really not for the Council to discuss back as individuals but it is a way to voice the public's concerns about things that are going on in the City and getting on the council agenda would be the proper forum. Burnham expressed regarding Mayor Cole's statement of not issuing a business license and Mayor Cole clarified we would not be doing that right now unless Council wants to go against the federal law. Clark commented Astoria did and Mayor Cole stated we are Rainier, not Astoria. Mayor Cole reiterated he would be more than happy to put it on the agenda for the next meeting and Clark said to put them down.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Approve March 1st, 2012 Special Meeting Minutes - Cooper moved, Vilardi 2nd, to approve the minutes. **The motion passed unanimously.**
- b. Approve March 5th, 2012 Work Session and Regular Meeting Minutes - Avent moved, Butcher 2nd, to approve both minutes. **The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. View Street Update – Waiting for dryer weather, it could be a couple of months.
- d. “B” Street Update – Dudley said she has a written report and will go through it during staff reports.
- e. “C” Street Slippage Update – Waiting for dryer weather.
- f. Council Training Update – Dudley will discuss that in staff reports.
- g. Discuss Little League Banner Request – Nelson, on behalf of Little League, distributed a letter from the Little League President who could not attend the council meeting. Nelson reminded Council that at the last council meeting Council requested more information regarding the size of the banners, material, and were they going to be professionally created. Nelson said the letter spells out the concerns. Cooper moved, Nelson 2nd, to accept the Little League banner request as proposed on the letter. Avent suggested doing it for a year to see what kind of feedback they got from citizens and we could always do it for another year or make it permanent next year depending on what kind of feedback we get from the community. Nelson stated it's our park and if we get a lot of complaints or a complaint we address it at the time. Nelson asked Avent if he was asking that Little League come back in a year and Avent said that at some point in time we make it for a year because it is a proposal to adopt something like the parking issue because we get into things and then we are stuck with it and then next year we could visit it again and make it permanent if there wasn't any feedback. Cooper withdrew his motion

for the Little League banner request and amend the motion to accept the Little League banner request on the basis the Council reserves the right at any point down the road to cancel that policy, Nelson 2nd, and the **motion passed unanimously.**

- h.** Parking During Little League Season – Nelson referred to Resolution 1010 passed and adopted by Council on March 19, 2007 adopting parking on the south side of “A” Street between Veterans Way and the Fox Creek Bridge between April 1st and October 1st. Nelson said he wanted to give a copy of the resolution to Chief Griffith. Mayor Cole asked for discussion and Avent said he knew about it and should have spoke up more about it at the last meeting but the Chief and other had some safety concerns. Avent said he mentioned to Nelson about letting it go through but with some precautions like signage or have an adult supervise the crossing areas during the games. Cooper said he would like to keep the parking on one side due to safety reasons and maybe there is a way to work something out during ball season regarding other options, Cooper said he would like Council to exhaust other opportunities before they open up that liability. Butcher said he would like to see a safety crossing developed at a central point with a light. Vilardi said maybe a raised part in the street with a crosswalk. Avent asked if maybe Chief Griffith could work with Nelson and the Little Leaguers to find out some solution they could all feel comfortable with if they do open it back up. Mayor Cole said technically speaking it never closed because as of April 1st there is a resolution that makes it legal to park on that side, it’s never been voted to take that away. Cooper asked Nelson if he wanted to work with Chief Griffith and himself to see what they can come up with and Nelson said he would. Bradfield said he thinks Council agrees they don’t want the same situation any longer that is tolerable as the same situation on the highway going out of Rainier towards Clatskanie regarding the center blocks. Mayor Cole said maybe during certain times it could be one-way traffic.
- i.** Discuss Pocket Park – Nelson distributed some literature on the proposed pocket park on West “C” Street and Fern Hill Road and there is a lot of community involvement. Nelson said he spoke with public works regarding the project and they think the plan is doable or would create any hardship to the City and they are in favor of it and he spoke with the Police Department and they are in agreement with the design and don’t see it as causing any traffic issues.

Sharon Erdman, 712 West “C” Street, Rainier, Oregon 97048 said they have watched the City spray the “island” for years and would like the Council to plant something in it.

Erin O'Connell, 306 West 8th Street, Rainier, OR 97048 distributed copies of the design and the design was specifically designed for the area, low moisture, low maintenance plans and the individuals involved are really excited about it. O'Connell stated that if the Council approves the project they will move forward with it, get the community and other businesses rallied behind it to make it happen. O'Connell said they are not only asking for the Council's permission and support to make this project a reality but a couple of items that are going to be really important for the success of the project that will need Council's consideration; authorization for the City personnel to provide labor and equipment as an in kind match as needed. O'Connell said a couple of contractors have already said they will to assist with the site prep but they may need more hands. Cooper asked who would be in charge of long term maintenance and O'Connell said it was the goal to have community members assist with the planting and long term maintenance, not City personnel. O'Connell said once the park is established by design it will require minimal maintenance. O'Connell said there is a pump currently located on the site and the first there could be a lot of water usage and after that most of it will be handled by the rain. Cooper stated the only cautionary item he sees is having a faucet there. Foultnier said he looked at it the other day and it will be kept locked on the inside and as far as using the water for it most of the plants are going to be self sustaining. Avent asked what the dollar figure was for the City's contribution and O'Connell said she doesn't know what it would cost to install that apparatus and then the in kind match. Avent clarified they are not asking for money from the City and O'Connell said that was correct. O'Connell said they received a grant from the Garden Club and have received a lot of donated items. O'Connell said the biggest expense would be for the plants and they have contacted nurseries to get the best deal. O'Connell said they also wanted to name the park and that will be a fun thing included with the project. Erdman said they have one donation from Connie Budge for one of the two benches and O'Connell named several individuals and businesses who are involved in the project. Nelson said the group has talked about naming the park and that would have to come before Council and the process would be that we come up with three potential names and our goal would be to make this a neighborhood project and that day have a barbecue and vote on the name of the park. Cooper moved, Avent 2nd, to approve the pocket park proposal with an added condition that it is a community project with labor and expenses being shared with the neighborhood. Mayor Cole directed Foultnier to install a meter so we know what the actual cost of the water is for accountability. **The motion passed unanimously.** Nelson added if anyone would want to donate they can make a check out to the Rainier Garden Club for the pocket park project.

- j. Discuss City Administrator Position – Bradfield asked how many hours she was working and Dudley replied that last week wasn't so bad but she has a lot of projects she will be undertaking and when you accept a position in management you recognize that you work until you get the job done, she doesn't feel abused, she is continuing to look for people but the temporary part-time hasn't been filled yet and the temp agency will be running an ad and once that happens that will alleviate some of the back log. Dudley said she checked into outsourcing payroll but unfortunately the way the two systems are it would be cost prohibitive and it would still create a lot of work because the general ledger information would have to be manually entered. Dudley said that having the public works crew step up the way they have has taken a lot off her shoulders along with the office staff, she couldn't ask for a better crew. Bradfield asked if the part-time help would relieve Dudley of some or all of the accounting processes. Dudley said some of it but not all of it and by bringing somebody in it will put all of the checks and balances into place because you don't have one person doing everything so it will give us more audit control. Dudley said there are some grants she wants to apply for and those can be outsourced which she recommends because that will take some of the stress and pressure off. Dudley said it is imperative that we take advantage of free money and her concern is that the City might be missing some of that if we are not getting onto the websites. Dudley thanked Butcher for sending her grant information. Dudley said we are working on fine tuning what we have going and making sure we are economical in our efforts and she thinks that will go a long way as working as a unit. Cooper said if we chose to consolidate the financial director and the city administrator's position we knew we were going to have to backfill with a bookkeeping type person or somebody with a predefined skill set, lesser salaried, but could pick up the load since Dudley would still be the financial director and acting city administrator but she hasn't been able to find anyone. Dudley added that temporary part-time has been a detriment. Avent added that Dudley's pay was to be evaluated based on the job she was doing and he was thinking Butcher and another council member could be appointed to do some comparisons with other cities and maybe at the next meeting they could come up with a fair compensation with the overburden and what the going rate is for a city of this size. Dudley said that is something we need to look at it. Bradfield added that if Dudley's job description is a combination of there will need to be an audible position circumstance, a process, so that there is always a second check because of audit situations. Dudley said she does payroll and she would like to bring someone in to do payroll, Mayor Cole tracks the payroll monthly, and we do have our annual audit so we do have the checks and balances. Bradfield asked if we have ever had a state audit and Dudley replied the independent auditors come in twice a year, they audit us and it goes to the state for review. Bradfield asked Dudley if her job description was defined and she stated there

is a job description for the finance director and there is a job description for the city administrator. Bradfield asked if the city administrator job description has been defined, Dudley said it has not been revised. Bradfield said the reason he asked that if it hasn't what's to keep council from adding and adding more. Mayor Cole said he believes that by Charter the only one we are required to have is a city recorder. Bradfield asked Dudley if she would prefer to have something defined and she stated that job descriptions are helpful when goal setting but internally there is so much more you do that is never encompassed in a job description. Mayor Cole said he doesn't want to get boxed in a corner and we previously had a city administrator and a finance director and he doesn't think that model works for Rainier. Vilardi also agreed that model did not work. Cooper said Dudley has never said no to any tasks when asked. Vilardi stated Dudley picked up the slack when Gare left without asking, she hasn't asked for anything, she has done a stellar job as the interim city administrator, she has made things happen, our audits are clean and we know what we have and what we have done in the past has not worked. Vilardi said that he doesn't think being interim carries a lot of weight in her position in trying to make demands and he thinks the Council can do better for Dudley and he feels Council should vote Dudley in as city administrator. Cooper stated he agreed with Vilardi 100%. Avent stated his concern is the City has gone through recalls and a lot of issues and it is working right now and he would prefer to wait and see how things go, but he thinks Dudley should be compensated for it in pay. Avent said he did not want to get criticized for a bunch of things out there unless it is a major break deal with Dudley. Vilardi said we have a lot of stuff coming up and Cooper stated Dudley has been doing it for a year and Vilardi said Council knows what we have and he doesn't see any reason why Council couldn't vote Dudley in as City Administrator and added he is in agreement with discussing a compensation package and Dudley is here on the weekends and in the evenings. Butcher said on January 9th there was a 90 day review of Dudley's salary, the 90 days would be up April 9th, and since there is a meeting on April 2nd Butcher said he feels Dudley's salary should be reviewed at that time and adjusted accordingly at that date and then at six months a decision would be made whether or not to move Dudley into the position or not. Vilardi said that having an interim city administrator title is a detriment to Dudley while trying to hire someone, the interim administrator title is hurting Dudley. Cooper said he doesn't see the need to prolong this, even though it is a totally different circumstance the City lost their police chief and it didn't take the Council four weeks to promote the sergeant into the Chief's position, he doesn't see how this is any different, he doesn't think the Council will find anyone better who will work harder, is more familiar and will do a better job than Dudley. Cooper said he feels Council should go ahead and make Dudley the city administrator. Bradfield asked Dudley if she wanted the job and she stated she

did. Sills added that not only has Dudley been very helpful, knowledgeable and very able to do the work she is in very tight with the community and knows what challenges are coming up. Sills added that hypothetically if someone else was brought in how long would it take them to get up to speed, to be where Dudley is now. Sills added if he had questions on Dudley's integrity and ability he would be in favor of looking at the market but he doesn't question her integrity or ability, she knows the issues so Council can move on as a team. Vilardi moved, Cooper 2nd, to hire Dudley as the City Administrator based on being able to negotiate a compensation package. Avent said he wanted Dudley to know he was going to vote against it and it was not a reflection on her, he likes to follow the process and go through interviews and they have made some bad mistakes and he doesn't want to rush in and make another bad mistake and hopefully everything works out and he thinks Dudley is doing a great job, she knows what he thinks about her effort, he has seen it and he appreciates that. Butcher said Dudley has been doing an outstanding job; it's good to read a staff report on where we are at and what we are looking at and Dudley did a wonderful job on that report. Butcher added that also Dudley put together information for them from the Department of Justice for the Council to have a better look and understanding of what is going on, it is very good and he appreciates that. Nelson said he has been on Council as a senior member and he wasn't on Council when Olsen was the city administrator but he was here when they followed the advice of the League of Oregon Cities and went through a process, they hired an individual, they left that individual go and paid them to go and then they went through the League of Oregon Cities, went through a process, we got somebody who met all the requirements for the League of Oregon Cities with all these stellar titles and certificates and we let them go, we paid them to go away, and we now have somebody who has shown us they can do the job, he has seen more activity than he has in a long time, the City is knocking down things that haven't been hit before, he doesn't come with a great pedigree but he is able to keep his businesses afloat and he is excited to be able to hand the reins Dudley to take the City forward. **The motion passed with the votes as follows:**

Aye: Vilardi, Nelson, Bradfield, Sills and Cooper.

Nay: Avent and Butcher.

Mayor Cole asked Council if anyone wanted to volunteer to put together a compensation package and Bradfield volunteered. Cooper said he would like to see them bring in the third party person they had talked about before and Bradfield to be a part of that also. Mayor Cole said you could form it with the Council's ideas because doesn't want someone to come in and tell them this is the way it has to be. Avent clarified we are looking for their input. Mayor Cole asked for any other volunteers and Butcher said he would even though

he voted nay. Vilardi agreed to be in the compensation package group also. Nelson said he would not like Council to be set up by the compensation package group coming to Council with here's the proposal and what do you mean we have spent all this time on it, come with an understanding that the Council can still adjust it, not because we have to be happy with it because people worked on it. Cooper said that that however this ends up happening it become part of the City's personnel policy because it is not going to be a contract position. Mayor Cole said they have talked about trying to get away from the contracts.

New Business:

- a. Approve the Eagles Request to Use the Park for an Easter Egg Hunt. Nelson moved, Avent 2nd. **The motion passed unanimously.**
- b. Approve the Agreement with Water Technical Forestry for Road Construction not to Exceed \$4,000, Without a Change Order. Nelson moved, Avent 2nd. **The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. Approve the Agreement with Payne Reforestation for Seedling Planting not to exceed \$1,720. Avent moved, Vilardi 2nd. **The motion passed unanimously.**
- d. Discuss May 5th City of Rainier Clean Up Day. Dudley said she is working with Public Works, the County and Hudson Garbage to offer a City wide clean up day to our residents. There will be more information when everything is finalized. The open area behind the sewage treatment plant will be the location for the clean-up day site. Dudley said Columbia County Transfer Station does not charge Hudson Garbage the County tippage fee, so they will be able to provide pass that savings on to us and they have agreed that day will work for them. They will not be accepting hazardous waste materials. Dudley mentioned the clean up day information was in the utility bill that just went out and Nelson suggested the City paying for an ad in the Clatskanie Chief regarding the clean up day. Dudley stated flyers will be posted, and Dudley will be check on shredding companies and scrappers. Cooper mentioned possibly getting volunteers that might owe money to the City to help out. Sills said he knows Boy Scouts who are trying to become Eagle Scouts and scrapping is a way for them to make money. Dudley and Sills will further discuss this later.
- e. Approve Planning Agreement with Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments. Avent moved, Cooper 2nd. **The motion passed unanimously.**
- f. Approve Phase II of the City of the City of Rainier Computer System Upgrade. Cooper moved, Vilardi 2nd. Dudley said we are ready to go and

Cooper said that Phase I virtualized the servers and getting rid of old hardware. Cooper said the desktops in the police department and admin are pretty much beyond maintenance. Cooper said we can't afford to replace all of those at this time but they can create virtual desktops so the existing PCs until the next budget cycle will become more like mainframe terminals. Cooper said they are also going to upgrade to the latest office software that will be shared. It hasn't been discussed but possibly the water and sewer plants could be hooked into this system. When it comes time to replace them it will be more of a terminal, there won't be local copies of software. **The motion passed unanimously.**

- g. Outside City Hall Sign. Nelson said the sign in front of City Hall has a slider for accepting different board and council applications and Nelson explained the sign structure. Nelson said he would like approval to purchase a sign to slide in there with the City of Rainier logo on it; two sided for \$175.00 from Rainier Sign Company, so when there are no candidates being solicited for different positions the sign log could be implemented. Avent moved, Vilardi 2nd. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Staff Reports:

Chief Griffith – Officer Manning went to ODOT truck inspection school so there are now two officers trained for that. Sent out a grant to get some free deliberator machines and should know next month if they get the grant. Nelson asked if they would be in the cars and Griffith said they could be, he's not sure how many they will get and if they get an extra one they will put it upstairs.

Foultnier – Last week public works along with the police department received first aid training, started trimming areas in the park and problem areas around town, fixed the bilge pump down at the old marina, working on replacing the waterline to the porta potty washout station at the base of the ramp to be in compliance with the Marine Board, received one bid and waiting on two more bids on replacing the bull rails, ordered replacement street signs for the east side of town and once they are delivered they will be ordered for the west side of town, and working with DEQ to find out how far behind the City is with the DEQ permit process and that is getting all taken care of.

Dudley – Went through the written report provided to Council and stated she contacted the city administrators from the City of Columbia City, Clatskanie and Vernonia to see if there was interest in putting together a joint council training and the city administrators did express interest and they are going to talk to their Council and Dudley will report back with dates and times and Dudley requested the Rainier Council to let her know what types of training they want to see from the packet she provided. Based on the budget projections they are ready to move forward with the system upgrade for Phase II. Dudley stated at the last meeting Avent had asked if they could get the names of the property owners on "B" Street that we need to get easements or acquire property from and we have that information but Tom Weatherford suggested that he meet with the City before

any property owners are contacted because there is a certain process to go through so he cautioned the City to work with him before approaching any property owners. Dudley said Weatherford is working on getting the numbers finalized and when that happens “B” Street will be brought back to the Council because it may have to be modified again. Dudley said that Reynolds Surveying has been contacted for the park and ride area that has been discussed and that will be talked about more in executive session, the cost is between \$600 and \$1400, the higher cost is if we want to have the survey recorded at the County. Dudley said the records indicate the City permitted the property owner next to this property has been allowed to use the property but records do not indicate the City can’t ask him to move, he has used it prior but there is nothing to say he can continue to use it. Dudley said she will be available the rest of the month at 7:30 AM on Tuesdays and 6:00 PM on Wednesdays to go over financials or provide training. Dudley referenced the financials that were provided to Council and said if they had any questions or needed explanation to please contact her. She will be available at 7:30 am on Tuesdays and 6:00 pm Wednesdays to review the information or provide training. If anyone needs to make arrangements for a different time just let her know. Dudley said we have employment compensation information from other cities and she is waiting for other cities’ information and when she gets that information she will put it in a spread sheet and provide that to the individual who is going to be assisting with the union negotiations. Dudley worked with Janine at the Marine Board, they are on board with the City’s proposal, we have committed to having the maintenance done by June 30th of this year that includes the bull rails, the water line, the pump out station is operational and they are excited about the positive effort the City has made. Dudley announced the City/County Dinner is scheduled for April 3rd, 6:00 PM , more information to follow and added that since the City of Rainier is hosting it would be great if there was 100% attendance by Council. Nelson asked Dudley if it was possible for Hudson Garbage to send something out in their bill about the Clean Up Day and Dudley said they were going to do that. Dudley said she and Mayor Cole met with the individuals involved in the rail project transporting coal and we are encouraging them to provide our citizens with information and town hall meetings and they said that would be happening shortly and the “A” Street issues are being addressed as far as the rail. Dudley attended an informative Col-Pac meeting, she will continue to attend and they are a good source of information regarding grants. Dudley said Mary MacArthur from Col-Pac will provide services to do grant writing for a fee. Dudley said that one of things that was mentioned to her and she is continuing to investigate is the options related to the public works director and one of the things contestant with government agencies looking for ways to save money that was mentioned by Senator Betsy Johnson is the state is evaluating their staff versus management positions ratio so the public works director falls in line with that. Referencing a list the Council had received, Dudley added the public works is doing a great job getting those issues resolved.

Avent moved, Nelson 2nd, to extend the meeting to 9:15 PM. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Council Reports:

Bradfield – looks forward to getting more involved with public works showing him around, email not working, and asked if the marijuana issue would be discussed later because he got the impression he got they were moving forward with their plan. Mayor Cole said that would be discussed in executive session.

Avent – thanked Amber Agency for the presentation and he made the decision to support them, not the rail one, and this would be the least impact on the City of Rainier. Avent suggested inviting the employees to attend the City/Council Dinner meeting and council agreed.

Cooper – looking forward to getting the I.T. stuff done, would like to have one of the I.T. gentlemen present at the next meeting for the work session to assist with the email issues. Cooper said he is doing some homework to see if there is a better system regarding council packets that would eliminate the paper. Cooper thanked Foultnier for a good public works report.

Nelson – thanked staff and said it is a good feeling to see all the positive work such as storm drains and bushes being trimmed.

Vilardi – Welcomed Dudley into the City Administrator position and thanked staff.

Sills – Congratulated Dudley and feels Council and the City is moving forward.

Butcher – Expressed his sentiments were the same as Sills and Vilardi and Council has come a long ways, suggested updating the website with the new councilors and congratulated Dudley and said she earned it.

Allen Harrison, visitor, stated he wanted to recognize and thank the leadership and the employees of the City of working so well together and moving in the right direction.

Executive Session:

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Mayor Cole

Attested: _____
Debra Dudley, City Administrator
Finance Director
Recorder