

City of Rainier
Work Session Council Minutes
April 15, 2013
Rainier City Hall
106 West “B” Street
6:30 PM

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order.

Council Present: Mayor Cole, David Sills, Scott Cooper, William Vilaridi, Sloan Nelson, Judith Taylor and Steve Massey.

Council Absent: James Bradfield.

Staff Present: Debra Dudley, City Administrator/Finance Director/Recorder; Police Chief Gregg Griffith; and Kevin Patching, Public Works Foreman.

Training Schedule – Dudley confirmed the training schedule for the 20th has been changed to the Monday the 29th from 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM. Dudley stated there will be two sessions.

Agenda:

a. Capital Improvement Discussion –

Dudley reported that replacing the windows and painting City Hall will be a portion of this year’s budget and probably next year’s budget and Patching has identified other areas that need to be looked including the wastewater treatment plant because if the City continues to accept sludge in the amount we are taking we will need to reconfigure that area and build a building, Patching is acquiring estimates for the building. Dudley added that the police department needs a replacement vehicle, they are behind on their recycling of vehicles and will try to get back to a two year rather than three year rotation. Dudley added changing the dash cams in the police vehicles has also been discussed. Dudley and Griffith stated currently there are two dash cams, they are critical for the police department and will probably be discussed this budget cycle and want to get to one user. Cooper added instead of moving forward with another new dash cam with another new vendor the goal is to replace both cams instead of just one, get them under a common vendor with a maintenance package and all on one server. Cooper said there are other i.t. things to discuss when the time is appropriate and Dudley added prices are being gathered for other i.t. upgrades and one of things is moving the i.t. upstairs in a secured location. Dudley added Patching is working on getting upgrades to the water treatment plant that will include changing the pump to a variable speed which will decrease the power costs. Dudley stated the standard wish list will be discussed in house prior to bringing it to Council.

b. EDU Discussion –

Dudley reminded Council a few months ago an EDU committee was formed, the committee recommended the City implement a different format and the recommended format consisted of instead of charging by multiple dwelling units the City will be charging by actual consumption and are currently running various scenarios that will be presented to Council for review. Dudley added that once everyone has the opportunity to review the scenarios there will be a public comment section before the changes are made and the target date for those rate changes is July 1st. Taylor clarified with Dudley the EDU is not going to be for multiple dwelling unit, but based on consumption which provides continuity and a more streamlined manner for the public, staff and council to understand.

c. Increase in Sludge Delivery Rate –

Dudley reminded the Council of previous discussions regarding additional increases in sludge deliveries from \$.09 to \$.11 and she and Patching have been researching an actual cost for taking the sludge and the high estimate is between 35% and 40% and that takes into consideration being able to utilize the current bio-solids disposal system. Dudley added that if something happens to the way we are currently disposing of that it could dramatically change. Nelson asked if that included wear and tear and Dudley stated it did on capital. Dudley said when what is billed versus the actual sludge delivery the sludge delivery accounts for 3% of what is being actually treated and because it is at a higher concentrate the cost is significantly more. Nelson stated that during the budget process and if the City is going to continue to do the bio-solids he would like Council to look at something similar that Clatskanie PUD does as far as revenue sharing for the co-generation plant. Taylor said she likes the idea of revenue sharing. Cooper added to be cautious of revenue sharing because of maintenance issues. Dudley added that making sure Council puts an adequate amount in a capital replacement plan and what is left over after that would be for revenue sharing is important.

Mayor Cole adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Cole

Attested: _____
Debra Dudley, City Admin./Fin. Dir./Recorder