

City of Rainier
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2013
7:00 PM
Rainier City Hall
106 West "B" Street

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Council Present: Mayor Cole, James Bradfield, Sloan Nelson, David Sills, Judith Taylor, Steve Massey and Scott Cooper. **Council Absent:** None.

City Staff Present: Debra Dudley, City Administrator/Finance Director/Recorder, and Police Chief Griffith.

City Attorney Absent: Stephen D. Petersen.

Flag Salute

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: None.

Mayor's Address:

Mayor Cole read the names of five service personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty since the council last met and a moment of silence was observed.

Mayor Cole on behalf of the City Council and the City of Rainier congratulated the Rainier Girls Softball team for their win at State and they will be added to the sign of champions.

Mayor Cole thanked city staff and Hudson Garbage Service for the successful Saturday clean-up. Ernie Martin, Hudson Garbage Service, gave received pounds, tons, yards and appliance statistics. Nelson complimented Dudley and staff on the project. Dudley reported the cash and non-perishable items donated to H.O.P.E. and thanked all those who assisted.

Regarding the Highway 30 project, Mayor Cole met with the carpet store individuals and J & R Sales and is trying to schedule a meeting with the State.

Mayor Cole stated he is working with staff on a transient vendor ordinance and it will be presented to Council.

Mayor Cole distributed the 2013 Rainier Days In The Park programs and discussed the highlights.

Visitor's Comments: None.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Approve May 7, 2013 Work Session Minutes:** Vilardi moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the minutes as presented – **motion passed unanimously.**
- b. Approve May 7, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes:** Vilardi moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the minutes as presented – **motion passed unanimously.**
- c. Dry RV Camp Update:** Dudley reported target date of August 1st and will have rules and regulations to review at the next meeting along with proposed signage.
- d. Highway 30/”B” Street Update:** Mayor Cole referenced his earlier update in Mayor’s address.

New Business:

- a. Approve Teevin Brothers Agreement Extending Enterprise Zone Property Tax Exemption for Capital:** Taylor moved, Sills 2nd, to approve the agreement extending enterprise zone property tax exemption for capital. Nelson asked if the other agencies had approved the agreement and Dudley asked most of them have – **motion passed unanimously.** Mayor Cole reminded the Council of the guarantees involved with the agreement as far as employees, etc.
- b. Second Read of Ordinance #1057 Marina, Boat Launch & Docks:** Mayor Cole explained it is an ordinance setting up rules and regulations for the use of the city marina and city boat launch to include the parking facilities and prescribing penalties for violations of use and repealing ordinance no. 823, ordinance no. 956, ordinance 957 and ordinance no. 1053. Dudley added this ordinance is on the website.
- c. Approve Resolution #13-06-01 Adopting Marina Boat Slip Rates:** Dudley stated the rates have not been increased since 2011 and this proposal is going to increase the boat slips from \$78 to \$80, eliminates the discount for advance payers, and is recommending the approval because there currently is a waiting list of 54 individuals for slips and a lot of people call in that don’t put their name on the waiting list because of the long list. Mayor Cole stated Dan Jacobson (citizen) pointed out to him that some of the slips are larger than others and it is common practice to charge more for the larger slips. Cooper requested revising the resolution to include boat lengths, the larger boats would pay more than the smaller vessels. Sills asked if the fees were being raised just to raise fees and Dudley replied that it is a very conservative increase and most of it is to eliminate the discount and costs are going up due to labor and maintenance. Dudley added the dock at the launch needs to be repaired. Sills would like to see how much money and time is spent, is okay with making a profit but not overcharging. Dudley added that some of the cost is for staff, we have to maintain the dock, \$5,000 was just spent for repairing damage, and last year the City spent \$25,000 in fixing the tie rods. Massey added maybe the City was not charging enough. Dudley referred to the budget as far as public properties including the park and marina and in the past the facility was not maintained as it should have been and there are some significant anticipated costs this coming year and Cooper added there will be some significant costs of

repair at the launch also. Dudley added currently we are going to be behind because of significant capital costs due to lack of maintenance, we still have some additional capital costs and the City needs to be able to continue improve the facility, an automatic lock was added to the restrooms and motion sensor lights are being researched in an attempt to prevent vandalism. Mayor Cole suggested Dudley move this topic to unfinished business and Cooper and Dudley will research the revenue vs. the expenditures. Nelson suggested checking some of the neighboring marinas regarding fees.

d. Approve Request by Hudson Garbage for Pass Through Rate Adjustment: Ernie Martin stated they are requesting a rate increase because the Columbia County Transfer Station just passed a 2.1% rate increase for disposable and that is what Hudson Garbage is requesting. Cooper moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the request by Hudson Garbage for a pass through rate adjustment of 2.1%. Taylor said she believes this was part of their contract. Nelson asked Martin for clarification and Martin said the rate increase was passed by the County Commissioners, they are mandated to use the Columbia County Transfer station and anytime there is a rate increase at the transfer station Hudson Garbage passes the increase along to their customers. **Motion passed with Nelson voting nay.**

Staff Reports:

Chief Griffith – C.E.N.T. is requesting Rainier P.D. provide one officer one week every six months to assist with drug crimes. Sills expressed concern regarding the jurisdiction on coverage and Chief Griffith explained it is county-wide and Rainier may or may not benefit. Mayor Cole stated it was like a mutual aid agreement and stated if a major crime was going on in Rainier the officers would be focused on Rainier as opposed to C.E.N.T. Bradfield asked if there was a financial impact and Chief Griffith stated they would replace who was on vacation and will keep overtime to a minimum. Taylor clarified there would be 64 hours a year of on call time. Council gave Chief Griffith a consensus to comply with the request.

Dudley – clean up day went well, the Diking District meeting is scheduled for June 17, 11:00 A.M. at City Hall outstanding issues are on a spreadsheet and Dudley will forward that information to the council members along with the meeting information.

Mayor Cole and Council addressed a flyer that was directed towards the City Administrator and distributed throughout the City. The flyer was not signed and no visitors attended the Council meeting regarding the flyer. Council comments included the information in the flyer was bogus, the first issue in the flyer was incorrect by stating the City Administrator was being paid over \$100,000 which is \$25,000 less than her salary and with regard to the public works department employees not being certified to operate the water and wastewater treatment plants is true but the city is saving over \$100,000 per year by contracting with a private individual to provide those services. Mayor Cole added the public works employees are competently running the two plants, they are not certified to sign off, that service is contracted out at a significant savings, and the public works department is currently getting more done than they were the last 6 or 7 months. Public works is in the process of hiring another utility worker.

Nelson said it is unfortunate the City has to keep addressing these types of issues from a disgruntled individual and having been on Council for a while he feels the City has come along ways financially and right now the City is in the most solid position since he has been on Council. Massey said the amount of people showing up speaks volume. Vilardi added the City Administrator has done an outstanding job making the City solid again and is putting in lots of hours on her own and has her heart in the betterment of the City and it bothers him when someone tries to smear her when she does such an outstanding job. Cooper agreed with Vilardi and stated if someone doesn't have the courage to sign this type of flyer he can't give it any credibility and it's only reason for existence is to upset people. Taylor added being on Council previously she concurs regarding the current financial stability of the City and attributes that to Dudley. Sills stated that he feels anything worth putting in print should have a name on it for credibility and feels the purpose of the flyer is slanderous, added the City is in a good spot and if anyone has questions he welcomes them to find out information by contact City Hall or the Council and if their concerns are in writing to sign the document. Vilardi on behalf of the Council apologized for any discomfort the flyer caused because they all know how hard she works. Dudley thanked the Council for their support and stated we are going to continue in a positive straight forward manner.

Darlene and Kenneth Rea, citizens, stated they have lived here forever and it is nice to be able to put names with faces.

Council Reports:

Bradfield – in regards to Rainier Days In The Park is a train schedule available. Nelson said usually the parade organizers coordinate the parade with the train schedule.

Cooper – Addressed Dudley, Chief Griffith and Vilardi by stating they need to move forward with the I.T. project. The software being research to web cam the meetings was recently purchased by Scappoose and requested Dudley to set up a meeting with Scappoose to see what was involved.

Nelson – noticed some of the trees along “A” Street especially by the sewer plant have died and would like to see about getting some new trees planted or at least cut them down. Dudley working on getting City Hall windows and the building painted and staff may not have the skills to accomplish the projects and suggested getting a project engineer with expertise.

Sills – seniors have graduated and congratulated the soft ball team.

City Calendar/Announcements:

City Council Training Monday, June 10th, 5:00 PM and the Redco Budget Meeting on the 11th. The Redco budget committee meeting was moved to the 17th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Mayor Jerry Cole

Attested: _____
Debra Dudley, City Admin./Finance Director/Recorder