

City of Rainier
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2014
7:00 PM
Rainier City Hall
106 West “B” Street

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Council Present: Mayor Cole, David Sills, Steve Massey, Sloan Nelson, Scott Cooper, James Bradfield and William Vilardi.

Council Absent: None.

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

City Attorney Present: Stephen D. Petersen.

Flag Salute.

Additions/Deletions from Agenda:

Cooper moved, Vilardi 2nd, to add the Cowlitz Wahkiakum Council of Governments (CWCOG) contract to the agenda – **motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor’s Address:

Mayor Cole read the name of one fallen service person since Council last met on March 3, 2014 and a moment of silence was observed.

Mayor Cole stated he proclaimed last Saturday as Rainier Senior Center Day and presented the Center with a proclamation at the ten year anniversary of the Senior Center.

Mayor Cole proclaimed April Sexual Assault Awareness Month and read a proclamation. A member of SAFE (Support Advocacy Freedom Environment) was present and spoke of the program.

Mayor Cole proclaimed April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month and read the proclamation.

Visitor Comments:

Skip Lahti, 29843 Riverview Drive, Rainier, OR 97048 thanked Senator Betsy Johnson and Commissioner Tony Hyde for their involvement in the “A” Street project funding and Connect Oregon ranking process. Lahti thanked Mayor Cole for making it abundantly clear at a recent meeting that Rainier would have a quiet zone.

Approve Consent Agenda Items:

March 3, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes and Financial Reports: Massey moved, Vilardi 2nd, to approve the consent agenda items – **motion passed with Sills abstaining.**

Unfinished Business:

a. Senior Center Update: Dudley stated the open house was well received and Richards Construction did a great job on the repair work. Mayor Cole added the current board is meeting their obligations, turning in their paperwork and doing a good job. Nelson added exterior repairs were previously discussed and Dudley said the City has a bid for work and the cost of the improvements will be in the upcoming budget.

Mayor Cole stated the building evaluator is going to evaluate the water treatment plant and pump house and then do a presentation to the Council.

b. “A” Street Update: Dudley stated there was a meeting, the Connect Oregon grant is moving through the committee, and there will be another presentation at the Northwest Area Commission on Transportation at the end of the month where she and Patrick Kerr will be presenting to the group. Dudley said there is a lot of commitment to see that the project is funded and completed, looking at anywhere from 2016/2017 as a start date, and there may be as many as four different funding sources. Mayor Cole stated he asked Larry McKinley from ODOT when a shovel will be in the ground and was told 2016 or 2017 and probably 2017.

c. Highway 30/”B” Street Update: Mayor Cole stated bids will hopefully be accepted and awarded in June. Dudley said there was a telephone conference last week and it looks like all the pieces are coming together and the project is moving forward.

d. Street Improvement Update: In Public Works Supervisor, Jim Dahlquist’s, absence, Dudley distributed a street report by Dahlquist indicating a list of streets in need of repair and/or maintenance. Dudley asked Council to drive around to look at the streets on the list and make notations for discussion at the next meeting. Dudley met with David Hill, Columbia County Road Department, who will be giving Dudley some information on expected costs per square foot. The public works crew is working on culverts and ditches which has to be done prior to paving.

e. Library Update: Dudley referred to Patricia Stanley, City Librarian, who reported the ebook program is a success. The last four months of last year there were 170 used and she does not have the statistics for this year. Stanley reported she feels the computers might need some hardware added since nine out of seven are working. Stanley added the summer reading program is scheduled for the first week of July and generally 90 to 100 attend. Stanley explained Imagination Library is a program where children from birth to five years old are given a free book every month from the Dolly Parton foundation, and there is a minimal cost to the sponsors. Stanley stated the Rainier Masonic Lodge is the library's first and most generous supporter, the Eagles Lodge and individual supporters have also participated. Stanley added many children will be receiving their books soon and nearly \$1,000 have been raised for the program. Sills asked Stanley if she has been in touch with the school to promote summer reading and Stanley stated the school superintendent is a library board member. Sills suggested talking to the superintendent regarding used computers.

f. Discuss Vacant Council Position: Mayor Cole suggested announcing and accepting applications with a closed date of April 30th then Council could pick a candidate at the first meeting in May. Mayor Cole stated the person would be appointed at the beginning of the meeting so they could participate in the first meeting. If Council finds more time is needed then that will be addressed.

New Business:

a. First Read of Ordinance #1063 Adopting a Moratorium on Acceptance and Approval of Business Licenses that Seek to Dispense Marijuana: Mayor Cole gave the first read of the ordinance and stated Council wants a moratorium so they have time to see where the citizens want this type of business. Mayor Cole said state law says it is going to happen but the municipalities have the right to zone accordingly, similar to the adult stores. Sills moved, Bradfield 2nd, to approve the first reading of Ordinance 1063 – **motion passed unanimously.**

b. Approve Contract for “A” Street Review of Underground Utilities as Recommended by Gibbs & Olson: Dudley stated the contract was referred to the City Attorney for review and she is requesting approval for the contract to include our attorney's recommendations. Nelson moved, Vilardi 2nd, to approve the contract including the city attorney's recommendations – **motion passed unanimously.**

Cooper moved, Massey moved, to send a note to REDCO requesting splitting the cost of Gibbs & Olson for “A” Street. **Motion passed unanimously.**

c. Approve Contract with Payne Reforestation for Tree Planting as Recommended by the City's Consultant: Vilaridi moved, Sills 2nd, to approve the contract with Payne Reforestation – **motion passed unanimously.** Mayor Cole stated the City's Consultant is going to clean up the City's recently purchased property.

d. Discuss Request by Roger Ege for Location of a Collection Bin for Used Flags: Roger Ege, representing the VFW, stated the bin is patriotically painted, that there has been a problem with flag disposal in the past and they would like the bin placed somewhere at City Hall. Dudley said she wanted consensus of the Council and then Ege could work with Dahlquist regarding the placement. Ege informed the Council that Gary Holcomb of Riverside Auto Body repaired and painted the bin.

e. Reappoint Budget Committee Members: Dudley said there is interest by Charlene Andrews and Bill Wagner to be reappointed to the budget committee. Dudley added the reappointment would be through December 2016 and recommended reappointment since they both have been great supporters of the budget process. Cooper moved, Sills 2nd, to reappoint the budget committee members – **motion passed unanimously.**

f. Discuss Morrow Pacific Project: Dudley stated the intent of having this on the agenda is that in 2012 there was an environmental review done that reported limited parking at Port Westward so they identified the potential for possibly 28 workers to be transported at the Rainier dock to and from Port Westward by boat. Dudley added there is a potential for 28 new residents in Rainier. Dudley stated it is not just Rainier identified in the review. Because of citizen questions she wanted it to be publicly recognized the City is aware of that comment and, in the event Rainier's dock is used, Morrow Pacific will work with the City to address parking issues or anything else that could come up. Dudley said there may be an opportunity for economic benefits for Rainier. Massey said there was some concern about the City's intake but this is just transportation for workers so he does not see the intake as an issue. Dudley added there is a sign indicating the intake location.

Staff Reports:

Chief Griffith: National Drug Take Back Day on April 26th.

Public Works: In Dahlquist's absence, Dudley reported the wastewater treatment plant is operating well after one minor issue was corrected, the water treatment plant is operating well, hauling bio solids this week contingent on the weather, all facilities in the park are open and repairs completed. Public Works assisted volunteers working on the ball field and volleyball areas and are 85% to 95% done with ditch cleaning along the streets. Patching potholes is being done as weather and time allows. Also worked with Clatskanie PUD to dig out and repair a large

area on a 1st Street sidewalk and additional work is to be done at a later date. The RV park area has been leveled, cleaned up, the kiosk is there, signage is ordered and irrigation and pruning of trees is being done by that area. Dead trees will be pulled out and replaced.

CWCOG Contract: Dudley said the planning assistance contract goes through December 2014, Don Mathison (contract planner) assists with a lot of questions and typically his time has been billed out to applicants. Nelson moved, Cooper 2nd, to approve the contract. Nelson said Mathison is easy to work with and understands smaller communities. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Staff Reports Continued:

Dudley: Attended Senior Center open house as did Mayor Cole and Steve Massey. Mayor Cole did an excellent job representing the City. Bids are in the process of being received from CWCOG and the County for mapping. Dudley said the cost could exceed the grant funds and Dudley will bring it back to Council once the bids are received. Dudley added Connect Oregon is moving through the committees and the next presentation is April 25th.

Council Reports:

Cooper: Thanked the Edwards family and the public works crew for all the work done on the volleyball courts. He is reviewing a new PDF program and will get with councilors later.

City Calendar/Announcements:

Rainier Eagles Easter Egg Hunt, April 19, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM in the City Park. Mayor Cole added he gave permission to the Eagles because this is a long standing event.

City Council Regular Meeting, Monday, April 21, at 7:00 PM.

Executive Session: ORS 192.660 (2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Mayor Cole adjourned the meeting after executive session.

Mayor Jerry Cole

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