

City of Rainier
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2014
7:00 PM
Rainier City Hall

Mayor Cole opened the public hearing at 7:00 PM regarding a petition for a street vacation for a portion of East “D” Street between East 9th and East 8th Streets. No public comment was received and Mayor Cole closed the public hearing at 7:05 PM.

Mayor Cole called the regular meeting to order.

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

Council Absent: David Sills.

City Staff Present: Debra Dudley, City Administrator/Finance Director/Recorder; Jim Dahlquist, Public Works Supervisor; and Police Chief Griffith.

City Attorney Absent: Stephen D. Petersen.

Flag Salute.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: Massey moved, Vilardi 2nd, to add the intergovernmental agreement for homeland security and emergency management services – **motion passed unanimously** and it was added as New Business, item f.

Mayor’s Address: Mayor Cole read the names of three fallen military personnel since Council last met and a moment of silence was observed.

Mayor Cole read a proclamation for United Way of Columbia County.

Mayor Cole thanked the Masonic Lodge, the Fire Chief from Longview, and all those who helped and supported the September 6th pancake breakfast benefitting Officer Russ George. Mayor Cole added \$3,495.00 was raised at the breakfast and other donations are not yet tallied.

Visitor Comments: Mark Soule, Scout Leader, Rainier, OR and some of the Eagle Scouts wanted to get Council permission to install benches at the park and benches and picnic tables at the Fox Creek area. Mayor Cole advised them to coordinate the projects with Dahlquist.

Erin O'Connell, 306 West 8th St., Rainier, OR 97048 thanked Council for the recent road improvements and for the City partnering with the County for the improvements. O'Connell requested Council install 25 mph speed signs on the road where she resides and Council agreed to the request.

Approve Consent Agenda Items:

August 4, 2014 Work Session Meeting Minutes – Massey moved, Vilardi 2nd, to approve the minutes – **motion passed** with Nelson and Cooper abstaining.

August 4, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes – Vilardi moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the minutes – **motion passed** with Nelson and Cooper abstaining.

Unfinished Business:

a. Senior Center Lease and Request for Repair:

Lease - Dudley referenced the memo and lease in the packet and stated she spoke with Bill Dias, Senior Center President, who is in agreement with the lease with a couple of language changes. Dudley stated they agreed changing the 6 month for reports to monthly reports and they will be due at the end of the following month. Dudley said the annual audit report will include a word that states independent audit and the senior center is currently working with an independent outside agency regarding payroll. Dudley added the other change is on page 3 and currently references if a repair is made the senior center has to submit a report each month and would like to change the language to “per occurrence” because if nothing was done they should not have to submit a report. Dudley stated those are the only changes she would recommend and she stated Dias agreed. Cooper moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the lease for operation at the senior center. Nelson wanted to know how long the lease was for and Dudley said it was a five year lease.

Motion passed unanimously.

Repairs – Dias stated the heaters in the senior center are not working properly and need repaired. Mayor Cole informed the Council there was a bid for \$2201.40 for the gas heaters repairs and advised Dias that in order for Council to approve the repairs two more bids had to be submitted. Cooper moved, Massey 2nd, to obtain two more bids and administratively pick the best bid. Nelson asked where the repair money would come from and Dudley said there is money in the budget for senior center repairs. **Motion passed unanimously.**

b. “A” Street Update: Dudley said there was a telephone conference that discussed the procedures for the grant and reimbursements. Dudley said she and Mayor Cole will be meeting with the railroad to set up some interagency agreements and will keep Council informed. Dudley said this project is a couple of years ahead but realize there are matters to get moving on now.

c. Highway 30/"B" Street Update: Dudley said we are in a 45 day bid process that was previously postponed due to the chance of receiving a better bid. Dudley added the amount the City is going to have to come up with has increased because the City has elected to go ahead to complete the project, it is budgeted, the overage includes contingency and hope not to have to use that and also includes the automatic 10% added to the bid estimate figures. Dudley said it is anticipated to be done within this budget cycle and the project started in late fall.

d. Street Improvement Update: Dahlquist said over 1,000 tons of asphalt has been laid so far and the project will continue.

New Business:

a. Approve Ordinance #1064 for the Street Vacation: Nelson moved, Vilardi 2nd, to approve Ordinance #1064 – **motion passed unanimously.** Dudley stated there is a mandatory 30 day waiting period and at that time the ordinance will be recorded.

b. Authorize the City Administrator to Apply for a Technical Assistance Grant for Senior Housing: Nelson moved, Cooper 2nd, to apply for a technical assistance grant for senior housing – **motion passed unanimously.**

c. Approve Agreement with Payne Reforestation for Vegetation Control in the Watershed as Recommended by CBR Consulting, the City's Forrester: Nelson moved, Vilardi 2nd, to approve the agreement - **motion passed unanimously.**

d. Approve Request by Deli & Mart, Steven Brown for an OLCC Liquor License Application: Vilardi moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the request – **motion passed unanimously.**

e. Approve Ordinance #1065 Establishing a Tax on the Sale of Marijuana and Marijuana-Infused Products in the City of Rainier: Mayor Cole explained this ordinance is what some other cities have been doing if the sale of legal marijuana goes through. Cooper moved, Massey 2nd, to approve Ordinance #1065. Bradfield stated the ordinance assumes that even if the state approves marijuana like Washington this assumes it is a legitimate product. Bradfield added that it could cause long term problems because of its abuse and he is not willing to open that door. Massey clarified that if marijuana became legal then Rainier might be able to tax it. Mayor Cole added it would allow the City to tax medical marijuana which is currently legal. Dudley added that as long as marijuana is classified through the federal government as an illegal drug it will not be allowed to come to Rainier because the City has an ordinance that states if it is against state or federal laws the City can preclude it from coming to Rainier. Dudley added that in the

event it is legalized through the state and federal governments it could be a deterrent since the City has a tax implemented. Bradfield said that if it is legalized through the state and federal governments he would still vote no. Nelson said the ordinance just lays groundwork in case it is legalized. The **motion passed** with Bradfield opposing.

f. Intergovernmental Agreement for Homeland Security and Emergency Management Services – Mayor Cole explained the agreement lets the county take care of this for us, is county wide, and all the cities sign it. Vilaridi moved, Cooper 2nd, to enter into the agreement – **motion passed unanimously**.

Staff Reports:

Chief Griffith – Updated the Council on the jail status, Neighborhood Watch program meeting scheduled for September 24th, and 6 burglaries were cleared by arrests.

Dahlquist – Water plant is operating well with a couple of turbidity meters that were recommended be replaced, hauling bio solids at the end of the month, park and boat launch are getting heavy use, the country fest was pretty much trouble free but would like a little more communication if they want to have a festival again. Nelson inquired about the bio solids building.

Dudley – There might be grant money available this year for windows and air conditioning and she will keep Council updated. Nelson inquired about the lack of availability of wi-fi and Dudley stated it should be fixed shortly.

Council Reports: None.

City Calendar/Announcements:

City Council Work Session Meeting October 6, 2014 at 6:00 PM followed by the City Council Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Cole adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Mayor Cole

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