

City of Rainier
Regular Council Meeting
September 21, 2015
7:00 PM
Rainier City Hall

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order.

Council Present: Mayor Cole, Jim Bradfield, Dan Smith, Sloan Nelson, William Vilardi, Robert DuPlessis, Steve Massey and Doug Aske.

Council Absent: None.

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

City Attorney Absent: Stephen Petersen.

Flag Salute.

Additions/Deletions from Agenda: None.

Mayor's Address:

Mayor Cole stated there were no fallen service personnel since Council last met.

Visitor Comments:

Eduard Burgmans, stated he represents alternative medical consultanting, addressed the council regarding measure 91, medical and recreational marijuana dispensaries and offered his assistance.

Gary Holcomb, Riverside Autobody, said he has been watching the development of "A" Street for several years and expressed concern regarding the poor condition of the street. Holcomb stated he doesn't believe it is ever going to be fixed. Holcomb added if the street continues to deteriorate at the rate it has been deteriorating it will become unusable. Mayor Cole agreed with Holcomb in regard to the condition of the street and encouraged Holcomb and citizens with the same concern to call and email Senator Betsy Johnson and ODOT.

John Marth asked if there had to be a certain amount of local contractors on projects such as "A" Street and Mayor Cole said it was according to state laws and Dudley added it was a competitive bid process. Marth said he would like to get the curfew changed for 15 years of age and under. Mayor Cole suggested Marth talk to Chief Griffith after the meeting.

Consent Agenda Items:

Consider Approval of the August 17, 2015 Work Session Minutes: Aske moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the minutes as presented – **motion passed** with Vilardi abstaining.

Consider Approval of the August 17, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes: Nelson moved, Aske 2nd, to approve the minutes as presented – **motion passed** with Vilardi abstaining.

Financials: Dudley stated the financials indicate the fund balance reconciliations, budget summaries and cash on hand in the various funds. Vilardi moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the financials as presented – **motion passed unanimously.**

Unfinished Business:

a. “A” Street Update: Previously discussed.

b. Highway 30/”B” Street Update: Mayor Cole said there are a few outstanding items and once they are closed this project will be removed from the agenda.

c. View Street Update: Nelson stated he and Dudley met with some of the residents on View Street, they walked the street and the City is proceeding in house to install some storm drains on the lower side of View Street to protect four or five residences. They met with Dave Hill, County Road Department, for his expertise and he said this should take care of the water issues and get the City closer to being able to chip seal or pave the road.

New Business:

a. Presentation of the Health Impact Assessment for Rainier by Public Health Foundation of Columbia County: Jenny Rudolph and Ashley Baggett, representing the Oregon State University Extension Service in Columbia County as part of the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Core Project Team, presented the following three recommendations: 1. The Public Health Foundation recommends the installation of a stoplight and signaled crosswalk at the Veterans Way and U.S. 30 Crossing intersection a stop light and signaled crosswalk be installed at the intersection of Veterans Way and U.S. 30 based on a review of literature, access date and resident comments and community groups; 2. Install a traffic calming landscape design to enhance the gateway entrance to Rainier by improving and beautifying the landscape and relocate the “welcome to Rainier” sign to the west side of the Veterans Way and U.S. 30 intersection where the speed drops to 45 MPH; and 3. Install radar speed indicator signs on the west side of town where the speed limit changes from 45 mph to 30 mph to alert and remind incoming traffic of their current speed. The Council consensus was that the report was very valuable.

b. Consider Ratifying Bargaining Agreement for the Police Unit: Nelson moved, Vilardi 2nd, to approve the agreement as presented – **motion passed unanimously.**

c. First Read of the Ordinance of the City of Rainier Defining the Marijuana Facilities, Time, Place and Manner and Locations: Mayor Cole stated the draft ordinance, in its entirety is at City Hall and will be on-line, the second read will be on October 3rd and the third read, with a vote, will be October 19th. Regarding location, Mayor Cole stated that for the City of Rainier a marijuana facility shall be located more than 400 feet from any residential zone, shall be located not less than 1000 feet from another marijuana facility, shall not be located less than 1000 feet from the real property comprising a public or private elementary, secondary or career school attended primarily by minors, public library, public park, recreation center or facility, licensed child care facility as defined by ORS 329A.250 and the distance shall be measured in a straight line from premises to premises. Mayor Cole stated Council had more of a feeling to get out in front of the marijuana facilities before the state came in and made the rules. Mayor Cole added the City did not qualify a rule stating that marijuana facilities would not be permitted. Size of the facilities were discussed

d. Consider Agreement for Commercial Firewood Hauler in the Watershed: The Councils consensus was to allow the individual to remove what he had already cut, but not approve a new agreement, the revenue received doesn't offset the liability..

e. Consider Resolution Supporting Columbia County Commissioners Proposal to Create a CC Rider Transportation District and Establish a Permanent Tax Rate: Michael Ray, Transit Coordinator for CC Rider, requested Council approve a resolution approving inclusion in the district no later than October 21, 2015 in order to be considered at the October 28th hearing. The levy would be proposed for next May and the levy amount would be \$.23/per \$1,000 property tax for the purpose of providing stable funding for public transit services provided by Columbia County Rider. Aske moved, Vilardi 2nd, to consider approving the resolution supporting the County putting it on the ballot – **motion passed unanimously.**

Staff Reports:

Chief Griffith – The County jail is at full staff.

Dudley – Attended a Northwest Transportation Commission meeting in Astoria last week and submitted two preliminary grant requests; one was for the traffic signal/Highway 30 crosswalk; and the other is for a continuation of the “B” Street pedestrian crosswalk. Out of 13 applications the City's was third for the traffic signal/crosswalk and have been invited to submit a formal application to the Northwest Act.

Dudley added the “B” Street pedestrian crosswalk was rated below the cut and she is in the process of looking for other funding to continue with the next phase. The grant the City is applying for is \$500,000 for the traffic signal and crosswalk at Veterans Way and Highway 30 and everyone was very supportive and optimistic about the project. Dudley added that it is recognized that transportation is vital to healthy communities and we were very fortunate to be chosen for assessment of the project. Dudley added that our region had over \$9 million in requests and our region is only going to get approximately \$2.5 million so there are a lot of projects that are not going to get funded. Mayor Cole and Dudley stated this is a continuation of an existing project.

Council Reports:

Nelson expressed interest in a portable radar speed sign and asked Chief Griffith to research the cost of purchasing the equipment and would like one at each end of the town. Nelson wanted a donor letter regarding the library added to executive session.

DuPlessis said he has received a lot of compliments on the “B” Street project results.

Mayor Cole said he has received a lot of compliments regarding the project also. Mayor Cole said he has been working on getting back the easement acquisition along the riverfront, specifically through the mitigated area and there is a meeting in October to give the easement to the City which would be beneficial to the pedestrian trail.

City Calendar/Announcements: Mayor Cole announced the next city council work session meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5, 2016 at 6:00 PM, followed by the council regular meeting at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Cole stated Council was going into executive session with potential action items afterwards.

Executive Session: ORS 192.660(2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

Mayor Cole reconvened the regular meeting.

Connect Oregon Request: Smith moved, Aske 2nd, to approve the request – **motion passed unanimously.**

Sewer Charges for Two Residences that had not previously been charged: Aske moved, Smith 2nd, to begin charging the citizens with the effective date of the current cycle, no prior charges will be assessed.

Mayor Cole adjourned the meeting at 9:40 PM.

Mayor Cole

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