

City of Rainier
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2016
7:00 PM
Rainier City Hall

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

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

Council Absent: Doug Aske.

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

City Attorney Absent: Stephen D. Petersen.

Flag Salute.

Additions/Deletions from the Agenda: None.

Mayor's Address:

Mayor Cole said there were no fallen military personnel since council last met.

Mayor Cole and Chief Griffith presented Officer Peter Manning with a life-saving award and a life-saving pin from Columbia 911.

Mayor Cole announced Senator Merkley was recently in Rainier if anyone needs any questions answered from the Senator to let City Hall know and they will be forwarded to the Senator's staff.

Visitor Comments:

Chip Ostervold leases slip #6 at the marina and had concerns about the sea lions. Ostervold requested the City formulate a plan to deter the sea lions prior to them returning to the marina and waive an additional month until the sea lions are gone. Council explained the methods that have been used for determent, Mayor Cole stated Senator Merkley visited the docks and is aware of the problem but there are not a lot of measures that can be taken for determent. Mayor Cole suggested a trained citizens group that could scare the sea lions away when they return. Council agreed to waive an additional month, for a total of two months to include February and March,

regarding the lease fees. Foultnier said the City is working with a business as a test pilot for sea lion deterrent.

Steve Watson, 911 Director, introduced himself to the City Council and described the upcoming ability to send text messages to 911 which will be available to everyone but will be particularly beneficial to the hearing impaired community. Watson described they have an app that can be set up for alerts, the Columbia 911 website has been revamped and there is a link for the alert network. Mayor Cole said the app system information could go out in the City's net utility bill.

Consider Approval of the February 1, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes: Massey moved, DuPlessis 2nd, to approve the minutes – **motion passed unanimously** with Nelson correcting the attendance since he attended the meeting and his name was inadvertently omitted.

Consider Approval of the February 16, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes: Vilardi moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the minutes – **motion passed unanimously**.

Acknowledge Library Public Forum on February 24, 2016: Nelson moved, Smith 2nd, to acknowledge the public forum – **motion passed unanimously**.

Consider Approval of the March 1, 2016 Work Session Meeting Minutes: Massey moved, DuPlessis 2nd, to approve the minutes – **motion passed** with Nelson and Vilardi abstaining.

Unfinished Business:

a. "A" Street Update: Dudley stated a citizen asked if there was any consideration to undergrounding the utilities and at Council's direction Dudley sent an email to ODOT if that had been considered in any of the bid documents that we have received estimates and, if not, could they include it.

b. View Street Update: Dudley reported Columbia County will be doing chip sealing and have agreed to work with the City and do some of the City's chip sealing.

c. Columbia Soil and Water District Update: Kari Hollander stated they will be meeting with FEMA and looking to get a hazard mitigation with FEMA which would look at the entire system and include daylighting Fox Creek. Hollander said they have already talked with some of the business owners about potentially moving or relocating their business or adjusting the layout. Hollander added Congresswoman Bonamici, Senator Merkley, Senator Johnson and Representative Witt are all on board. Possibly there might be funding for sediment removal at the City's dam. Tyler Joki stated there may be emergency funds available within ten days. Joki

added if it is not considered an emergency it could wait a little longer, however by bringing multiple emergency funding services together he thinks they will be able to cover the entire cost including the emergency and long term phase by bringing in those federal funds. Hollander added that by getting the initial emergency work done and then stepping back to the hazardous mitigation they are going to be meeting with Senator Johnson sometime over the next month to talk about the infrastructure financing, the funds in Salem have no money in it at any given time and the Senator has to propose it on the legislative floor to acquire appropriations. Hollander said there is great potential that will cover the 25% match to come against the FEMA fund. Hollander said ODOT is getting ready to start the bridge replacement plan on Highway 30 so we all as partners will be there to let them know what the community's wishes are aside from the daylighting and opening up the bridge to allow more water flow. Hollander added they want to see if there is a potential for a walkway under the highway and some other features to benefit the Chevron since they are going to be greatly impacted by any changes. Hollander said she also heard thru various road departments regarding "C" Street that FEMA could potentially cover all those expenses through Federal Highways. Dudley added the City has met with Federal Highways and the likelihood that funding is available is minimal. Dudley added the street roadway itself did not suffer damage and that is what their funding is specifically for. Hollander said there is funding to work on private land and public land as well as services. Hollander said if the hazard mitigation is the route chosen it could be two to three years from the time the plan is complete to implementation. Hollander said the landowners are open to suggestions and she has been talking with Riverside Community Church about their parking because some of it will go away with the restructure. Hollander said she was hoping to meet with the landowners within the next 4 to 6 weeks and then hear from the community in a town hall forum.

New Business:

d. Consider Library Proposal with the School District as Recommended by the Library Board: Mayor Cole moved this item to the 1st item under New Business and stated there was a presentation from Michael Carter, School Superintendent, during the Council Work Session and referred to the IGA. Mayor Cole said there was a public forum on February 24, 2016 and the IGA is what the Library Board is proposing. Mayor Cole explained it is a contract service with the School District to provide library services. Nelson moved, Vilardi 2nd, to approve the proposal – **motion passed unanimously.**

a. Consider Approval of an Agreement with Payne Reforestation to Replant Seedlings as Recommended by our Consultant CBR: Vilardi moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the agreement – **motion passed unanimously.**

b. Consider Approval of an Agreement with Waters Technical Forestry to Harvest Blow Downs by the Cell Tower as Recommended by our Consultant CBR – Vilardi moved, Massey 2nd, to approve the agreement – **motion passed unanimously.**

c. Consider Approval of an Agreement with Althof Contracting to Harvest Blow Downs as Recommended by our Consultant CBR: Vilardi 2nd, Massey 2nd, to approve the agreement – **motion passed unanimously.**

e. Presentation by Steve Watson, Executive Director of Columbia 911: (See Visitor Comments) – Nelson asked Watson when Council would be approached regarding funding and Watson replied it would be sometime in 2018 since he is expecting the rates will need to be increased.

Staff Reports:

Foultner: Sea lions are off the docks and public works has been graveling streets.

Chief Griffith: New patrol car is on the streets, recent burglary suspect apprehended, and the radar cameras required updated software. Nelson asked for monthly reports once everything is working correctly.

Mayor Cole asked Bobby Jo Brusco-Harding, Planning Clerk, for an update and she replied there were several new homes being built in Rainier and a lot of people are moving to Rainier. There is a public hearing scheduled for next month.

Dudley: Dudley added that she and Brusco-Harding attended a meeting last month regarding e-permits that will allow building permits to be downloaded and inspections can be scheduled on-line. Dudley said there will be some interface that the City will be able to access regarding issued permits. Dudley continues to work on budget, some projects will be carried over to next year and some will be done this year. Dudley met with the Federal Highway and the representative stated there was no damage to West “C” Street so it is unlikely there will be any funding for the street. She and Foultner attended a FEMA meeting last week, the City will be eligible for FEMA funding as a municipality and intend on applying for funding for the sewer treatment plant, “C” Street flooding, the dock that floated away during the wind storm, staff overtime, and volunteer time the night of the flood. Additionally Dudley said the City could be eligible for the 406 mitigation to help prevent future flooding. The State is spearheading that program for FEMA and the City will pursue that avenue to see if there funding to remove the silt from the dam. The City has completed the first step in the process which is submitting the necessary forms for assistance to FEMA.

Dudley added Hollander mentioned there is a potential for mitigation funding through the National Resource Conservation System to eliminate potential flooding in the future. Dudley said it is encouraging to find out there is additional venues of funding for private property owners, they are eligible for small business loans at reduced rates and some of them may be eligible for the 404 mitigation if they have a sponsor.

Council Reports:

Nelson - the banners ordered for "A" Street should be here this week.

Bradfield – asked about the project at the park and Dudley advised the Little League is installing a concession stand, a private citizen raised concern about Little League not having permits and since then permits have been issued. Nelson added the previous snack shack was returned, the current job trailer will be modified so it will not be as obtrusive and will be ADA accessible. Dudley, as requested, is working on a land lease for the Little League use at the park. Brusco-Harding added the City, in support of Little League, waived the City \$45 fee on the building permit.

Mayor Cole adjourned the meeting.

Mayor Cole

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