

Meeting opened at 7:35 PM.

Roll Call

Present

Jerry Cole, Mayor
Randy Hamlin
Russ Moon
John Slape

Mike Avent
David Langford
David Qualman

Absent

Rob Piercy

Others Present

Chad Olsen, City Administrator
Dwayne Barnes, Director of Public Works

Ralph Painter, Chief of Police
Nancy Norman, Secretary

Public Hearings

Alcoholic Beverages on City Property, Grounds and Right-of-Way

The hearing opened at 7:37 PM.

Opposition Letters

Mayor Cole read four (4) letters (attached) in opposition from Lynn Chiotti, MADD Community Action Site, Jan Kenna, Columbia County Commission on Children and Families, Marleen Zytniowski and Penny Blahm, Rainier Together Coalition, and Patricia R. Grant.

Comments in Opposition

Al Guist, Rainier, OR – Stated that the usage of the park is mostly for young people and would not be comfortable taking his granddaughter to the park if drinking is allowed. He also stated that broken beer bottles would be a hazard in the park.

Council Comment

Councilor Slape read the public hearing notice stating that the purpose of the hearing is for the Rainier City Council to obtain citizen's views and comments about the allowance of alcoholic beverages in or upon a public street, alley, mall, parking lot or structure, motor vehicle, public grounds or other public places by Council permit and OLCC license.

Comments in Opposition

Rhonda Stecker, Rainier, OR – stated that she is part of a committee called the student assisted team, who helps at risk students, most of the students come from families where alcohol is abuse. She asked the Council if the change of the ordinance is for good and is this a needed change. She questioned if it would benefit the community and support our community leaders.

Brandy McGladrey, Rainier, OR – Member of Rainier Together, has a drug and alcohol prevention program through the school and Columbia Community Mental Health. She stated that to keep our community safe and healthy, alcohol needs to be kept out of our parks.

Pastor Steve Stecker, Rainier, OR – as a parent, a pastor, involved in Rainier Together Coalition, resides in Rainier, OR – requests that the liquor ordinance not be changed to allow alcoholic beverages on city property. Asked the Council to retain the current liquor ordinance and support the role of us who support the community.

Jason Gotcher, Rainier, OR – Has concerns with changing the ordinance, stated that the park is beautiful and does not want to see liquor allowed in the park, wine tasting may seem innocent, however, it is a foot in the door to a lot of other problems.

Pastor Steve Martin, Rainier, OR – Recalled that a lot of hours and months of time were involved to bring the present liquor code up to state standards. It was a specific desire by the council to maintain an alcohol free environment for our youth. The ordinance was designed purposely to not allow alcohol on public property. There are currently twelve (12) establishments in Rainier where people can purchase alcohol and nine (9) can serve alcohol. He does not feel that there is a great need for another avenue for alcohol. He appealed to the council to give the community something that they need, not something more of what they have, and keep our park a family friendly place where our children can go and we can go with our children and grandchildren and have a wonderful family outing. Martin asked the council to listen to the majority of the people present and choose not to make any changes to the ordinance.

Gary Holcomb, Rainier, OR – Worked extensively with the former council on the current liquor ordinance. He commented that the current ordinance works and asked the council why they would want to change something that works. Holcomb feels that the consensus of the audience is in favor of not changing the ordinance. He appealed to the council to not open the door to the wrong direction.

Pastor Steve Berry, Rainier, OR – Wine tasting, wine jelly is a small thing, however, it makes a statement. He asked the council to think long and hard regarding what statement they want to make from the right hand to the left hand.

John Freeman, Rainier, OR – with Rainier Together Coalition, feels that allowing liquor in public places is a step in the wrong direction.

Marla King, Rainier, OR – school teacher, feels that this is an economic move, allowing wine tasting in a public place is opening the door to a broader public to come and participate, it is a promotional thing. This is not more important than the message being sent to the youth. The primary responsibility should be to raise the future generation to be sound leaders.

Phyllis King, Rainier, OR – Observed enough of life to know what is good for kids, and says no to changing the ordinance and applauds everyone who spoke tonight in opposition of changing the ordinance.

Comments in Favor

Judith Taylor, Rainier, OR – stated that this is not directed toward bringing alcohol toward children or promoting alcoholism in the park. The way the ordinance reads now there is no alcohol allowed in the park, wine tasting is not allowed, wine jelly is not allowed in the park. She would like to have wine tasting at the Saturday Market.

Meryl Head, Rainier, OR – agrees with Judy Taylor, would be nice to have tables on the sidewalk in front of a restaurant and if a customer wishes could have a glass of wine outside, if someone has a wedding reception in the park, it would be nice to have a champagne toast. She is absolutely against taking a cooler of beer to the park. Everyone who wants to have liquor in a public place would have to have an OLCC license.

Chief Painter did a background informational check and stated that some cities allow liquor in public places and some don't. Most cities do not allow liquor in city parks.

Mayor Cole thanked everyone who attended and appreciated all the comments.

The public hearing closed at 8:25 PM.

Fiscal Year 2006 Supplemental Budget Appropriations

The hearing opened at 8:31 PM.

No comments.

The hearing closed at 8:32 PM.

Housing Center Project

The hearing opened at 8:33 PM.

No comments.

The hearing closed at 8:37 PM.

Mayor Address

Planning Commission Vacancies

Cole recommended to the council that Robin Langford, Marty Sprengel, and Crystal Boothe be appointed to the Planning Commission.

Motion by Avent, 2nd Moon to authorize the Mayor to appoint Robin Langford, Marty Sprengel and Crystal Boothe to the Planning Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Cole stated that currently two (2) councilors are planning commission members; therefore, the new appointments have filled their two (2) positions on the planning commission. There is still one (1) vacancy on the commission; Cole stated that he would have a recommendation at the next meeting.

Cole read the names of sixty-seven (67) fallen soldiers and asked for a moment of silence.

Visitors Comments

Rainier Historical Society: Bob Stevens

Bob Stevens, Rainier Historical Society President, handed a proposal (attached) to the Council regarding a request to purchase two (2) railroad cars and place them in Rainier, one would be a restaurant and the other would be a bed and breakfast. He asked the council if they would be interested in a partnership and underwrite the expenses of the cars and start-up expenses. The big problem would be to find a place big enough to accommodate the cars. The money would be a loan and would be repaid once the cars become profitable. The decision would have to be made by July 8, 2006, because the cars are scheduled to be

demolished. Stevens stated that the total cost would be approximately \$39,000.00.

Avent suggested that the council have a work session to discuss how the city wants to support the historical society.

Cole asked if there is any interest in pursuing this project. At this time there is no space for the cars. Cole stated that the time frame is too short. Avent requested that staff (Olsen and Barnes) see if there is a site available.

Hamlin stated there is a requirement that before the City receives federal dollars to fix "A" Street a survey is performed to see if downtown is eligible to become a national historic area. Currently Langford, Gary Holcomb, the Rainier Historical Society and Hamlin are working on the survey; however, at this time it is not a recognized city activity.

Motion by Hamlin, 2nd Langford to establish an ad hoc committee to look into that survey, not the intent at this point to designate any business or property as a historic area, will be up to the business owners if and when an area becomes eligible. Motion passed unanimously.

Hamlin stated that he is not proposing any funding at this point, but there is a possibility that there may be some small expenses in the future. It appears that there will be some reproduction work that will be beyond city staff, i.e. reproduction of photographs, old maps, etc. If that happens, will come back to the council for the funds.

Unfinished Business

Approval of May 15, 2006 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Avent, 2nd Qualman to approve the May 15, 2006 minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Approve Report: May 2007

Motion by Hamlin, 2nd Avent to pay the bills in the amount of \$97,248.79. Aye-6, Nay-1. Motion Passed.

2007 Small City Allotment (SCA) Application

Motion by Hamlin, 2nd Avent to authorize the 2007 Small City Allotment Grant (SCA) application and approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

Riverfront Park Footbridge

Cole stated that this is a discussion item. There is a hold-up with the project. The footbridge was purchased by REDCO for \$25,000.00 and was to be part of the riverfront trail and put across Fox Creek. This is currently a Ford Foundation Project. The discussion involves whether to sell the bridge. Avent suggested that this be put on a work session and ask the Ford Foundation to participate. Cole asked Barnes to find out what the bridge is worth and he would like to discuss the different options.

Security Buzzer System

Avent would like a security buzzer system installed in the courtroom and City Hall office. He checked with an electrician and the cost would be approximately \$600.00-\$800.00.

Motion by Avent, 2nd Moon to add a security buzzer system to the courtroom and City Hall office. The cost would be no more than \$1,000.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Alcoholic Beverages on Public Property

The consensus of the Council is to table this matter until the July 17, 2006 meeting and put it on the agenda under unfinished business.

Extend Meeting Time

Motion by Avent, 2nd Slape to extend the meeting ending time from 9:30 PM to 10:30 PM. Ayes-6, Nay-1. Motion passed.

New Business

Watershed Consultants

Moon suggested that an oversight committee be formed with Barnes being the administrator and Slape as the chairman and possibly three (3) other people that would meet quarterly regarding the watershed.

Cole would like the council to consider firing the current timber consultant. Avent agreed with the Mayor.

Barnes stated that the logging of the watershed will start next month, and a consultant needs to be on board by that time to oversee the logging operation. Cole feels that thirty (30) days is enough time to hire a new consultant. Qualman would like the city to take more time to consider different consultants for the position.

Motion by Slape, 2nd Moon to terminate any agreement the City has with Pacific Forest Consultants at this time. Ayes-6, Nay-1. Motion passed.

Barnes will advertise the opening in the paper for a timber consultant.

Resolution #995 - Adopting the FY06 Supplemental Budget and Making Appropriations

Motion by Moon, 2nd Qualman to approve the FY06 supplemental budget and make the appropriations. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #996 - Adopting the FY07 Budget; Making Appropriations; Declaring a Tax Levy

Olsen stated that the resolution includes the recommendation from the budget committee with the tax levy divided approximately 90% for the general fund and 10% for the street fund and sets the rate at 5.2045 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value.

Motion by Hamlin, 2nd Qualman to approve the resolution adopting the FY07 budget, making appropriations and declaring the tax levy.

Slape proposed lowering the tax levy from 5.2045 to 5.1 to give something back to the taxpayers. Slape stated that the cost would be approximately \$16,000.00. Hamlin asked what he was proposing to cut; Slape said nothing specific, across the board cuts. Olsen stated that the across the board cuts would only affect the general fund, which includes the police department, parks, etc.

Cole stated that on a \$100,000.00 home, the savings for the taxpayer would be approximately \$10.00. Cole commented that the biggest benefit of the tax break would go to USG. Cole asked if there was any other way to help the households. Avent stated that this amount could go towards the new sewer treatment plant, to help offset rates.

Roll Call

Avent	Nay	Qualman	Aye
Langford	Nay	Hamlin	Aye
Moon	Nay	Slape	Nay

Motion failed.

Hamlin excused himself from the meeting.

Motion by Avent, 2nd Langford to approve the resolution adopting the budget as presented with an amendment to transfer \$16,000.00 from the General Fund to the Sewer Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution # 997 - Receive State Revenue Sharing Money for FY07

Motion by Moon, 2nd Avent to approve the resolution to receive state revenue sharing funds for FY07. Motion passed unanimously.

Water Rate Resolution #998

Motion by Moon, 2nd Avent to approve the resolution setting the water rates for FY07. Motion passed unanimously.

Sewer Rate Resolution #999

Motion by Moon, 2nd Qualman to approve the resolution setting the sewer rate for FY07. Ayes-6, Nay-1. Motion passed.

Worker's Compensation Resolution #1000

Motion by Avent, 2nd Moon to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the resolution to extend workers' compensation coverage to volunteers of the City. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #1001 - Authorizing a Loan of Revenues from the Timber Fund to the Special Projects Fund

Motion by Moon, 2nd Avent to approve the resolution to loan funds from the Timber Fund to the Special Projects Fund. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Barnes stated that Craig Smith was the low bidder at \$2,500.00 to grade and level out the sand piles at the Park, this project is to be completed within the next two (2) weeks. All the hydrants have been flushed and the Days in the Park banner has been hung and the crew is getting ready for Days in the Park.

Painter stated that the department has been working on their risk management assessment; the department received a notice from Lexipol, who updates the SOP's yearly. The cost is \$3,450.00 and Lexipol is offering a scholarship program where they will pay one-half of the cost. A portion of the money is budgeted for FY07 and the police department planned to budget the remaining amount for FY08. This scholarship will allow the police department to start the process. Painter stated that the department's SOP is outdated and needs to be updated. Painter needs a consensus from the council that the city is willing to fund the SOP. The council agreed that Painter should go forward with the SOP.

Painter also stated that Toby Londo, a reserve, is graduating from the reserve academy, June 29, 2006. The mock exercise the police department took part in went really well.

Announcements

Cole stated that the next council meeting will be held on July 17, 2006 and reminded the Council to not forget Days in the Park.

Meeting adjourned to Executive Session: ORS 192.660(2)(a) Personnel at 10:25 PM.

Reconvened to the regular meeting at 10:30 PM.

No action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Jerry Cole, Mayor

Attested

Michelle Archibald, City Recorder