

City of Rainier
Regular City Council Meeting
April 13, 2020
6:00 PM
Rainier City Hall

Mayor called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 6:00 PM
Via Phone Conference

Council Present: Richard Sanders, Sloan Nelson, Robert duPlessis
James Bradfield, Mike Kreger, Jenna Weaver, Steve
Massey

Council Absent: None

City Staff Present: Sue Lawrence, Public Works Director;
Sarah Blodgett, Office Manager; Gregg Griffith, Police
Chief; Debbie Dudley, Budget Officer

City Attorney Present: No

Flag Salute

Additions/Deletions from the Agenda- Weaver asked to add food carts
discussion. Massey motioned, Weaver 2nd to add foot cart discussion to
agenda-**motion passed unanimously**

Mayor's Address: Mayor Cole stated he appreciated everyone's efforts during
this Covid-19 issue

Visitor Comments: None

Consider Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Consider Approval of the March 2, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes-
Massey moved, Kreger 2nd to approve minutes as presented. - **motion passed
unanimously**

Unfinished Business:

a. 'A' Street Update-

- 1. Change Orders** Lawrence reviewed and explained the 'A' Street Change
Orders that were provided in the Council Packet. Sander motioned to

approve Change Orders as written and presented in the packet, Bradfield 2nd. **-motion passed unanimously**

2.) Paving 2nd,3rd,4th Streets- Lawrence reviewed and explained the options and decision options she came up with based on how the two Small City Allotments Grants could be used. Council and Staff discussed many options of if and how they could use the 2013 grant to pave 3rd and 4th streets depending if ADA ramps would be required. After lengthy discussion, Nelson motioned to move forward with 3rd and 4th street paving with or without the grant, with a cap of \$50,000, Weaver 2nd motion as presented- **motion passed unanimously.**

Lawrence moved on to the 2020 SCA Grant and stated it requires ADA ramps, which have to be designed and the cost of design and installation of the ramps will cost more than the grant amount. Lawrence stated she recommends not using the grant for 2nd street and reapply for a different street in town. Council and Staff discussed all options on how to best use the grant and what can be done with the grant and without the grant. Lawrence stated that if the street being improved abuts Highway 30, then the ADA ramps will need to be installed, regardless if the City pays for it with or without the grant funds. Weaver moved to turn down the 2020 SCA Grant, duPlessis 2nd **the motion-motion passed unanimously.** Weaver motioned to go with Decision #2 to do Option #1 with \$100,000 estimate, Bradfield 2nd to approve motion as presented. Nelson asked if this was the only obligation for the \$270,000 in street fund and Lawrence noted it was. Dudley stated that part of that money (\$150,000) was dedicated to pay for the 'A' street utilities, like streetlights. Dudley stated part of the funds will come from REDCO. Mayor Cole recommended pulling the motion. Weaver asked could it be contingent on getting the grant? After further discussion, Weaver motioned to approve \$100,000 for 2nd street improvements and pave 3rd and 4th street if the City gets the grant, if the City does not get the grant, then pave 2nd and 3rd streets only, Kreger 2nd the motion as presented- **motion passed unanimously.** Nelson motioned to withdraw his original motion for the 2013 grant money for 3rd & 4th street paving, Weaver 2nd the motion to withdraw the original motion as presented- **motion passed unanimously**

b. Riverfront Trail Update- none

c. Fox Creek Update- Lawrence noted a draft scope of work has been received and she will be reviewing it.

New Business:

a. Consider Approval Of the Budget Calendars-Dudley noted this is contingent on if they can meet and noted she is looking into options with and without public input but wants to keep the dates Kreger motioned to accept The Budget Calendar as presented, Weaver 2nd-**motion passed unanimously**

b. Utility Relief Discussion- Dudley reviewed the three options she presented in her memo to council in the packet and recommended the 3rd option, percent of bill based on economic impact. Nelson abstained as a direct conflict of interest. Weaver asked if the application should state their hardship, Dudley replied yes and recommended this be for a specific billing cycle and set a relief time period. Council discussed credit percentages and possible issues with large businesses getting a huge deduction that would highly impact the City's revenue. Dudley stated maybe give longer payment plans for monthly amounts customers could afford. Nelson recommended the forgiveness rate and then tell the customers they could spread it over several months. Kreger motioned to approve Option 3, with a 50% bill credit with the remainder of the bill to be paid over 6 months for this billing cycle to be extended as necessary, Bradfield 2nd to approve motion as presented. Discussion: duPlessis noted that it would be for this billing cycle with the option to extend if needed. Weaver asked for 100% relief for businesses noting they have been hit hard. Nelson stated what about for businesses with under 50 employees. Dudley stated the businesses actually have more options than resident as businesses have SBA loan options. Council discussed various options for resident and business relief. Dudley noted they should put a not to exceed amount. **Kreger added to his motion to state that the credit would be up to \$300 on May's billing- motion passed unanimously with Nelson abstaining**

c. Consider Approval of Payne Reforestation Agreement- Kreger moved, Bradfield 2nd to approve Payne Reforestation Agreement-**motion passed unanimously**

d. Food Cart Discussion- Weaver noted that she is on the Chamber Board and she is reporting that the Chamber is in favor of allowing food carts and her opinion is that Rainier can handle more options. Council reported to Weaver that at the last meeting she was not in attendance and the Council decided to notify the Planning Commission that they would like them to decide if food carts should be allowed in Rainier and their recommendations.

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Staff Reports: Morris noted that a resource letter is going out to business owners. Chief noted that police are celebrating birthdays they have been notified of by driving by the birthday persons house with lights and sirens on. Dudley stated she is working on the budget and how this Covid-19 issue will impact the City's future revenue.

Council Reports- duPlessis stated, thank you for making this (meeting) happen

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

City Calendar/Announcements:

Next Meeting TBD

Mayor Jerry Cole

Sarah Blodgett, Interim City Recorder