

**CITY OF WEST RICHLAND
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014**

1. **Call to Order** – Mayor Gerry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** – Mayor Brent Gerry and Mayor Pro Tem Rich Buel were present. Council Members Tony Benegas, Richard Bloom, Gail Brown, Ron Hayden, Byron Martin, and Robert Perkes were also present. Staff members present were Community Development Director Russ Connole, Police Chief Brian McElroy, Finance Director Jessica Platt, Public Works Director Roscoe Slade, City Attorney Bronson Brown, and City Clerk Julie Richardson.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Councilmember Benegas led the Council, staff, and audience in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Approval of Agenda** – Mayor Gerry announced an executive session on agency enforcement action and litigation. Councilmember Bloom requested that consent agenda item 6c, ORD – Relating to Roadway Speed Limits and Amending WRMC Section 10.08.030 (SR-224), be moved to item 7a under Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions and Public Hearings.

Upon motion by Councilmember Bloom, seconded by Councilmember Perkes, Council unanimously approved the agenda as revised.

5. **Presentations** – Mayor Gerry presented his proposed 2015-2016 Biennial Budget.
6. **Consent Agenda** – *Upon motion by Councilmember Benegas, seconded by Councilmember Bloom, Council unanimously approved the consent agenda.*
 - a. **Approve Minutes of City Council Meeting and Workshop on October 4, 2014**
 - b. **Approve Final Plat of Hyde Park Phase 3**
 - c. This item was moved to item 7a.

7. **Ordinances, Resolutions, Motions, and Public Hearings** – a. **ORD – Relating to Roadway Speed Limits and Amending WRMC Section 10.08.030 (SR-224) – Councilmember Bloom** said he asked for this item's removal from the consent agenda to ask why the speed limit is only being reduced on Van Giesen to Ruppert Road and not all the way to Keene Road.

Public Works Director Slade responded that once Paradise Way is constructed down the hill to Van Giesen, a speed limit analysis will be conducted and the speed limit will most likely be reduced to Keene at that time.

Chief McElroy agrees that the phasing the speed limit reduction over a period of time is the best approach. He also responded to an inquiry regarding accidents, stating there have been a few accidents in the section of roadway. However, one was caused by a failure to stop at a stop sign, and one was Driving While Intoxicated.

ORDINANCE 31-14 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS, AMENDING SECTION 10.08.030 TO THE WEST RICHLAND MUNICIPAL CODE

Councilmember Bloom moved to adopt ordinance 31-14, seconded by Councilmember Benegas. The motion carried unanimously.

8. **Unfinished Business** – **Mayor Gerry** said that Council directed staff to forward to Planning Commission a proposed zoning ordinance to prohibit marijuana production, processing, and retail sales in the City of West Richland. However, instead of making a recommendation, the Planning Commission continued action until February 2015.

City Attorney Brown added that a proposed ordinance to ban recreational retail sales, production and processing of marijuana in all zoning districts in the city, will be presented to Council on November 4th. Council can either adopt the ordinance, or wait for the Planning Commission to make a recommendation in February.

Councilmember Hayden wonders why an ordinance is being brought to council. He feels it is a "slap in the face" to the Planning Commission.

Mayor Gerry suggested that he listen to the audio from the Planning Commission meeting.

9. **New Business** – There was no new business.

10. **Citizens Public Comment**

Paul Bremberger said there appears to be an abandoned construction project on the corner of Keene and Belmont Blvd. He asked the City to look at it.

Dan Richey attended the last Planning Commission meeting and was dissatisfied with how they conducted themselves. The location of a store in West Richland was not (or barely) discussed. They discussed medical marijuana, legalization of marijuana, marijuana in schools, and what the new Attorney General might do. Those were irrelevant to what Council asked them to do.

11. **Announcements, Reports & Comments - a. Staff Reports**

Community Development Director Connole provided an update on the Yakima River Gateway Project.

Finance Director Platt said there will be several items before the City Council on November 4th, including the first budget public hearing, an ordinance setting the property tax levy, and the quarterly financial report presentation. She also advised the auditors will be conducting an audit at the beginning of November.

Chief McElroy announced the Veterans Day Parade on November 8th, and said Van Giesen will be closed for the parade.

b. **Council Reports**

Councilmember Bloom reported on the American Public Transportation Association Expo he attended in Houston, Texas.

Councilmember Benegas reported on the Benton Franklin Council of Governments meeting, and the STP meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Buel announced the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau annual meeting on November 6th, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Gerry announced a 30 minute executive session per RCW 42.30.110 (i) to discuss litigation and a matter relating to agency enforcement actions. There will be no action to follow.

Council recessed for 5 minutes at 7:45 p.m.

12. **Executive Session** – Council adjourned to executive session at 7:50 p.m.

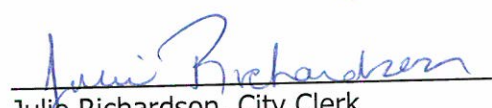
The executive session was extended 30 minutes at 8:20 p.m.

The executive session was extended 15 minutes at 8:50 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:05 p.m.

13. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.


Brent Gerry, Mayor


Julie Richardson, City Clerk