



WENATCHEE CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, July 22, 2021

Wenatchee City Hall Council Chambers
301 Yakima Street, 2nd Floor
Wenatchee, WA 98801

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Frank Kuntz; Councilmember Position 1 Jose Cuevas; Councilmember Position 2 Jim Bailey; Councilmember Position 3 Ruth Esparza; Councilmember Position 4 Travis Hornby; Councilmember Position 5 Mark Kulaas; Councilmember At-Large "A" Linda Herald; Councilmember At-Large "B" Keith Huffaker

Staff Present: Executive Services Director Laura Merrill, Assistant City Attorney Danielle Marchant, City Clerk Tammy Stanger, IS Support Jessi Saucedo, City Engineer Gary Owen, Public Works Director Rob Jammerman, Community Development Director Glen DeVries, Finance Director Brad Posenjak, Senior Planner Matt Parsons, Planning Manager Stephen Neuenschwander

5:15 p.m. Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call. Mayor Frank J. Kuntz called the regular meeting to order at 5:17 p.m. Councilmember Linda Herald led the Pledge of Allegiance. All Councilmembers were present.

2. Consent Items:

Motion by Councilmember Mark Kulaas to approve agenda, vouchers, and minutes from previous meetings. Councilmember Jim Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

3. Citizen Requests/Comments

Tina Wagner, Sam Wagner, Stone Parker, Casey Cooper, and other representatives from the skateboarding group reported back from the last council meeting about the lights staying on later in the skate park. They played a short video that showed the skateboarders enjoying the park and keeping it clean, and their additional concerns with drug use, crime and safety in the park. They were appreciative of the lights staying on longer and asked the council to consider leaving the security lights on at the park during dark hours to help combat the drug use and crime that is occurring at the park. The Mayor said it will be considered and he will confer with the Police Chief and staff. The skateboard group asked about hiring a security guard for the park and said they were willing to fundraise to pay for that, and the Mayor said the city would support that effort.

4. Public Hearing Item

The Mayor called the public hearing to order and stated the ground rules.

- A. Ordinance 2021-22 Public Hearing: 2022-2027 for Wenatchee Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program

City Engineer Gary Owen presented the staff report. Council asked questions.

The Mayor asked for public comment. There was no one who wished to speak.

The Council asked additional questions and commented.

Motion by Councilmember Keith Huffaker for City Council to adopt Ordinance No. 2021-22, adopting a revised and extended comprehensive street program for the ensuing six years for the City of Wenatchee as required by the laws of the State of Washington (with or without any modifications that may be desired after the public hearing). Councilmember Travis Hornby seconded the motion. Motion carried (7-0).

5. Work Session Item

- B. Code Amendments Related to Retaining Walls, Fences and Utility Easements

Community Development Director Glen DeVries, Planning Manager Stephen Neuenschwander, and Senior Planner Matt Parsons provided a power point presentation and an overview of the draft revisions proposed for retaining wall standards adjacent to rear property lines and utility easements, and the challenges in implementing and monitoring. The direction from the Council was no change in front yard approaches at this time and to have the Planning Commission take another look at the draft changes to rear yard setbacks to help develop suggestions in clarifying the components for the code updates.

6. Reports

- a. Mayor's Report. The Mayor reported on the following:
 - 1. A lot of internal work is happening to prepare for the INFRA grant.
 - 2. Executive Services Director Laura Merrill added that the Riverfront Park Planning Open House was very successful and had a lot of participation. There is an online survey for all to take.
 - 3. She also reported that the Museum is working through a visioning process for their exhibits.
 - 4. The Mayor added there will be a revised agreement between the City and the Public Facilities District which is needed for the PFD's refinance.

b. Reports/New Business of Council Committees

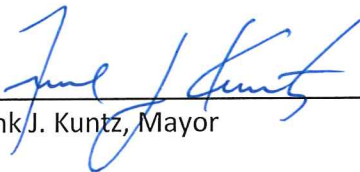
Councilmember Mark Kulaas reminded the Council that National Night Out is on Tuesday, August 3 from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM. It will be held this year at three local parks (Lincoln, Washington, and Rotary). He asked the Councilmembers to let Captain Reinfeld know which park they will attend.

Councilmember Linda Herald announced that the Washington State Republican Party is looking to hold their annual convention in Wenatchee next year (June 2-4, 2022). The convention will be large (1,500+ attendees) and both the Convention Center and Town Toyota Center will be needed to host this event.

Councilmember Keith Huffaker asked a question about security cameras in parks. Are more cameras needed? Staff can provide a list of what's currently in place and more cameras can certainly be requested.

7. Announcements. None.

8. Adjournment. With no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.



Frank J. Kuntz, Mayor

Attest:



Tammy L. Stanger, City Clerk