

Rivergrove City Council, special meeting 8 AM Friday July 15, 2022 regarding damage
to the Rivergrove boat ramp

minutes

Call to order and attendance (Mayor, Councilors, and Guests)

Present were Mayor Williams, Council President Pierce, Councilors Barhyte, Lahsene and Tuttle.

City Manager (CM) Kibbey was not present.

Guests included M Salch, C Bahrman, Brenda Ruble, Andrew Herbert and about 8 others – there was no sign up sheet.

Mayor Williams opened the meeting describing how on Thursday evening, July 14, a user with a Ford F150 had damaged the boat ramp by backing up too far. In trying to pull his trailer out of the water, the north end of one of the concrete rectangles became slightly more separated and elevated from its' northern neighbor. The Mayor believed this became a hazard (potential tripping and separation of that section from the rest of the ramp). In the interest of safety, he closed the ramp until an emergency meeting of the City Council (CC) could be held.

Council members viewed the damage.

The Mayor then asked about notifying our insurance company of the damage and hazard, pointing out we had a limited time to do so. It was suggested that we notify the insurance company only of damage, but that was not approved.

It was suggested putting up a warning sign (e.g. use at your own risk) was discussed, but dismissed because of potential liabilities and it really did not make sense – ramp users already are aware of the limitations, we don't have signs like that at the park etc.

Councilor Barhyte moved to open the boat ramp. Discussion followed.

Council President Pierce added an amendment as follows: "Immediately re-open the boat ramp. There is no emergency. Fill in the gaps between the bars with gravel to make it smoother. When the OSMB representative is here on the 19th, find out her professional opinion regarding any possible danger with the ramp in its current condition. Also, ask the OSMB representative to confirm earlier comments to me that we cannot prevent trailers or certain size trailers and/or boats. After gaining adequate professional opinions on the ramp condition and possible solutions, consider if it would be possible to limit trailers during low water periods of the year. As Council reviews potential grant projects, find out if the community desires improvements to the end of the ramp. "

Councilor Lahsene offered another amendment that we do not allow large trailers (at

least until the issue is resolved). After discussion, this was not adopted.

Councilor Barhyte restated his motion to open the boat ramp adding Council President Pierce's amendment. Councilor Tuttle seconded. Motion passed. Council President Pierce, Councilors Barhyte and Tuttle aye; Mayor Williams and Councilor Lahsene nay.

Councilor Tuttle asked about funding for the gravel and the Council agreed park maintenance funds could be used for this.

Councilor Tuttle moved to adjourn; Mayor Williams seconded. The motion passed 5-0.